

Indigenous Knowledge Systems & Data

Pre-Conference in the framework of SciDataCon/IDW 2018

International Data Week 2018, Gaborone, Botswana

Saturday, 3rd November 2018, UB Library Auditorium

FREE REGISTRATION

Indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) across Africa are rich and diverse. In recent years, IKS have gained more attention as potential contributors to economic diversification, natural resource management, innovation, health, sustainable agriculture, climate change mitigation, as well as to national identity-building through arts, music, design, architecture and culture.

In Botswana this trend has been reflected through the development of a specific National IKS Policy and the intent to develop National IKS databases. IKS have also gained entrance into strategies for academic institutions as a potential niche, whose research can define a unique competitive edge in the tertiary education sector. This in turn has increased the awareness of indigenous knowledge holders and their communities on how to position themselves in a globalized world, how to protect their knowledge, but also how to document and develop IKS and make it relevant for the future and under which conditions.

The Center of Scientific Research, Indigenous Knowledge & Innovation (CesrIKi) has since 2010 been at the forefront of IKS research in Botswana and has been a contact point for many IK holders looking for advice on how to document and to develop their knowledge into products. Based on this experience, CesrIKi noted two important issues: Firstly, the need to develop more dynamic forms of documentation than static databases, as knowledge never stands still. Secondly, there is a general lack of coordination on how knowledge and data about IKS are generated, handled, protected, and used for innovation. There are insecurities about what happens to data and there are many bottlenecks that tend to stifle innovation initiatives brought forward by IK holders themselves.

The Pre-Conference ‘Indigenous Knowledge Systems & Data’ has therefore the following objectives:

- To give Indigenous Knowledge Holders a forum for dialogue on data generation and usage
- To learn from successful collaborations between researchers and indigenous knowledge holders
- To discuss adequate forms of documentation of IKS
- To outline how data on IKS can contribute to innovation and entrepreneurship

Contacts for Participation: Professor Kirsten Marobela, Acting Director, CesrIKI, Marobelak@mopipi.ub.bw; send your details to cesriki@mopipi.ub.bw for registration

Tentative Program

8.00-8.15: Registration

Introduction

8.15-8.30: Welcoming remarks Vice Chancellor UB/Dean Faculty of
Sciences UB

8.30-8.45: Opening remarks Representative Ntlo ya Dikgosi

Indigenous knowledge and research (Co-Presentations by indigenous knowledge holders and researchers)

Session 1 – Chair: Mme Mmankudu Glickman (Bahurutshe Cultural Cooperative, Mmankodi)

8.45 - 9.05 : Domain - Handicrafts and design

9.05 - 9.25 : Domain - Visual and Performing Arts

9.25 – 9.45 : Domain - Agriculture & Farming

9.45 – 10.15: TEA BREAK

Session 2 – Chair: Rre Banyatsi Setilo (Chairperson of the Umbrella of Traditional Healers Associations in Botswana)

10.15 – 10.35: Domain - Food and Veldt products

10.35 – 10.55: Domain - Traditional healing

10.55 – 11.15: Domain - Natural Resource Management

Book Presentation

11.15- 11.30 ‘Indigenous Research Methods’ Prof. B. Chilisa, UB (to be confirmed)

11.30 – 11.45: CULTURE BREAK

Strategy discussion

Session 3 – Chair tbd

11.45 – 13.00: **Dynamics, Data & Documentation of IKS**

With:

Prof. A Materechera (Indigenous Knowledge Systems Center, North-West-University, Mafikeng, South-Africa)

Mr. K. Mogodu, Khwedom Council, Botswana

Prof. K. Andrae-Marobela, CesRIKI, UB, Botswana

Mr. T. Moalusi, CIPA, Botswana

13.00 – 14.00 LUNCH

The Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Project Botswana

14.00-14.15 Representative of ABS Focal Point Botswana/DEA

Strategy discussion

Session 4 – Chair TBA

14.15 – 15.45: **From IKS data to Innovation**

With:

Mr. Baretseng Sechaba, CSIR, South-Africa

Representative from LEA, Botswana

Indigenous Entrepreneurs

Conclusion

15.45 – 16.00: Concluding remarks

