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WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(j) AND
RELATED PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Tenth meeting

Montreal, Canada, 4-7 December 2017

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

IN-DEPTH DIALOGUE ON THEMATIC AREAS AND OTHER CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

**“CONTRIBUTION OF THE TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND
PRACTICES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON CONSERVATION AND
SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY”**

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. In decision X/43 paragraph 12 the Conference of the Parties decided to include a new agenda item at future meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, entitled “In-depth dialogue on thematic areas and other cross-cutting issues”, in order to contribute to the incorporation of Article 8(j) and related provisions as a cross-cutting issue across the areas of work of the Convention.

2. In decision XIII/19 A, paragraph 2, the Conference of the Parties decided that the topic for the in-depth dialogue to be held subject to the agenda and the time available at the tenth session of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions would be:

“Contribution of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular emphasis on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”

3. Notifications were issued on 27 January and 4 April 2017, through which the Executive Secretary invited Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, and stakeholders to provide views on this issue in advance of the tenth meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions. Ten submissions were received from Parties to the Convention and nine from other relevant organizations, including indigenous organizations, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions.¹

4. Section I of the present document provides a brief analysis of the submissions received on the contributions of traditional knowledge to the Sustainable Development Goals. A summary of each submission is provided in annex I, while the full submissions are provided in an information

¹ Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Oman, Venezuela and the European Union with experiences and views from Denmark (including Greenland), Finland, Sweden, and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), the Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA), the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority of Australia, the Global Forest Coalition/Community Conservation Resilience Initiative, the Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA) Consortium, the Indigenous Women’s Network of Latin America and the Caribbean for Biodiversity (RMIB-LAC), the Amazon Cooperation Network, the Stockholm Resilience Centre, and the Natural Resource Stewardship Circle.

document (CBD/WG8J/10/INF/5). Section II reviews the way that the contribution of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities are reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development² and provides an overview of relevant linkages on the basis of work under the Convention. This information is supplemented by annex II, which builds upon and complements previous documents³ issued by the Secretariat that demonstrate the contribution of biodiversity to the Sustainable Development Goals. Section III contains possible elements for discussion during the dialogue, section IV suggests a topic for the dialogue at the next meeting of the Working Group, and section V contains possible draft recommendations for consideration by the Working Group. Additionally, annex I contains an overview of the links between traditional knowledge and relevant Sustainable Development Goals and pertinent decisions of the Conference of the Parties, and annex II contains a summary of the submissions received.

I. ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

5. Submissions received in response to the notifications provide general comments and examples about the contribution of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with particular emphasis on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The main ideas are the following:

(a) Indigenous peoples and local communities are holders of traditional knowledge that is the basis for holistic environmental management, which could be used more broadly as a model for optimizing and sustainably using biodiversity;

(b) Traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use have the potential to address such problems as poverty, loss of biological and cultural diversity, and climate change and to contribute to the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals;⁴

(c) The involvement and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in monitoring and assessment of biodiversity at the community level could contribute to improving the availability of reliable data and information for better management of biological resources and ecosystems;

(d) The participation of indigenous peoples and local communities and the use of their traditional knowledge in decision-making processes and in the development of public policies could solve conflicts and propose measures to prevent unsustainable use of biodiversity;

(e) Indigenous tourism or cultural tourism can be an important tool for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and provide opportunities to share traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

(f) There is a need to develop concrete actions to ensure the implementation of indigenous peoples' rights within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals.

6. In summary, the views and information received demonstrate the contribution of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular emphasis on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In order to realize the potential of the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities in the Sustainable Development Goals process, some contributions emphasize the importance of data disaggregation by ethnicity and the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation process for the Sustainable Development Goals, especially in monitoring.

² [General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"](#).

³ See "Biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (CBD/SBSTTA/21/2/Add.1) and "Links between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/INF/9).

⁴ For more information, see United Nations Development Programme, *Local Action for the Global Goals: Promoting Innovative Conservation and Development Solutions*, 2016. Available at https://www.sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&alias=688-sdg-booklet&category_slug=global-publications&Itemid=289

II. CONTRIBUTION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

7. As indicated in the note by the Executive Secretary on the links between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (CBD/SBSTTA/21/2/Add.1), the 2030 Agenda does not include a specific reference to the role of traditional knowledge except with reference to genetic resources (in target 2.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals).⁵ This appears to be a genuine gap given the importance of traditional knowledge and the customary practices of indigenous peoples and local communities to many of the Sustainable Development Goals. Annex II provides an overview of the contribution of traditional knowledge, innovation and practices (from hereon referred to collectively as “traditional knowledge”) to the implementation of each of the Sustainable Development Goals.

8. The Convention on Biological Diversity recognizes the important contribution of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use of biodiversity of indigenous peoples and local communities to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, which is relevant for the achievement of most of the Sustainable Development Goals.

9. For example, the Conference of the Parties has recognized:

(a) That indigenous and local communities depend directly on biodiversity and its customary sustainable use for their livelihoods, resilience, and cultures, and are therefore well placed, through their collective actions, to efficiently and economically manage ecosystems using the ecosystem approach;⁶

(b) The importance of the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation of the Convention;⁷

(c) That traditional knowledge should be valued, given the same respect and considered as useful and necessary as other forms of knowledge;⁸

(d) Biodiversity, customary sustainable use and traditional knowledge are intrinsically linked;⁹

(e) The importance of the participation of indigenous and local communities in the development, collection and analysis of data including through community base monitoring and information systems.¹⁰

10. Along the same lines, the Conference of the Parties has recognized the contributions of traditional knowledge to other areas of work of the Convention which are relevant for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, for example:

(a) In the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, Article 10(c) of the Convention and the annex to decision XII/12 B on the Global Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use call on Parties to protect and encourage the customary use of biological resources. This is relevant for Goal 1 (End poverty in all its form everywhere);

(b) In the context of agricultural biodiversity, the Conference of the Parties recognized, in [decision XIII/3](#), paragraph 27, the important contribution of indigenous and local communities, in particular as managers of centres of origin of agricultural diversity, and their role in management and

⁵ Target 2.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals establishes that “by 2020 maintain genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge as internationally agreed.”

⁶ [Decision XII/12 B](#), annex, para. 6(b).

⁷ [Decision V/16](#), annex, para. 1.

⁸ [Decision XII/12 B](#), annex, para. 3.

⁹ [Decision XII/12 B](#), annex, para. 6(a).

¹⁰ [Decision XII/12 A](#), para. 9.

restoration of critical ecosystems, ecological rotation and agro-forestry. This is relevant for Goal 2 (End hunger; achieve food and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture);

(c) In the context of health and biodiversity, in [decision XIII/6](#), annex, the Conference of the Parties recognized traditional medical knowledge and the importance of promoting the sustainable use, management and trade of plant and animals used in traditional medicine. This is relevant for Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages);

(d) In the context of gender and biodiversity, in the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action,¹¹ the Conference of the Parties has recognized the importance of the participation of indigenous women in the implementation of the Convention. This is relevant for Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls);

(e) In the context of tourism and biodiversity, the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development adopted through [decision VII/14](#) recognize the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities in sustainable tourism. This can contribute to Goal 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all);

(f) In the context of climate change and biodiversity, in [decision XII/20](#) and in [decision XIII/4](#), paragraph 8(g), the Conference of the Parties recognized that traditional knowledge systems and practices are a major resource for adapting to climate change, and that integrating such form of knowledge into existing practices can increase the effectiveness of adaptation and mitigation actions. This can be relevant for Goal 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts);

(g) In the context of marine and coastal biodiversity, the Conference of the Parties recognized in [decision XIII/3](#), paragraph 59 the importance of incorporating traditional knowledge into the description and identification of ecologically significant marine areas. This is relevant to Goal 14 (Conserve and sustainable use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development);

(h) In the context of mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sectors, the Conference of the Parties, in its [decision XIII/3](#), paragraph 97, recognized the central role of indigenous peoples and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and the need to strengthen their knowledge, technologies, practices and innovations to continue supporting the biodiversity of the world. This is very relevant to Goal 15 (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss).

11. In conclusion, the potential contribution of traditional knowledge to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is significant and is yet to be fully realized. Many tools and guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties, including the Global Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable use of Biological Diversity and the Mo'otz kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines for traditional knowledge¹² can contribute to both the goals of the Convention and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Keeping indigenous peoples and local communities at the centre of actions related to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will contribute to success and also provide social and cultural safeguards.

III. POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE DIALOGUE

12. The in-depth dialogue will involve presentations by a panel of experts followed by an interactive dialogue with meeting participants. The in-depth dialogue will take one hour, and its

¹¹ [Decision XII/7](#), annex.

¹² In [decision XIII/18](#), the Conference of the Parties welcomed and adopted the Mo'otz kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines for traditional knowledge for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure the "prior and informed consent", "free, prior and informed consent" or "approval and involvement", depending on national circumstances, of indigenous peoples and local communities for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge.

outcome will, based on past practice, be annexed to the report of the meeting for information and advice.

13. Panellists, representatives of Parties, the scientific community, and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as other participants in the Working Group may wish to consider the following questions:

(a) What actions can be taken at different levels to strengthen the use of traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity, including its transmission, as well as customary sustainable use in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals?

(b) How can science and traditional knowledge come together for the best knowledge to address global issues of biodiversity loss, unsustainable development, and climate change?

IV. POSSIBLE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE DIALOGUE IN THE NEXT BIENNIUM

14. The Working Group may wish to propose an item for the dialogue at its eleventh meeting. Given that, at that time, discussions will be under way concerning the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the Working Group may wish to recommend to the Conference of the Parties that the topic for the in-depth dialogue to be held at the eleventh meeting of the Working Group be: “Contribution of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”.

V. POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE WORKING GROUP

15. The Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its tenth meeting conducted an in-depth dialogue on the topic “Contribution of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular emphasis on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”,

1. *Invites* Parties, when implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹³ to mainstream traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including those on customary sustainable use of biodiversity, into the implementation of all relevant Sustainable Development Goals through full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities;

2. *Decides* that the topic for the in-depth dialogue to be held at the eleventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions shall be: “Contribution of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”.

¹³ [General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”](#), annex.

Annex I

SUMMARY OF VIEWS FROM SUBMISSIONS

The table below provides a short summary from the submission, the full submissions are provided in information document CBD/WG8J/10/INF/5.¹⁴

Submission	Potential contribution of the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an example of recognition of traditional weather and climate knowledge through establishment of the Indigenous Weather Knowledge Website,¹⁵ where communities that can record and share their traditional knowledge about traditional weather and climate knowledge.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasised the importance of incorporating traditional knowledge and practices in the decision-making process on planning for sustainable development and established strategies to ensure conservation and promotion of ecosystem services based on traditional knowledge.
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided examples of indigenous peoples participation in the development of public policies, particularly as members of Brazilian CBD related councils, such as the National Biodiversity Commission (CONABIO) and the Genetic Heritage Management Council (CGEN).
Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referred to the importance of indigenous tourism as an important tool for sustainable development. • Provided two examples of the use of traditional knowledge for conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. They are the fisheries and wildlife co-management boards and committees that were established pursuant to modern treaties between indigenous groups and have protected responsibilities that entrench traditional knowledge in collaborative decision making and conservation planning. Canada also mentioned two examples of modern treaties: (a) Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, Section 13.6.6: and (b) Eeyou Marine Region (EMR) Land Claims Agreement, Section 10.2.
Denmark (including Greenland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an example of community-based monitoring of biodiversity, the PISUNA Initiative.¹⁶ This initiative aimed at improving management of resources in Greenland by establishing a process for indigenous knowledge and environmental observations to be integrated into decision making for natural resource management.

¹⁴ See <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/tk/wg8j-10/information/wg8j-10-inf-05-en.pdf>

¹⁵ See <http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/>

¹⁶ More information at <https://eloka-arctic.org/pisuna-net/en/>

Submission	Potential contribution of the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
European Union and its Member States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the important contribution of indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge in addressing problems such as social exclusion and poverty, loss of biological and cultural biodiversity, and climate change.
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the need to ensure full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided examples of the recognition of customary law in the management of natural resources, including water through the establishment of traditional committees to solve conflicts between fishermen, and propose measures to prevent the depletion of fish stocks.
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the importance of the report “The Agenda 2030 and Ecosystems”,¹⁷ which presents the main links between Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided an example of technical, legal, and financial support to indigenous peoples and local communities for the conservation of endangered species.
Assembly of First Nations (AFN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the importance of the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making processes related to land management (e.g. through co-management arrangements with other Governments and organizations).
Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized that secured land tenure for indigenous peoples is critical for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided an example of the Land and Sea Country Partnerships Program¹⁸ for the sea management at the local level to protect the marine resources, coastal ecosystems and cultural diversity by: (a) developing and implementing Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRAs), and (b) supporting Indigenous Community Compliance Programs.

¹⁷ See http://swed.bio/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/The-2030-Agenda-and-Ecosystems_spread.pdf

¹⁸ More information at <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-partners/traditional-owners/land-and-sea-country-partnerships-program>

Submission	Potential contribution of the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Global Forest Coalition/Community Conservation Resilience Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the importance of data disaggregation by ethnicity, indigenous people, local community and gender in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals indicators, and the need to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples in the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals.
ICCA Consortium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the contribution of Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs) to biodiversity, poverty, eradication, and sustainable development and the importance of the Chennai Guidance for the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication.¹⁹
Natural Resource Stewardship Circle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided an example of sustainable production, the case of Pech community from Honduras.
Indigenous Women Network of Biodiversity from Latin America Region (IWNB-LAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the important role of indigenous women for the achievement of Goal 15 on Biodiversity.
Red de Cooperación Amazónica (RED CAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided as example, the creation of Caura National Park with the participation of local communities.
Stockholm Resilience Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasized the links between Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 16, to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. It also emphasized human rights and their links to biodiversity.

¹⁹ See [decision XII/5](#), annex.

Annex II

LINKS BETWEEN TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND RELEVANT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND PERTINENT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

This table provides an overview of the links between traditional knowledge and relevant Sustainable Development Goals, supported by relevant decisions of Conferences of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity. These decisions, among others, should be taken into account in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in conjunction with traditional knowledge, at the local and national levels.

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	
<p><i>Link:</i> Preserving traditional knowledge related to ecosystem management, including forests, food production, and water, provides the base for the well-being and sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities. For example, the retention of this knowledge can decrease poverty by supporting rural economic sustainable development in projects based on community-based natural resource management.²⁰</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development encourages Parties, other Governments, and all partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To protect and encourage the customary use of biological resources in accordance with Articles 8(j) and 10 (c) of the Convention (decision XI/21, para. 6); - To promote biodiversity and development of projects that can empower poor and vulnerable people, particularly women and indigenous and local communities, for sustainable development and poverty eradication. <p>In addition, the Chennai Guidance for the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication adopted through decision XII/5 and the Global Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (decision XII/12) provides useful recommendations for achieving this goal.</p>

²⁰ See examples at United Nations Development Programme. 2016. *Local action for the global goals: Promoting innovative conservation and development solutions*. New York, United States of America: UNDP. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/environment-energy/ecosystems_and_biodiversity/local-action-for-the-global-goals.html

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	
<p><i>Link:</i> Indigenous peoples and local communities have traditional knowledge, expertise and skills and practices related to food security and to food from agricultural and animal production. Preserving traditional knowledge ensures food and agricultural diversity.²¹ Indigenous territories hold 80 per cent of the world's biodiversity²² and this includes agricultural genetic diversity.</p> <p>Indigenous peoples and local communities may also hold traditional knowledge relevant for land and water management, including soils (and thus soil fertility).</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/3, paragraphs 17 and 27, encourages Parties and invites other Governments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To recognize and integrate traditional knowledge, customary sustainable use as well as diverse approaches undertaken by indigenous peoples and local communities into efforts to maintain genetic diversity, reduce habitat and biodiversity loss, and to promote an equitable and participatory approach to the management and restoration of critical ecosystems; -To recognize the importance of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities for agriculture sustainability that is aligned with their world view (<i>cosmovisión</i>) and upholds diversification, ecological rotation, and agro forestry, and; -To promote community and family farming, alongside agroecology with a view to promoting sustainable production and improving nutrition.
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	
<p><i>Link:</i> Traditional medicine, which include knowledge about herbs and therapeutic activities, is the main form of healthcare for many people, including indigenous peoples and local communities, so the health and well-being of millions of people is dependent upon traditional medicine.²³</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XII/21, paragraph 8, invites Parties to consider the contribution of traditional knowledge and customary practices to human health.</p>

²¹ For more information on FAO, see *FAO and Traditional Knowledge: The Linkages with Sustainability, Food Security and Climate Change Impacts*. Rome: FAO <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i0841e.pdf>

²² See also FAO, *6 ways indigenous peoples are helping the world achieve #ZeroHunger*, <http://www.fao.org/zhc/detail-events/en/c/1028010/>

²³ See also World Health Organization and Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. *Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health: A State of Knowledge Review*. 2015. <https://www.cbd.int/health/SOK-biodiversity-en.pdf>

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	
<i>Link:</i> Indigenous peoples and local communities maintain different knowledge systems which include oral traditions, intergenerational knowledge transfer, and holistic approaches to learning. These knowledge systems are relevant for ecosystem sustainable management.	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XI/14 B , paragraph 8, invites Parties, among others, to provide indigenous and local communities with the resources needed for, and partner with them in the development and implementation of “indigenous to indigenous” and “community to community” training projects that focus on the role of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use of biodiversity, including “elders and youth” and “women and children” initiatives that are rooted in indigenous languages, cultures and traditional knowledge and that are fundamental in validating and affirming the self-esteem and identity of indigenous and local communities.”
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empowerment all women and girls	
<i>Link:</i> Indigenous women are well known as custodians of traditional knowledge with a responsibility to pass it to next generations. Some indigenous women are known for their specialized knowledge concerning seed selection and food preparation. Their knowledge extends to awareness of the structure of, and symbiotic relations with, ecosystems, functionality of species, understanding of wild ancestors and geographic ranges of plants and animal species, that could help avoid genetic erosion and help with adaptation to change. ²⁴	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision V/16 , adopted the Programme of Work on the Implementation of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, which requests, in Task 4, that Parties develop, as appropriate, mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work, taking into account the need to: (a) build on the basis of their knowledge; (b) strengthen their access to biological diversity; (c) strengthen their capacity on matters pertaining to the conservation, maintenance and protection of biological diversity; (d) promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge; (e) promote culturally appropriate and gender-specific ways in which to document and preserve women’s knowledge of biological diversity.
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	
<i>Link:</i> Traditional knowledge contains information about terracing used for agriculture, techniques for collecting rainwater in basins and cisterns, tunnels, underground drainage and storage (passageways to take water underground and create oases in the desert), as well as techniques for extracting humidity from the air. ²⁵	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Revised Programme of Work on Inland Water Biological Diversity, adopted through decision VII/4 , lists one of the fundamental guiding principles as “support[ing] indigenous and local communities to re-establish, develop and implement traditional approaches and/or adaptive management approaches to conserve and sustain the use of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems”.

²⁴ For more information, see <https://www.cbd.int/doc/newsletters/development/news-dev-2015-2013-08-en.pdf>

²⁵ UNESCO Report on Water and Traditional Knowledge. Learn from the Past for a Sustainable Future. http://www.unesco.org/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/FIELD/Venice/pdf/special_events/bozza_scheda_DOW_6_1.0.pdf

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	
<p><i>Link:</i> Increasing numbers of indigenous peoples and local communities work in sustainable tourism; this activity can contribute to sustainable economic growth and conservation of biodiversity. Recent studies indicate that 30 per cent of tourists want and authentic cultural experience as part of their holiday experience.</p> <p>Increasingly for many products, including tourism, the involvement of the indigenous local or traditional communities can in itself have multiple benefits such as increasing the marketability of and adding value to products (based on culture/nature and traditional knowledge), as well as providing culturally appropriate forms of development and local employment opportunities; and by providing opportunities for companies to demonstrate corporate responsibility and ethical sourcing and trade practices.</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/3, paragraph 82(a), invites Parties and other Governments to develop and adopt policies, programmes and frameworks, as well as strengthen existing ones, that promote tourism development under the criteria of sustainability and participation of all relevant institutions and stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities, subnational and local governments, the private sector and civil society.</p>
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	
<p><i>Link:</i> Many indigenous peoples and local communities maintain knowledge, innovations, and practices for building durable infrastructure, often taking into account, in a holistic manner, the landscape, local climate, and the natural resources in the area. For example, indigenous peoples in the Andean regional have exceptional knowledge to build irrigation channels in the high mountains.²⁶</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XII/9, paragraph 3, calls on Parties to incorporate biodiversity considerations into their urban, peri-urban, land-use and infrastructure planning, such as “green infrastructure”, among others, as appropriate, and to strengthen capacities of subnational and local governments to incorporate biodiversity into urban and other spatial planning processes.</p>

²⁶ See some examples on *Cities and Biodiversity Outlook* <https://www.cbd.int/doc/health/cbo-action-policy-en.pdf>

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	
<i>Link:</i> Indigenous peoples and local communities have knowledge about sustainable production embedded in their traditional knowledge and lifestyles. For example, they maintain and enforce customary rules for the sustainable use of water, land, and natural resources, and maintain rotational crop systems to support the sustainability and the vitality of the land, soil and ecosystems. ²⁷	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XII/12 , adopted the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, the objective of which is to promote, within the framework of the Convention, a just implementation of Article 10(c), on customary sustainable use of biodiversity at local, national, regional and international levels, and to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all stages and levels of implementation.
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	
<i>Link:</i> Traditional knowledge was acknowledged in the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as “an invaluable basis for developing adaptation and natural resource management strategies in response to environmental and other forms of change” (IPCC, 2007). It focuses on elements of significance for local livelihoods, security, and well-being, and as a result, it is essential for climate change adaptation. ²⁸	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/4 , paragraph 8(g), encourages Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to develop and implement ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction that are based on available science and take into account the traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities.
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	
<i>Link:</i> Coastal indigenous peoples and local communities rely on marine traditional knowledge to support their communities and cultures. This specific knowledge contains information about the interconnection between aquatic species, ecosystems and plants, fishing with traditional techniques, taboo processes, and marine community conservation areas management.	<i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/3 , paragraph 73, encourages competent intergovernmental organizations to further strengthen collaboration regarding marine, coastal and inland water biodiversity and fisheries, as well as to create opportunities for communities to benefit from alternative uses of those resources, such as ecotourism in parallel with artisanal fishing, where appropriate.

²⁷ For advice on how Article 10(c) can be further advanced and implemented as a priority, see [UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/2/Add.1](#).

²⁸ Weathering Uncertainty Traditional Knowledge for Climate Change assessment and adaptation <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002166/216613e.pdf>

<p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p>	
<p><i>Link:</i> Most indigenous and local communities are situated in areas where the vast majority of the world’s genetic resources are found. Some of their practices have been proven to enhance and promote biodiversity at the local level and aid in maintaining healthy ecosystems.²⁹ Using their traditional knowledge, and through customary sustainable use, they are well placed to develop community-based monitoring systems for biodiversity assessment and desertification, among others.³⁰</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/18, invites Parties and other Governments to use the Mo’otz Kuxtal³¹ Voluntary Guidelines for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure the “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”, depending on national circumstances, of indigenous peoples and local communities for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge.</p> <p>The Conference of the Parties, in its decision XII/12 A, paragraph 9, encourages Parties and indigenous and local communities to consider how indigenous and local communities might effectively participate in the development, collection and analysis of data, including through Community-Based Monitoring.</p>
<p>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</p>	
<p><i>Link:</i> Indigenous peoples and local communities maintain traditional and customary rules to resolve internal and external conflicts. Conflicts over limited natural resources are one of the main factors undermining peaceful relations between peoples. Supporting traditional knowledge and culturally-relevant dispute mechanisms can powerful peace making tools.</p>	<p><i>CBD decisions:</i> The Tkarihwaié:ri Code of Ethical Conduct to Ensure Respect for the Cultural and Intellectual Heritage of Indigenous and Local Communities Relevant to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity³² adopted through decision X/42 invites Parties and Governments to make use of the elements of the code regarding activities/interactions with indigenous and local communities by, inter alia, government departments and agencies, academic institutions, private sector developers, among others.</p>

²⁹ See <https://www.cbd.int/traditional/intro.shtml>

³⁰ See [UNEP/CBD/WG8J/8/9](#).

³¹ Meaning “roots of life” in the Mayan language.

³² <https://www.cbd.int/traditional/code.shtml>