

Session Proposal
on
Indigenous Knowledge for Ecological Resource Management
for the

ISEE 2010
Advancing Sustainability in a Time of Crisis

22 - 25 August 2010
Oldenburg and Bremen, Germany

Session Chair

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It has been well recognized that ecological resource management is a valuable endeavor to provide information relating to the status and condition of ecological resources the people use those for meeting their multifarious needs. We often mistakenly formulate policies for conserving and restoring the ecological sites by ignoring the local people's skills and traditional conservation techniques. But there is no denying of the fact, that these traditionalists around the ecosystems possess more valuable indigenous wisdom to nurture the natural resources in undoubtedly effective ways. Typically, the indigenous people have own experience and knowledge to exploit their surrounding ecological resources. This knowledge is learned by themselves through the practical experiences and very often it is transmitted from one generation to the next through unwritten and oral communication. The hidden value of indigenous knowledge is yet to be explored and utilized as a sustainable development component by the academicians and development practitioners. Being the real descendents of their habitats since long past, and nonetheless, in many places around the world, the indigenous people possess valuable traditional environmental knowledge through interacting with their proximate ecosystem. Unfortunately, however, many of such people are now repressed and exterminated by formulating discriminatory laws and policies in the name of development. They are disappearing very swiftly as the endangered species and habitats, which now requires the holistic approach of ecological resource management. For that purpose what we require that we should integrate the indigenous knowledge with that of scientific venture to make the environment developed in real sense of the term. And the sociologists should work with the natural and other social scientists along with the policy makers and development

practitioners to help evolving a sustainable model for ecological resource management. Accordingly, this session invites proposals from the academicians of different disciplines, and also people from different regions of the globe, to have the diversities in ecological resource management initiatives. This session is wedded to receive qualitative and/or quantitative and/or mixed approaches of finalizing the ecological essays aptly dealt with the indigenous knowledge the people usually utilize in ecological resource management.

