

Strong roots

for the Sustainable Development Goals

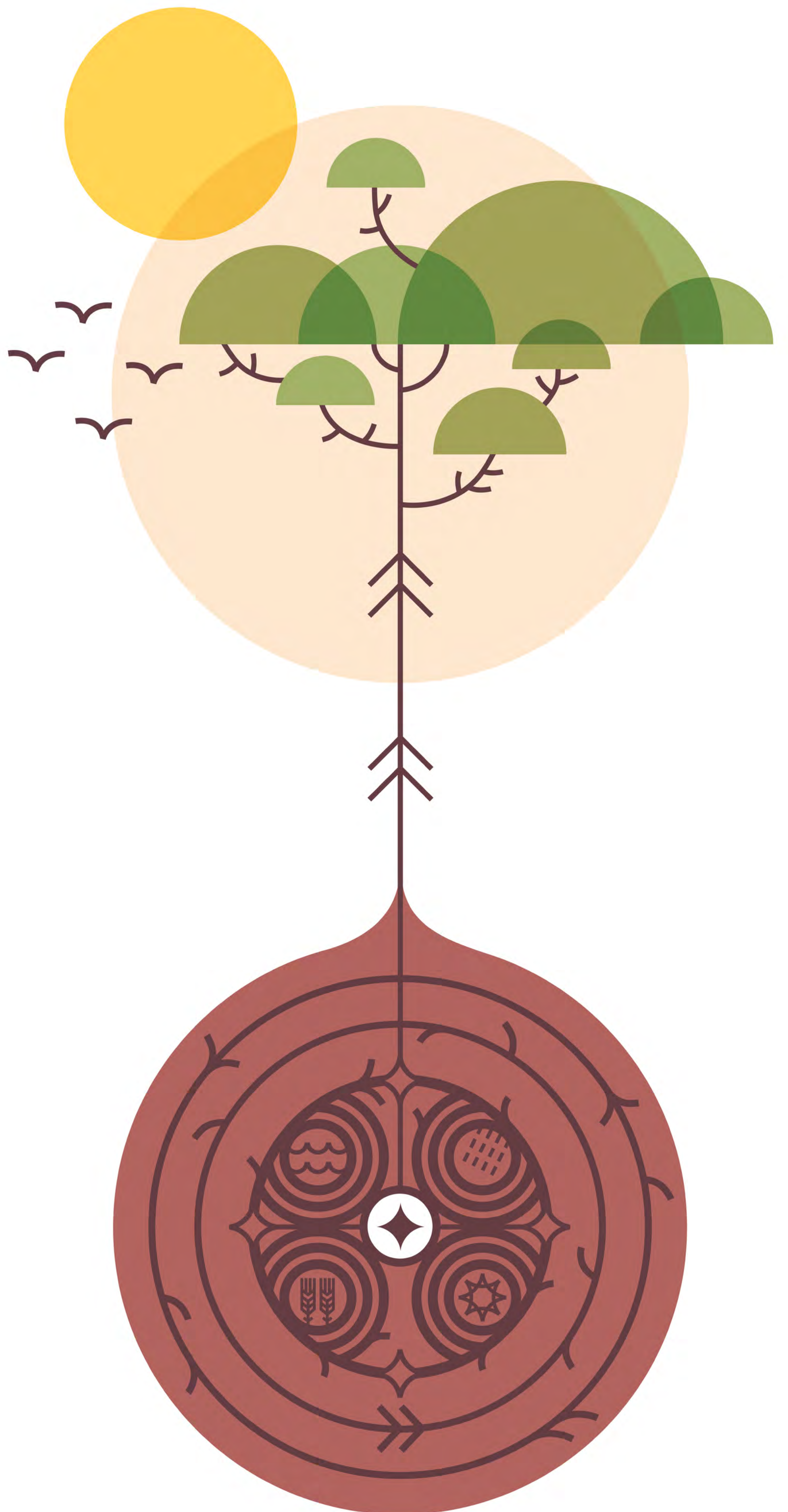
Local and indigenous knowledge refers to the understandings, skills and philosophies developed by societies with long histories of interaction with their natural surroundings. For rural and indigenous peoples, local knowledge informs decision-making about fundamental aspects of day-to-day life. This knowledge is integral to a cultural complex that also encompasses language, systems of classification, resource use practices, social interactions, rituals and spirituality. These unique ways of knowing are important components of the world's cultural diversity, and contribute to the achievement of Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement.

WHO ARE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES?

Indigenous peoples are diverse. A formal definition has not been adopted at the international level. Instead, a number of criteria have been established to identify indigenous peoples.

These include:

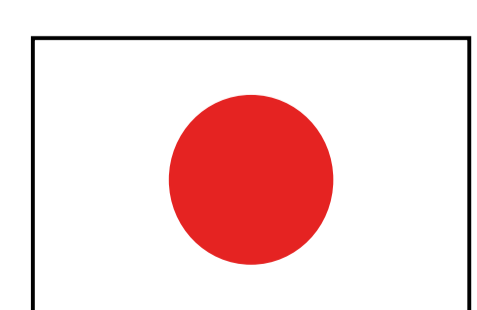
- Self-identification as 'indigenous' by individuals and acceptance by the community as one of their members;
- Historical continuity with pre-colonial and/or pre-settler societies;
- Strong links to territories and surrounding natural resources;
- Distinct social, economic or political systems;
- Distinct language, culture and beliefs;
- Form non-dominant groups of society; and
- Resolve to sustain environments and systems as distinctive peoples and communities.



LiNKs

Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems

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