The Indigenous Knowledge Research Infrastructure – IKRI:
A Tool to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals"

2 February 2022,
[14:00 to 14:50 New York time]

Background on the event

The "Global Research Initiative and Knowledge Repository to Integrate Indigenous Knowledge into the Food Systems", conceptualized as part of the 2021 UN Food System Summit during the UNGA76, aims to address issues in food systems by implementing indigenous knowledge and creates a digital infrastructure known as "Indigenous Knowledge Research Infrastructure" (IKRI).

The initiative will include a "Technology-Based Repository" that uses frontier technologies (Earth observation and geospatial intelligence with 4th Industrial Revolution technologies) to captures, processes, analyzes, and presents indigenous knowledge from multiple sources. The IKRI is featured as one of the partnerships at the ECOSOC2022 Partnership Forum.

The proposed repository will ensure that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities preserve their knowledge and practices, especially given the rapid pace of development motivating indigenous youth to migrate to economic growth centers threatening the physical, sociological, and economic setup of indigenous communities.

It will leverage diverse efforts worldwide through a structured framework and partnerships through a workable and replicable new development model that will deliver wide range of nature positive food system transformation. It will inspire engagement of youths to develop entrepreneurship tools and technology transfer.

Key Issues discussed:

- Understanding interests and concerns of key stakeholders
- Policy and regulatory aspects of IKRI focusing on intellectual property rights related to indigenous knowledge and protecting interests of indigenous people knowledge while offering benefits of such knowledge to the food systems
- Technical aspects of IKRI such as understanding the requirement of all stakeholders that can be incorporated into IKRI, defining data components of IKRI, ways to tap into existing scattered data from the public/private domain and approaches to collect data from primary sources before such knowledge is lost with time.
- Financing the IKRI for strengthening the indigenous food system and knowledge
- Protecting indigenous systems from disaster and climate risks, by effective use of technologies such as Earth observation

FILAC
FONDO PARA EL DESARROLLO
DE LOS PUEBLOS INDÍGENAS DE
AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE

CANEUS
MNT

UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs

AERAP SCIENCE
Africa-Europe Science and Innovation Platform
www.aerapscience.org

Key recommendations for action:

- The IKRI is the valuable partnership and initiative, and several key organisations have interest to support the implementation of IKRI. These stakeholders need to be kept on board with the progress in this initiative.
- The interests of indigenous people must be protected while developing IKRI that calls for in-depth discussion on policy and regulatory frameworks associated with IKRI
- Indigenous people are real owner of the knowledge, and they must get benefitted from IKRI, while such knowledge is used for strengthening food systems
- Seek financial support from key stakeholder organisations for initial phase of IKRI that may include planning series of brainstorming meetings to discuss the points that I mentioned above; develop a detailed document/project proposal that would also include the road map and timeline of implementation; and conduct outreach in various sub-regions in all continents to generate awareness for the IKRI and create a global network to support IKRI
- IKRI must also aim to provide technology and policy support to protect indigenous systems from disaster and climate risks.