

Launch of Indigenous Knowledge Research Infrastructure (IKRI)



For
Integration of Frontier Technologies and Indigenous Knowledge
for Food Systems Transformation

To Support the UN Food Systems Summit Action Area:
“Support Means of Implementation”

Registration link:

https://filac-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_m6JU541BSOyACTInxttHtw



**Thursday, September 23rd, 2021
Time 14:00-15:15 (EST- NY Time)**

Overview

This unique session aims to launch the “Global Research Initiative and Knowledge Repository to integrate Indigenous Knowledge into the Food Systems” initiative, which will function as the digital infrastructure, termed as Indigenous Knowledge Research Infrastructure (IKRI).



This global initiative was created during the UN FSS Pre-Summit held on July 26th, 2021 (<https://caneus.org/unfss2021/>), and it builds on the outcome from the UN FSS Global Dialogue “Integration of Frontier Technologies and Indigenous Knowledge for Food Systems Transformation” held on May 31st, 2021. (https://caneus.org/UN-FSS_May_31_en.pdf, https://caneus.org/Report_UNFSS_Global_Dialogue_May_31_2021.pdf)

This initiative was developed with the collective efforts of CANEUS, together with the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC), United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), The Africa-Europe Science and Innovation Platform (AERAP) and the LifeWatch ERIC Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services Research Infrastructure.



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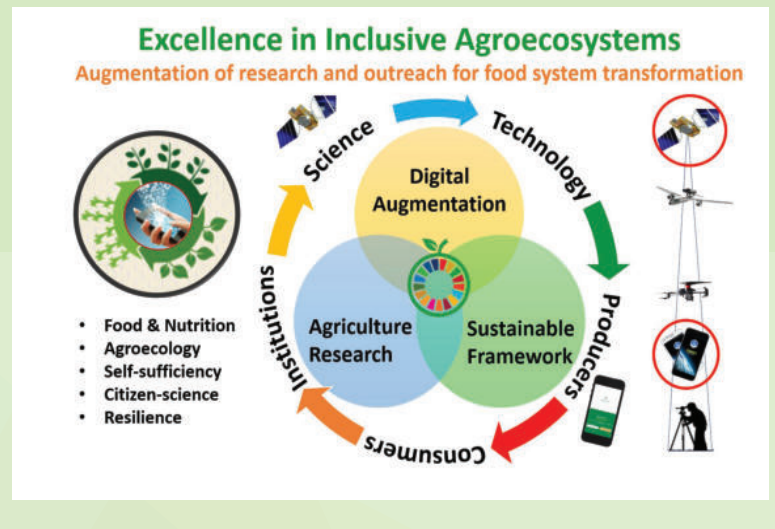


Relevance and Importance to the UN Food Systems Summit

The UNFSS Summit on September 23, 2021, will recommend five ongoing Action Areas where the UN will place a particular focus and take increased responsibility to link the local to the global and support implementation at the country level to maximize impact on the UN 2030 Agenda.

These Action Areas help organize, guide, and direct the wealth of initiatives emerging from the Summit process to achieve the SDGs.

Action area 5: “Support the Means of Implementation” covers the following: Finance; Governance; Science and Knowledge (Indigenous Food Systems); Innovation, Technology, & Data, Capacity; and Human Rights, and beyond).



Need for the Initiative

Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is vital for Food Systems since it adds diversity, enhances nutrition, improves immune and health, has environmentally sound practices that are resilient to risks and disasters, and is climate sensitive.

However, IK is widely scattered, at times, exists in small pockets; much of the IK is transferred through practices and not well-documented. As younger generations migrate to urban areas, hardly transfers old to next-generation, fewer and fewer people know about IK or are often completely lost. In addition, development pressure and changing climate is posing a threat to the habitats or ecosystems that dwell indigenous people and systems.

Therefore, there is an urgent need of capturing the food system-specific components of IK. These include food, food systems, die diversity, nutrition and traditional medicines, cultivation practices, food handling, storage and processing, and how they are resilient to disasters, climate change, and harmony with Nature.

The initiative also identifies a critical need of building disaster and climate resilience as an important element to maintain habitats where indigenous people live and nurture traditional practices.

This initiative will complement and contribute to the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems led by the FAO. This Global research initiative will function as the digital infrastructure, termed as IK Research Infrastructure (IKRI), based on the EU European Strategy Forum for Research infrastructures ESFR to support more comprehensive R&D collaboration between the UN and the EU, AU, Asia, Asia Pacific, and the Americas regions, creating partnerships, creation and sustained access to data and information sources globally and lessening the regulatory burden associated with access to and use of public data while protecting rights of the indigenous people and landscapes.

Objectives of the Initiative

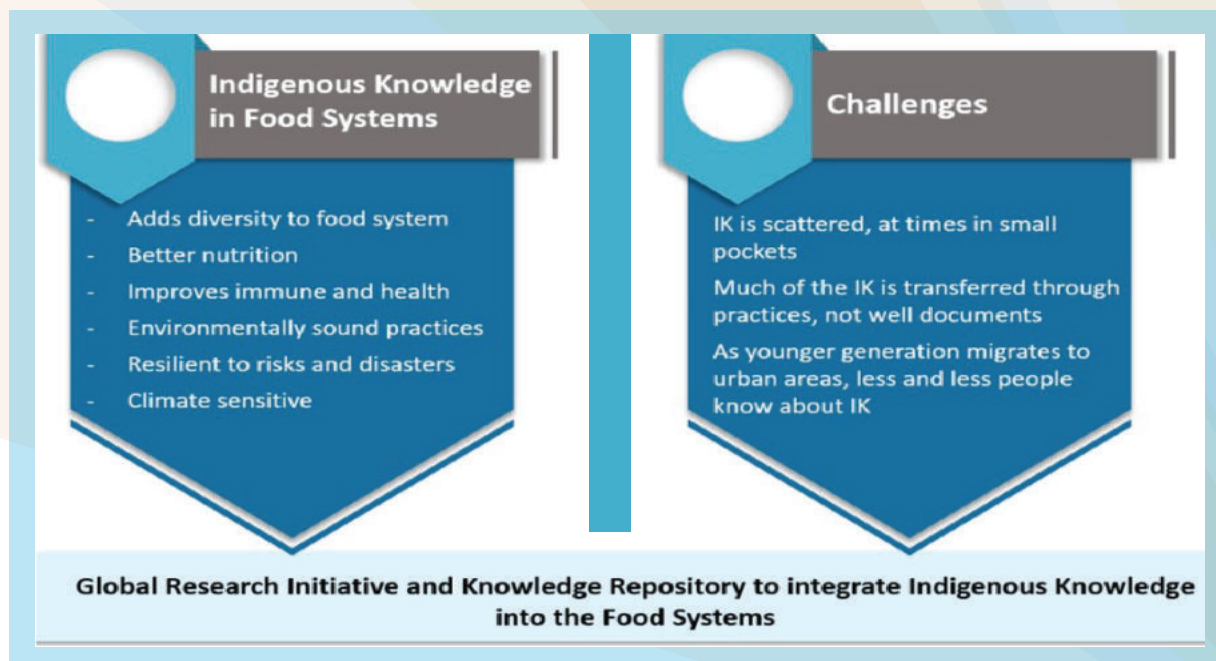
The Indigenous Knowledge Research Infrastructure (IKRI) have the following objectives:

1. Restoration and preservation of indigenous knowledge
2. Conservation of diet diversity and agro-biodiversity
3. Improved food, nutrition and health of the people and ecosystems
4. Long-term socio-economic return to the society



It will combine frontier science and technologies (Earth Observation and geospatial intelligence with 4th Industrial Revolution Technologies) to develop a portal that captures, processes, analyses, and presents indigenous knowledge through multiple sources such as compiling knowledge from existing studies and sponsoring new studies specific need-based projects and routine surveys. The IKRI initiative and repository will contribute to

- Socializing decision making about the use of IK in food systems
- Trigger Public-Private-Partnership interest and develop viable entrepreneurship
- Protect geographic identities and set up of indigenous systems
- Link IK with biodiversity knowledge systems
- Establish producer to consumer connection
- Technology transfer for the benefit of indigenous people, as well as the food systems
- Utilization of Genetic Resources and associated traditional Knowledge



Global Public-Private-Partnership

The IKRI would increase the level and range of partners who can bring indigenous knowledge to collaborative research supported by programmes implemented and committed to supporting the SDGs.

It would leverage the EU Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Programme, known as the Global Europe Programme, to support indigenous knowledge, ensuring that developing nations are considered within the context of enabling global policies and related regulations to ensure that the global regulatory environment does not become a barrier to the exchange of knowledge but rather supports access to and use of knowledge and know-how, including access to patent data, knowledge and know-how.

Indigenous Knowledge

Components

- Food/nutrition
- Traditional medicines

Procedures

- Cultivation practices
- Food handling/storage/processing
- Consumption practices

Best practices

- Resilience to disasters
- Resilience to climate change
- Natural resources management

Technology-based Repository

Frontier Technologies (Earth observation and geospatial intelligence with 4th Industrial Revolution Technologies) for Development of portal to capture, process, analyse and present indigenous knowledge through

- Compiling knowledge from existing studies
- Sponsor new studies
- Specific need-based projects
- Routine surveys

Objectives

- Sensitise decision making
- Trigger public-Private interest
- Develop entrepreneurship
- Protect geographic set up of indigenous systems
- Producer to consumer connection
- Technology transfer

Outcomes

- Preservation of Indigenous knowledge
- Sustainable food systems
- Improved nutrition/health
- Long-term economic gains
- Preservation of food diversity
- Sustainable supply demand chain

Key stakeholders: Indigenous communities, Public and Private entities, Research and Academic institutions and consumers

It further aims sets of new commitments through coalitions of action by mobilizing new partnerships and potential financing mechanisms.

- Formulate new global public- private partnership covering key stakeholders, e.g. public and private entities, research and academic institutions, Indigenous communities and consumers.
- Build and sustain related science, innovation, and knowledge capacities, including data infrastructures
- Define the components, procedures and best practices using a technology-based repository covering frontier technologies for the development of a portal to capture, process, analyze and present for a structured framework to support food systems for climate and other global priorities.
- Inspire engagement of youth to develop entrepreneurship tools and technology transfer by highlighting the importance of sustainable food systems and long-term economic gains.
- Identify and mobilize potential public and private financing mechanisms to implement this global collaborative initiative to help advance related bold, ambitious targets by the Food Systems Summit.
- Ensure that developing nations are considered within the context of enabling global policies and related regulations to ensure that the global regulatory environment does not become a barrier to the exchange of knowledge but rather supports access to and use of knowledge and know-how, including in the patent system.

Program

14:00– 15:15 (EST- NY Time)

A. Setting the Stage and Raison d'être:

Prayers

Moderator: Dr. Milind Pimprikar, Chairman, CANEUS

- Dra. Mirna Cunningham, President Board FILAC, Member, Advisory Committee of UNFSS, Spokesperson for United Nations SDG 10, Reducing Inequalities
- Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)
- Mr. Barry Andrews Member of the European Parliament, chairman of the European Parliament Alliance on SDGs
- Ms. Alice Simon, Winning team DDASO, “Space for Indigenous People” Prize

B. Indigenous Knowledge IK Research Infrastructure (IKRI)

Moderator: Dr Shirish Ravan, UNOOSA

Contributors:

- Dr Juan Miguel González Aranda, LifeWatch ERIC CTO, ERIC FORUM Executive Board Member, LifeWatch ERIC the e-Science European Infrastructure for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research & Sustainable Management, Spain
- Prof. Vladislav H. Popov, Vice-Rector, Science & Projects, Agricultural University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria
- Dr Chandrashekhar Biradar, Research Team Leader, Sustainable Agroecosystems, ICARDA- A CGIAR Research Center
- Mr. Patrick Worms, Senior Science Policy Advisor, The CIFOR-ICRAF



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C. Stakeholders, Partners, and Implementation Framework

Moderator: Mr. Declan Kirrane, AERAP African-Europe Science Platform and ISC, Brussels

Contributors:

- Mr. Yon Fernandez de-Larrinoa, Chief, FAO, PSUI Partnerships and UN collaboration Division
- Ms. Karina Angelieva, Deputy Minister of Education and Science, Bulgaria
- Mattia Prayer Galletti, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Ms. Tinyiko Ntshongwana Deputy Director: Africa Multilateral Cooperation, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

D. Summary and next steps moving forward

- Mr. Gabriel Muyuy, Technical Secretary, FILAC
- Dr Milind Pimprikar, Chairman, CANEUS
- Dr. Shirish Ravan, UNOOSA
- Mr. Declan Kirrane AERAP African-Europe Science Platform, Brussels
- Dr Chandrashekhar Biradar, ICARDA-CGIAR

E. Wrap up: Closing Remarks

- Mr. Gabriel Muyuy, FILAC
- Dr Milind Pimprikar, Chairman, CANEUS

Supporting Materials

Following documents are provided to all participants:

- Concept Note outlining the proposed initiative
- Report from the Global Dialogue held on May 31st, 2021, and Pre-Summit Session on July 26th, 2021

https://caneus.org/Report_UNFSS_Global_Dialogue_May_31_2021.pdf



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