**#43280 IUCN Thematic Stream Session:**

**United Nations and the Mobilisation of Indigenous and Local Knowledge   
(final draft)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **06 Sep 2021** | **14:00 - 15:30** | **H8 - 4 Martinique** |

**Coordination**: UNESCO, IUCN CEESP, IUCN Secretariat in cooperation with IUCN IPOs

**Focus**: UN system has started to recognize indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) and the role of indigenous land / sea management and governance as important components in responding to numerous environmental drivers and impacts. This has been most evident in the mechanisms involving biodiversity and ecosystems assessments and has touched areas of conservation, climate responses, and systematic involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities in policy and knowledge forums.

The presence and participation of indigenous peoples is under constant negotiation and change, with indigenous peoples proposing alternative paradigms to those of science and conservation organisations. Indigenous knowledge is framed by the holders of the knowledge within cultural, ethical, spiritual and values-based paradigms.

The aim of this event is to enhance dialogue and highlight lessons learned and good practices; the objective is to emphasise the following:

1. Make Congress participants aware of the emerging trends and the importance of ILK and indigenous systems of sustainable use / land and sea management / fisheries / fresh water / responses to climate hazards / knowledge production and coproduction.
2. Promote convergence and coherence between UN developments, and highlight relevance for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and other key policy instruments, mechanisms and forums (including UNFCCC COP26, National Ecosystems Assessments and the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction draft treaty);
3. Try to unpack the good and difficult parts of the relationship between science and ILK. What is working and why? What is still problematic, both rights issues and methods, the opportunities and challenges of work across knowledge systems.

**Output**: The TSS produces a summary of principles on good practices of ILK within the UN system which could contribute to the Indigenous peoples’ outcome document and the WCC Outcome Document.

**Additional Notes**: Simultaneous interpreting will likely be available in French and Spanish.

**Four guiding questions for the Roundtable:**

Are you seeing good examples of where indigenous peoples are able to contribute knowledge to UN and national environmental processes in a manner that is rights-based and or improves the relationship between scientists and indigenous peoples?

Indigenous knowledge is being recognised in numerous UN processes. What is your experience about the potential gap in understanding about how knowledge relates to culture, values and valuation of nature?

1. In some areas, the SARS pandemic has had a brutal impact on indigenous elders. Numerous peoples and communities have expressed concerns about the decline of indigenous knowledge. Do you see the UN processes on ILK as being able to reverse the tide of indigenous knowledge loss?
2. What is next? Watching the trends in uptake of indigenous and local knowledge and greater cooperation with science, do you see new trends emerging?

**Session Programme**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Component*** | ***Speaker*** | ***Time*** |
| **Welcome** | UNESCO |  |
| *UNESCO welcomes participants and welcomes opening indigenous blessing.* | Dr. Mechtild Rössler, Director, World Heritage Centre, UNESCO | *14h00-14h04* |
| Open with a prayer / blessing from Pacific Region | Mr. Sol Kaho'ohalahala (Hawaiian, Lana’i, USA) | 14h05 – 14h09 |
| **Keynote addresses** |  |  |
| Multilateral system representative keynote | Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw (Executive Secretary, UN Convention to Combat Desertification) | 14h10 - 14h16 |
| Indigenous representative keynote | Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim (M’bororo, Chad) SDG Advocate, Director AFPAT, National Geographic Emerging Explorer | 14h17 - 14h23 |
| Q&A 1 |  | 14h24-14h30 |
| **Roundtable** |  |  |
| *Introduction of the panel* | Chair | 14h31 – 14h35 |
| Indigenous perspective from the Pacific | Mr. Sol Kaho'ohalahala (Hawaiian, Lana’i, USA) | 14h36 - 14h41 |
| United Nations Environmental Programme | Dr Johannes Refisch, Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP), UNEP | 14h42 – 14h47 |
| Indigenous perspective from Asia | Ms. Jennifer Corpuz (Kankana-ey - Igorot, Global Policy and Advocacy Lead for Nia Tero, Philippines) | 14h48 – 14h53 |
| Global Environment Facility | Mr. Claude Gascon (GEF Secretariat - Programs Unit) | 14h54-14h59 |
| Indigenous perspective from Latin America and the Caribbean | Ms. Yesenia Hernández Márquez (Zapoteca, Mexico) | 15h00 – 15h05 |
| Indigenous perspective from Africa | Dr. Kanyinke Paul Sena (Ogiek, Kenya, Director IPACC Secretariat, former member UNPFII) | 15h06-15h11 |
| Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Transcaucasia | Mr. Vyacheslav Shadrin (Yakutia, Russian Federation, History and Ethnosociology Division at Institute for Humanities Research and Indigenous Studies of the North - Siberia) | 15h12-15h17  Virtual |
| Q&A 2 |  | 15h18-15h24 |
| **Closing segment** |  |  |
| Final closing summary comments | Mr. Kevin Chang (Executive Director of Kuaʻāina Ulu ʻAuamo, Hawai’i, USA) | 15h25-15h30 |