

United Nations General Assembly: Indigenous Affairs

Grenada

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Topic 1: Indigenous Peoples, Healthcare, Mental Health, and Wellness

The indigenous people that lived in Grenada were the Arawaks and the Caribs. The Caribs and Arawaks were rivals and the Caribs ended up defeating the Arawaks. Later on, they Grenada was taken over by the French in 1651 and instead of submitting, they leapt to their death known as the Carib's Leap. Now, there are very few indigenous people that live in Grenada. There are implementations to compensate for these losses. Wealthy areas are inhabited by foreigners so the government imposes stricter regulations on foreign investments and immigrant population to give others such as the indigenous people more opportunities. The Grenada Cultural Foundation helps express Grenadian culture and heritage. There are very few to no natives have survived from the French takeover. There are about 0.09 indigenous people. No significant indigenous (Carib and Arawak) people survived the colonial era. We mostly focus on the slave trade so there isn't much awareness on the indigenous people.

Topic 2: Indigenous Land Rights, Climate Change impacts and Environmental Protection of resources

There is not a significant amount of indigenous people in the country of Grenada so indigenous land rights are not our first priority such as compensating for the slave trade since majority of the population is 89.4% African descent. Grenada is also financially not able to invest in solutions for this problem at the moment. Grenada is committed to fight climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions that has been affecting Grenada. Grenada is experiencing changes in climate such as increase of temperature, increased drought occurrences, longer dry seasons, etc.

Recently, Grenada has made an effort to use solar for electricity, which has surpassed 2% and keeps increasing as the economy grows. This is a major priority for Grenada since most of the country is agricultural crop lands (85%). Grenada would like to reduce greenhouse gas transmission in the transportation sector by 20%. This would be done by introducing biofuel blends, taxing gasoline and adding fuel efficiency standards for vehicles. Grenada plans to make a controlled landfill for waste which will compact the waste and also collect the methane gas for electricity production. The waste sector contributes 10% to emissions. Grenada has protected some forest areas and is developing the land policy. This will address how some areas will be protected and changes in land use.

Topic 3: Indigenous Peoples, Poverty, and Development

The economic situation is very complex so there must be a long-run economic strategy. We must first address the debt issues and increase the rate of real economic growth above what it is now. As of now, without the proper amount of money and opportunity for employment there is not a significant change that can be done in terms of poverty until the economy recovers and begins to grow. (GRENADA's GROWTH AND POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY (GPRS), 2014-2018, 17).

The tourism sector of Grenada has a lot potential. In collaboration with the UNDP, Grenada put their effort in eradicate poverty and inequality. Grenada had made very good progress in education. Grenada have also reduced infant mortality rate, increasing access to land, more cellular telephone lines, immunizing children, reducing depth of poverty, etc. There are aswell social protection programs that provide safety nets for all kinds of needs such as basic needs trust funds, school feeding programs, student support schemes, public assistance programs, house repair programs and active labour market programs.

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