

Research needs expressed in the Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: Cross-Cutting Issue: Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices

There is today a growing appreciation of the value of traditional knowledge. This knowledge is valuable not only to those who depend on it in their daily lives, but to modern industry and agriculture as well. Many widely used products, such as plant-based medicines, health products and cosmetics, are derived from traditional knowledge (<http://www.cbd.int/traditional/intro.shtml>).

Cited Decisions that express research needs are V/16, VI/10, VII/16, VIII/5, X/41, X/43, XIV/12 and XIV/16 also checked were Decisions III/14, IV/9, IX/13, XII/12, XIII/18, XIV/13, XIV/14, XIV/15 and XIV/17.

Direct research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source http://www.cbd.int/decisions/
VII/16	Annex I Para C 11	Elements of a plan of action for the retention of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and	Examples of codes of ethics and conduct governing research as used by such bodies as research institutions, business and indigenous and local communities, should be gathered with a view to assisting in future possible development of codes of ethics or conduct, and to guide further research on the retention and use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753
VII/16	Annex I Para D 13	local communities embodying	Research should be undertaken on existing and new threats to the retention and use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.	
VII/16	Annex I Para D 14	traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	Mechanisms to promote cooperation in order to address the cause of decline should be identified in cooperation with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the United Nations and other relevant initiatives and organizations.	
VIII/5	Para 6	The Conference	<i>Notes with concern</i> the specific vulnerabilities of indigenous and local	cop-08.shtml?m=COP-

		of the Parties	communities, <i>inter alia</i> , of the Arctic, small island States and high altitudes, concerning the impacts of climate change and accelerated threats, such as pollution, drought and desertification, to traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and requests further research be conducted , subject to the availability of resources, into highly vulnerable indigenous and local communities, with a focus on causes and solutions , with the outcomes of the research to be made available to the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions for attention at its fifth meeting;	08&id=11017
XIV/16	Para 2	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Encourages [...]</i> relevant stakeholder organizations to [...]design[...] methodological approaches for assessing the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to the achievement of the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.	decisions/cop/?m=cop-14
XIV/16	Annex	Methodological approaches for identifying, monitoring, and assessing the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to the achievement of the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are encouraged to	<p>d) Use mixed-methods for research and other methodologies that can work with different types of data, in particular the combination of quantitative and qualitative information and data;</p> <p>e) Apply multi-scale approaches, processes and tools, to capture and assess the situation at the local level and at the same time consider the links in the landscape and with national and subnational policy frameworks;</p> <p>f) Test and refine methodological approaches through pilot projects, as appropriate, recognizing that this is an emerging field and that they need to be developed through lessons coming from experience and from a diversity of contexts;</p> <p>i) Include in assessments the analysis of gender-differentiated roles, and explore opportunities and conditions for enhancing gender equality;</p> <p>l) Include other relevant elements of governance assessments, specifically the role, features and vitality of customary governance systems;</p> <p>p) Advance the development of robust sets of indicators and metrics systems for the assessment of collective action, combining indicators of different types – quantitative and qualitative, process and outcome, single and aggregate, etc. — and integrating culture-based indicators that reflect the value systems of the communities and the particularities</p>	decisions/cop/?m=cop-14

			of the contexts; r) Advance, as appropriate, the work on valuation methodologies that are relevant and applicable to the contexts,	
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Indirect research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source http://www.cbd.int/decisions/
V/16	Para 12 f	The Conference of the Parties Urges Parties and Governments and, as appropriate, international organizations, and organizations representing indigenous and local communities, to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the implementation of the Convention and, to this end:	Provide case-studies on methods and approaches that contribute to the preservation of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices , including through their recording where appropriate, and that support control and decision-making by indigenous and local communities over the sharing of such knowledge, innovation and practices.	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7158
V/16	Para 17	The Conference of the Parties	Requests Parties to support the development of registers of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7158

			local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity through participatory programmes and consultations with indigenous and local communities, taking into account strengthening legislation, customary practices and traditional systems of resource management, such as the protection of traditional knowledge against unauthorized use.	
V/16	Annex I Element 5 Task 16	Programme of work on the implementation of Article 8 (j) and related provisions of the CBD.	The Executive Secretary to identify, compile and analyse , with the participation of indigenous and local communities, existing and customary codes of ethical conduct to guide the development of models for codes of ethical conduct for research, access to, use, exchange and management of information concerning traditional knowledge, innovations and practices for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7158
VI/8	Annex I Part II Planned Activity 16	Support in implementation of Article 8(j).	Traditional knowledge systems include taxonomic information , which if used in combination with Linnaean taxonomies could support the GTI. Comparison of indigenous taxonomies and Linnaean taxonomies in different regions could be made to provide general principles to assist in the conservation and sustainable use of elements of biodiversity in different ecosystems.	cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&id=7182
VI/10	Para 2	The Conference of the Parties emphasizes to Parties the need for further action on:	With regard to forest biological diversity, the development of methodologies to advance the integration of traditional forest-related knowledge into sustainable forest management , promotion of activities to assemble management experiences and scientific, indigenous and local information at the national and local levels, and dissemination of research results and syntheses of reports on relevant scientific and traditional knowledge on key forest biological issues;	cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&id=7184
VI/10	Para 34	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Requests</i> the the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity to address the issue of sui generis systems for the protection of traditional knowledge, focusing in particular on the following issues: Compiling and assessing existing indigenous, local, national and regional sui generis systems; Studying existing systems for handling and managing innovations at the local level and their relation to existing national and international systems of intellectual property rights, with a view to ensure their	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753

			complementarity;	
VI/10	Para 40		Also encourages Parties and Governments, with the assistance of international development agencies and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, and with the participation, involvement and consent of the concerned indigenous and local communities, to undertake pilot projects in order to evaluate the effectiveness of existing intellectual property rights regimes, contractual methods and new systems being developed as a means of protection of traditional knowledge;	
VII/16	Annex I Para B 8	Elements of a plan of action	Indicators on the state of retention of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices should be established with the active involvement of indigenous and local communities, in consultation with relevant organizations, in connection with the ongoing work on indicators under the Convention.	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753
VII/16	Annex I Para B 9		Indicators to assess the success or failure of measures to promote or preserve traditional knowledge, innovations and practices should be established , with the active involvement of indigenous and local communities, in connection with the ongoing work on indicators under the Convention.	
VII/16	Annex II Para 36	Akwé:Kon voluntary guidelines.	The direct impacts of the development proposal on local biodiversity at the ecosystem, species and genetic levels should be assessed , and particularly in terms of those components of biological diversity that the affected indigenous or local community and its members rely upon for their livelihood, well-being, and other needs. Indirect impacts should be carefully assessed and monitored over the long term. The development proposal should be rigorously assessed with respect to the introduction of invasive species.	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753
VII/16	Annex II Para 37	Baseline studies should collect information with respect to:	Species inventories (including identification of particular species important to the affected indigenous or local community as food, medicine, fuel, fodder, construction, artefact production, clothing, and for religious and ceremonial purposes, etc); Identification of endangered species, species at risk , etc (possibly referenced to the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Red Data Book, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and national inventories);	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753

			<p>Identification of particularly significant habitat (as breeding/spawning grounds, remnant native vegetation, wild-life refuge areas including buffer zones and corridors, habitats and routes for migratory species) and crucial breeding seasons for endangered and critical species;</p> <p>Identification of areas of particular economic significance (as hunting areas and trapping sites, fishing grounds, gathering areas, grazing lands, timber harvesting sites and other harvesting areas);</p> <p>Identification of particularly significant physical features and other natural factors which provide for biodiversity and ecosystems (e.g. watercourses, springs, lakes, mines/quarries that supply local needs); and Identification of sites of religious, spiritual, ceremonial and sacred significance (such as sacred groves and totemic sites).</p>	
VII/16	Annex II Para 44	In the conduct of baseline studies, the following areas should, <i>inter alia</i> , be addressed:	<p>Demographic factors (number and age structure of population, ethnic grouping, population distribution and movement - including seasonal movements);</p> <p>Housing and human settlements, including involuntary resettlement, expulsion of indigenous peoples from lands and involuntary sedentarization of mobile peoples;</p> <p>Health status of the community (particular health problems/issues - availability of clean water - infectious and endemic diseases, nutritional deficiencies, life expectancy, use of traditional medicine, etc);</p> <p>Levels of employment, areas of employment, skills (particularly traditional skills), education levels (including levels attained through informal and formal education processes), training, capacity-building requirements;</p> <p>Level of infrastructure and services (medical services, transport, waste disposal, water supply, social amenities (or lack of) for recreation, etc);</p> <p>Level and distribution of income (including traditional systems of distribution of goods and services based on reciprocity, barter and exchange);</p> <p>Asset distribution (e.g. land tenure arrangements, natural resource rights, ownership of other assets in terms of who has rights to income and other benefits);</p>	<p>cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753</p>

			Traditional systems of production (food, medicine, artefacts), including gender roles in such systems; and Views of indigenous and local communities regarding their future and ways to bring about future aspirations	
VII/16	Annex II Para 45	In particular, in relation to subsistence-based indigenous and local communities, the following additional social factors should also be taken into consideration, including impacts thereon:	Traditional non-monetary systems of exchange such as hunting, barter and other forms of trade, including labour exchange; Related economic and social relations; Importance of gender roles and relations; Traditional responsibilities and concepts of equity and equality in society; and Traditional systems of sharing natural resources , including resources that have been hunted, collected or harvested.	cop-07.shtml?m=COP-07&id=7753
X/41	Para 7	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Invites</i> Parties, indigenous and local communities and other relevant organizations to provide views through case-studies on how statutory laws and customary laws interact with regard to the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;	cop/?id=12307
X/43	Para 14	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Adopts</i> the following proposed indicators : (a) Status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities; (b) Status and trends in the practice of traditional occupations; to complement the already adopted indicator on the status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages in order to assess progress towards the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;	cop/?id=12309
XIV/12	Annex Para		Paramount to successful repatriation of traditional knowledge is	decisions/cop/?m=cop-14

	33		the identification of the original traditional knowledge holders	
XIV/12	Annex Para 34		In order to identify the original traditional knowledge holders, firstly the origin of the traditional knowledge in question, including when it was acquired, where, how, from whom and in what form, should be established	decisions/cop/?m=cop-14