
**CAPTURING INDIGENEOUS KNOWLEDGE
FOR DEVELOPMENT WHILE RESPECTING
IPRs, ETHICAL & MORAL INTEGRITY AND
BIOSAFETY**

RESPONDENT'S REMARKS

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Issues for further consideration

- Developments of IKS with reference to South Africa since 1996 are well articulated – however need to demonstrate linkage and contribution to agricultural development.
 - Developments in IKS with special reference to agriculture in Africa need to be explicitly highlighted
 - Deeper insights into issues of IKS associated with IPRs and ethical and moral integrity and bio-safety
 - Genuine recognition and appreciation of IKS and its contribution to various aspects of society in Africa has not been given its due importance.
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- Effective research and documentation of IKS, traditional knowledge (TK), practices, its application and transfer a challenge to ag.research in SSA.
 - Little or no attention has been made to provide for access and benefit sharing including providing for favorable IPR regime through
 - policy,
 - institutional and
 - legal frameworks at the national level.
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- Traditional scientific knowledge which is largely oral and rural in nature and geographic-area specific, must not be left to remain invisible to the development community and global science.
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Importance of IK in African Agriculture

- a few examples from Uganda:
 - The cutting down of certain tree species considered taboo and compliments conservation efforts
 - The movement of certain birds and shedding of tree leaves continues to be applied in weather forecasting
 - Presence of some plant species indication on soil fertility status, e.g *Striga* spp. indicates poor soil fertility.
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Examples (cont)

- On pest and disease control, IKS involving concoctions of crushed red pepper and tobacco leaves mixed with cow urine are known for controlling pests
 - The control of banana weevils by trapping plus splitting of pseudo-stems
 - Ash sprinkling on cow peas, beans and tomatoes is effective against pests and diseases.
 - Other plant concoctions are also used for de-worming cattle, sheep and goats.
 - IKS is also used in long term storage of food crops and grains
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Progress

- Some progress has been registered in a number of Governments and institutions in harnessing the IKS for example the case of South Africa and Uganda's institution of Science and Technology as well as NARO.
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Conclusion

- There is an urgent need to integrate IKS in policy formulation, ARD and implementation of development program/ projects.
 - We must recognize modernity and new technologies in the era of globalization is threatening the loss of this vital great store of knowledge, skills, and practices held by local communities collectively and/or individually. It is now time for marginalization of IKS to stop.
 - The scientific community and development partners, academia, and indeed all stakeholders must re-commit themselves to the mainstreaming of IKS in agricultural development interventions.
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Conclusion (2)

- FARA should urgently provide the leadership stewardship in this area so that SROs, academia, national governments and other key actors embrace IKS and provide the necessary policy environment to support it.
- Particular attention should be given to benefit sharing and inherent IPRs in the frameworks to avoid exploitation of the IKS holders.
- FARA must therefore break the 'barriers' and build the 'bridges' so as to unlock the full potential of IKS stores in contributing to the attainment of the 6% annual agricultural growth

I thank you all for your kind
attention
