

# Incentives for Partnerships between State Parties & Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities



Stimulating implementation and  
reporting on **Element 2**  
of the PoWPA

# Why do States not report on equity, governance, livelihood & rights?

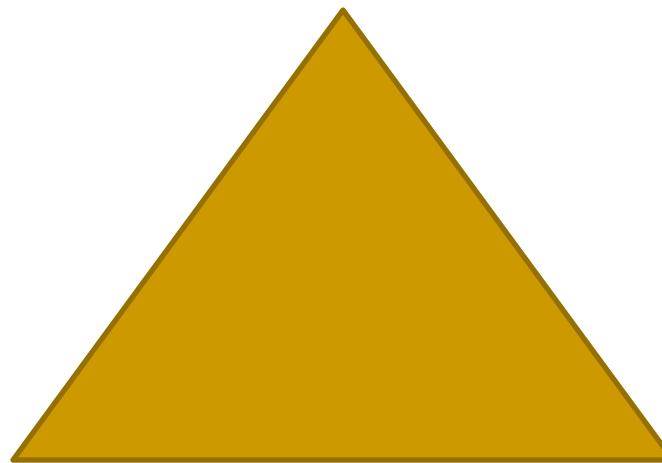
- They do not see the benefit of sharing power in biodiversity conservation;
- They require more guidance on participatory processes;
- They require more resources or skills;
- Conservation sector has an ambiguous relationship with indigenous peoples and local communities;
- Ask them...

# Science of Bio-Cultural Diversity

- Effective, sustainable Protected Areas are part of an **Ecosystems-based approach** to conservation;
- Ecosystems are **resilient** when the different levels of users and decision-makers respect the system's equilibrium and capacity;
- **7000** human languages code highly specific information about biodiversity, ecosystems and governance, which is excluded from PoWPA

# Three Pronged Strategy

**Rights Standards & Norms:**  
UNDRIP, UNDMIn, ILO 169, ILO 111



CBD: 8j, 10c, ABS, Addis  
Ababa, GSPC, Malawi,  
Akwe: Kon

**Value Added by Communities:**  
TEK, Bio-cultural systems,  
Conservation partnership

# Rights Standards & Norms



- PoWPA II needs to recognise the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007);
- UNDRIP requires States to respect indigenous institutions, cultures and governance;
- ILO 169 has been ratified in Latin America;
- ILO 111 guides requires recognition of traditional livelihoods

# Addis Ababa Guidelines & Principles

AAGP highlights how ecosystems contribute to and maintain cultures, societies and communities.

Any **adverse impacts on ecosystems** also **have adverse impacts on those bio-cultural diversity and community sustainability**;

Governments should **promote sustainable use** principles and guidelines as additional instruments for the protection and maintenance of traditional cultures and societies;

Total use exclusion is an **indigenous** biodiversity governance principle – key is fairness, equity & dialogue.

# 8j, 10c, ABS & GSPC ➔ PoWPA II

- CBD has a strong set of tools for creating equity, good governance, livelihoods in relation to Protected Areas;
- PA's need to conserve bio-cultural diversity;
- Equitable benefits are more sustainable than poverty next to Protected Areas;
- 'Community Conserved Areas' is the major international trend but requires more learning, sharing and innovations;
- Wild plant & agro-biodiversity conservation are the basis of food security for millions of people – particularly in the face of climate instability;

# Culture, Rights & Good Sense

- **Article 8j obliges signatories:**
  - Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of such knowledge, innovations and practices.
- **Article 10c**
  - Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

# Traditional Knowledge is a resource

- TK / IKS is complex knowledge that is passed between generations about biodiversity, ecosystems and the use of natural resources;
- e.g. animal behaviour, plant taxa, weather prediction, navigation, adaptation requirements of ecosystems;
- Culturally transmitted TK is inseparable from values & belief systems, sustained practices of natural resource use, governance (rights & responsibilities) and regular contact with nature.

# and this means...

- IP / LCs should be maintaining TK;
- IP / LCs should benefit from TK;
- IP / LC TK should be applied in conservation and natural resource management;
- States need to recognise TK, TK holders and create an enabling environment;
- Cutting IP / LCs off from natural resources or marginalising them from natural resources management will speed up the loss of TK



# Mechanisms to promote the effective participation of IP / LCs

- TK is held by mostly rural communities without organised civil society;
- TK is degrading rapidly across the globe;
- Effective participation requires **identifying TK holders** and finding **forums for dialogue**, reflection and policy generation;
- How does the State create an **enabling environment** for TK & holders to be valued, recognised, maintained and to be of use to IP / LCs in a changing economic landscape?



# Technology & TK

- TK is learned from many hours and years observing nature and using natural resources;
- Young people go to school, where they lose traditional knowledge, skills & competence;
- New technologies create opportunities to capture TK, make it available for teaching and training
- New technologies can also convert TK into usable data for wildlife management, conservation, anti-poaching and scientific studies
- CyberTracker & GIS are examples of TK & technology



# 3Ps for Policy

- **PLURALISM:** IUCN & CBD need to promote different economic solutions in different ecosystems, allow for parallel systems of natural resource usage and management;
- **PARTICIPATION:** Local communities and indigenous peoples need to be active partners in natural resource management, including in the design of policy and implementation;
- **PARTNERSHIPS:** Neither the State nor the IP / LCs can maintain biodiversity alone, they need each other and they need the private sector support;