



Indigenous Peoples and Conservation

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20th April 2016, Brussels

Indigenous peoples

- International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity (IIFB) is an establishment of IPs of the world who are involved in Biodiversity and follow closely the Convention of Biological Diversity(CBD)
- Indigenous Peoples live in all regions of the world and it is estimated that they own, occupy or use resources of approximately 22% of the global land area, which in turn harbours 80% of the world's biological diversity
- It's a representation of approximately 350million
 Indigenous peoples of the world following the the United
 Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to guide member-state national policies to collective rights of indigenous people.

The Role of Indigenous Peoples in Wildlife Management

 Traditional wildlife management is, without doubt, tied to people's culture and their customary use of biodiversity. These traditions ensure strong stewardship of wildlife, which goes beyond wild animals to wild plants, for without them life would be miserable and unsustainable. Therefore, the stewardship role of Indigenous Peoples for wildlife management has led to collaboration with conservation organisations for maintaining biodiversity.

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- Indigenous Peoples' strength of culture and wisdom rises from the local level, sharing and exchanging knowledge about wildlife in international collaborations has the potential to benefit Indigenous Peoples in their territories of residence.
- The 12th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity resulted in *Decision XII/18 on Sustainable use of biodiversity: bushmeat and sustainable wildlife management.* Biological Diversity, 2014).

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 Article 10 of this Decision encourages Parties to the Convention "to assess, minimize and mitigate the impacts of illegal hunting on the subsistence hunting and livelihoods of indigenous and local communities, and on other subsistence users of wildlife resources", while Article 11 encourages Parties "to strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to exercise their rights and responsibilities in relation to the sustainable management of wildlife" (UN Convention on Biological Diversity,

The role of CPW

- Indigenous Peoples possess a wealth of traditional knowledge, which they have acquired over generations enabling them to use natural resources sustainably
- The CPW will contribute to the development of technical advice that can be used internationally but can also be a source of information for Indigenous communities to support self-determined strategies for sustainable wildlife management.

Ogiek Lifestyle



An Ogiek man holding an hyrax



Ogiek man during hunting.

Indigenous people and wildlife conservation

- Indigenous peoples across the globe are attached to their natural environment.
- They possess traditional knowledge which enables them to use natural resources sustainably
- Indigenous People have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources.

Cause of wildlife extinction

- Habitat destruction
- Human Demands , bureaucracies and Corruption
- Poaching and Unsustainable hunting
- Forest Fires
- Natural disasters
- Climate change

Importance of Wildlife conservation

- It is necessary to conserve wildlife because it results in undesirable consequences for the whole ecosystem.
- Conservation preserves the ecological diversity and our life support systems.
- It also helps in the preservation of the genetic diversity of plants and animals for better growth of species and breeding.
- The destruction of forests and wildlife is not just a biological issue. The biological loss is strongly correlated with the loss of cultural diversity.

What should be done;

- Laws should be made to impose a total ban on poaching or capturing of any animal or bird belonging to an endangered species.
- The natural habitats of wild animals should be preserved
- The Government should conduct a periodic survey in all the forests
- The unauthorized felling of forest trees for timber trade and fuelwood should be curbed immediately.

Conclusion

- As I conclude may I Implore the European parliament to support the work of CPW and Indigenous peoples for sustainable Wild life management, otherwise the future generation may not have a chance to see the lions, Elephants, buffalos, Zebras, Gazelles, Hippos, Rhinos etc.
- Sustainable wildlife management is part of Indigenous Peoples' traditions.