



LiNKs

Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems



Convention on Biological Diversity

UN SYSTEM SIDE EVENT: LOCAL COMMUNITIES & INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLATFORM

Reinforcing the contributions of indigenous and traditional knowledge to the Paris Agreement

Indigenous Peoples Day @COP23

Tuesday 7 November
15:00 – 16:30

Bonn Zone Meeting Room 12

Indigenous peoples are particularly exposed and sensitive to climate change impacts due to their resource-based livelihoods and homelands in marginal environments. Small population size, isolation, and the absence of recognised rights over resources contribute to their vulnerability to economic, social and environmental impacts that are exacerbated by climate change.

Despite their high exposure and sensitivity, indigenous peoples are actively responding to climate change, showing great resourcefulness. Adaptation is rooted in local knowledge, social systems, and cultural values and attitudes. Strategies include maintaining genetic and species diversity in crops and herds, mobility, diversified use of landscapes, and livelihoods based on use of multiple resources. Traditional systems of governance and social networks reinforce the ability to respond collectively to change and build resilience.

Over the last decades, great strides have been made in international forums to strengthen recognition of the need to include indigenous knowledge in environmental policy, initially in relation to biodiversity. More recently, the 5th Assessment Report (5AR) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement have also recognised the importance of indigenous knowledge, and emphasised the need for a knowledge base that is strengthened by the contributions of indigenous knowledge.



However, major gaps remain in our understanding of how this can be accomplished, and how recognition and respect can be translated into effective action that supports the resilience of indigenous peoples and communities around the world.

This event brings together indigenous peoples and UN bodies to share and reflect from their unique perspectives and practical experience in order to consider effective, appropriate and equitable pathways towards the inclusion of indigenous knowledge in environmental decision-making. It is an informal contribution to the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and discussions on the operationalisation of the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform.

Speakers :

- Douglas Nakashima, Director *a.i.*, Science Policy and Capacity Building Division, UNESCO
- Filipe Lucio, Director of Global Framework for Climate Services, World Meteorological Organization (WMO-GFCS)
- Youba Sokona, Bureau Member, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Jason Spensley, Senior Specialist, Project Preparation and Adaptation Planning, Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Yon Fernandez Larrinoa, Indigenous Peoples Team Leader, Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- Sakhile Koketso, Programme Officer, Dry and Sub-humid Lands & Climate Change, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Thomas Koetz, Programme Officer, Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Co-moderators :

- Jennifer Rubis, Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems programme, UNESCO
- Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Executive Committee of the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC) and Co-Chair of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change

For more information, contact Jen Rubis, UNESCO (j.rubis@unesco.org)