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Weathering Uncertainty Traditional knowledge for climate change assessment and adaptation

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When considering climate change, indigenous peoples and marginalized populations warrant particular attention. Impacts on their territories and communities are anticipated to be both early and severe due to their location in vulnerable environments. There is therefore a need to understand the specific vulnerabilities, adaptation capacities and longer-term aspirations of indigenous peoples and marginalized communities the world over. Indigenous and traditional knowledge contribute to this broader understanding.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its Fourth Assessment Report recognized traditional knowledge as 'an invaluable basis for developing adaptation and natural resource management strategies in response to environmental and other forms of change.' Despite this recognition, indigenous knowledge has remained largely outside the scope of IPCC assessments.

In order to strengthen consideration of indigenous knowledge in IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report (5AR), to be released in 2014, this publication draws the attention of Authors of the 5AR and climate policy makers to the rapidly growing scientific literature on the contributions of indigenous and traditional knowledge to understanding climate change vulnerability, resilience and adaptation.

A joint effort of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme, UNESCO and United Nations University



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**For more information on the initiative
and partners, please see:**

**Indigenous Peoples, Marginalized Populations
and Climate Change www.ipmpcc.org**

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