



Climate Change Assessments and the 'Best Available Knowledge': The challenge of bridging disciplines and knowledge systems

**UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, Paris - Room IX
9h 30 to 17h 00, 3 November 2014**

Co-organized by UNESCO and the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)
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In the face of global climate change, its impacts and uncertainties, access to the 'best available knowledge' is often cited as an essential requirement for decision-making. Until recently, however, climate change assessments and actions have been primarily if not exclusively informed by the bio-physical sciences. Other relevant disciplines, notably the social sciences, as well as other knowledge systems such as local and indigenous knowledge, have remained on the sidelines.

In the last decade, there has been increased recognition of the need to reach out to a broad range of social sciences as well as to local and indigenous knowledge systems. For example, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded in its Fifth Assessment Report that indigenous knowledge systems 'are a major resource for adapting to climate change'. This recognition is reinforced by the need for multi-scalar approaches across time and space, which can bridge the gap between the local observations provided by indigenous knowledge holders and field-based disciplines, and the global observations of the climate sciences.

How can assessments on climate change better take into account contributions from the social sciences and from indigenous knowledge?

How can adaptation initiatives on the ground appropriately incorporate indigenous knowledge and a fully interdisciplinary approach?



*Traduction simultanée anglais-français
French-English interpretation will be provided*

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*Persons wishing to attend should pre-register
by sending their name and affiliation to*
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Provisional Agenda

UNESCO Room IX, 3 November 2014

9h00 Registration

9h30 to 10h00

Opening

Chair: Douglas Nakashima, Chief,
Local & Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) programme,
Division for Science Policy & Capacity-building,
Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO

Welcoming remarks (5 min)

Hans D'ORVILLE, Assistant Director-General, Bureau for Strategic Planning, UNESCO (TBC)

Opening statement (5 min)

Representative of the Permanent Delegation of Denmark to UNESCO (TBC)

Opening statement (5 min)

Patrick MONFRAY, Environment & Biological Resources Department, Agence nationale de la recherche, France; Co-chair, IGFA/Belmont Forum; Vice-chair, JPI Climate

10h00 to 10h20

Keynote Address

Cartographers in an Imperfect World

Youba SOKONA, Special Advisor on Sustainable Development, South Centre
Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III on Mitigation

Q & A (10 min)

10h30 to 10h45 - Coffee/tea

10h45 to 11h55

An Emerging Role for the Social Sciences and Indigenous Knowledge in Global Environmental Assessments

Chairperson: TBC

Inclusion of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge in IPCC Assessments: The Challenges in Capturing Such Knowledge Diversity in 3000 Words

Grete HOVELSRUD, Research Director, Nordland Research Institute(Nordlandsforskning), Professor, University of Nordland, and IPCC 5AR Lead Author, WG II-Chapter 12 on Human Security, Contributing Author Chapter 28 Polar Regions (15 min)

The Global Framework for Climate Services and local communities

Filipe LUCIO, Director, Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) Office, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) (15 min)

Informing adaptation decision-making in Africa by addressing priority research gaps

Cheikh KANE, Climate Research for Development in Africa Platform (CR4D), Interim Steering Committee (10 min)

The need for Comprehensive and Practical Knowledge to enhance Adaptation Action

Xianfu LU, Team Lead, Adaptation - Impacts, Vulnerability and Risks, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (10 min)

Discussion (20 min)

11h55 to 13h00

Round Table: Local Knowledge and Experiences with changing Weather/Climate

Chairperson: Youba SOKONA, Special Advisor on Sustainable Development, South Centre
Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III on Mitigation

Local scale, local knowledge and climate change modeling. Interdisciplinary studies in the Himalayas (Nepal) (10 min)

Joëlle SMADJA, Senior Researcher, UPR 299, Centre d'Etudes Himalayennes, CNRS, France

Traditional weather knowledge and forecasting of Blijaqoi of Borneo

Patau RUBIS, Bidayuh *penyigar* (shaman), Sarawak, Malaysia (10 min)

Sharing local and scientific knowledge for climate change modeling. A case study from an Andalusian olive-growing region (Spain)

Marianne COHEN, Professor, Université Paris-Sorbonne IV, UMR ENeC (CNRS-Université Paris Sorbonne), France (10 min)

Climate change from a Sami perspective (10 min)

Anders OSKAL, Executive Director, International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry, Kautokeino, Norway (*tbc*) (10 min)

Discussion (15 min)

13h00 to 14h00 - Lunch

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND CIRCUMPOLAR ARCTIC INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Chairperson: TBC

14h00 to 14h30

Keynote Address

AFTER THE ICE... Polar Ice as a New Arena for Humanistic Research and Conflicting Interests

Igor KRUPNIK, Curator, Arctic and Northern Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, USA

Q & A (10 min)

14h40 to 15h35

Community-based Monitoring and Knowledge Co-production in the Circumpolar Arctic

Introduction to BRISK project and Case studies – Russian Federation (20 min)

. Alexandra LAVRILLIER, Associate Professor, CEARC (Cultures-Environnements-Arctic-Representations-Climat), University of Versailles-Saint-Quentin, France

. Chantal CLAUD, Senior Researcher, and Maxence ROJO, Ph.D. student, Laboratoire de météorologie dynamique, CNRS/Université Pierre et Marie Curie/ENS de Paris/Ecole polytechnique, France

. Semen GABYSHEV, Co-researcher CEARC, reindeer herder, Russia.

Land use management in a changing climate: the case of reindeer herders in Swedish Lapland

. Marie ROUE, Senior Researcher, Eco-anthropologie et Ethnobiologie, CNRS/National Museum of Natural History, France

. Samuel ROTURIER, Associate Professor, Ecology, Systematic & Evolution Laboratory, AgroParisTech, France (20 min)

Discussion (15 min)

15h35 to 15h50 – coffee/tea

15h50 to 16h45

Community-based Monitoring and Knowledge Co-production in the Circumpolar Arctic

Inuit Sea Ice Observations - Community-based monitoring in the Canadian High Arctic

Shari GEARHEARD, Research Scientist, National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado at Boulder, USA (12 min)

Inuit Sea Ice Observations - Community-based monitoring in Greenland

Lene KIELSEN-HOLM, Research Scientist and Project Leader, Greenland Climate Research Centre, Greenland (12 min)

Co-assessing coastal ocean knowledge: Scientific and indigenous expert workshops in Alaska North Slope communities

Mathew DRUCKENMILLER, AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow
U.S. Global Development Lab, USAID (12 min)

Discussion (20 min)

16h45 to 17h00

Closing Session – 15 min

