

18th Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
United Nations Headquarters - New York

Mainstreaming the contribution of Traditional Knowledge and Biological and Cultural Diversity for the implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Date: Friday, 26 April 2019 @ 13:15 to 14:30

Venue: Conference Room 6, UN HQ

Light lunch will be served before the event begins.



Background & Goals of the Session

Many countries with the highest levels of biological diversity, particularly the “mega-biodiverse countries”, also rank among the most culturally diverse representation of Indigenous Peoples. Biological and cultural diversity are interlinked, as over millennia, different peoples have developed a vast variety of culturally grounded values, languages, knowledge systems and sustainable management practices through close interaction with nature. As the world is currently going through a period of rapid social and ecological change, the loss of cultural diversity (including local languages, gastronomy, clothing and medicine) has shown to be linked to the loss of biological diversity.

This side event will explore issues relating to the links between biological and cultural diversity, including the importance of the Indigenous languages and its role in the achievement of the three objectives of the CBD, the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The side event will also engage in discussions about the kinds of policy measures needed to ensure the continuation of indigenous knowledge and practices which are foundational for a rich and flourishing biocultural diversity to the benefit of human wellbeing and the environment at large.

The event will further present the outcomes from the “*Nature and Culture Summit*”, which was held from 22-24 November 2018 during the CBD COP14 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, as well ongoing initiatives on the biodiversity-cultural diversity interface.

Time	Topic	Presenter
13:15-13:20	Welcome by the moderator.	Yolanda Teran, Indigenous Women Network on Biodiversity-LAC region
13:20-13:30	Overview of the work under the Convention related to the links between biological and cultural diversity and the vision for future work post 2020	John Scott, Senior Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
13:30-13:40	Overview of the work under UNESCO related to the links between biological and cultural diversity and the vision for future work post 2020	Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg, Programme Specialist, UNESCO
13:40-13:50	Key messages from the Nature and Culture Summit	Lucy Mullenkei, IIN, International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, Indigenous Women Network on Biodiversity
13:50-14:00	Practical experiences with linking cultural and biological diversity indicators	Pua'ala Pascua, Biodiversity Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History
14:00-14:10	The importance of Indigenous language	Dr. Tatiana Degai, CSIPN, Co-Chair of the International Indigenous Caucus on the Year of Indigenous Languages
14:10-14:30	Q/A discussion Moderator summary and wrap-up	
14:30	End	