

Education on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change: Strength and Challenges

Pasang Dolma Sherpa (Nepal)
International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change
(IIPFCC)

10th June 2013

Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention
Bonn, Germany

Indigenous Peoples

- 370 millions Global Population of Indigenous Peoples (AIPP, 2012)
 - 2/3 of the population are indigenous peoples in Asia
 - 35% of the total population are indigenous peoples in Nepal
- 500 millions people depend on forest out of which 200 million are indigenous peoples (FPP, 2012)

Indigenous Peoples

- Indigenous Peoples: Traditional practices and knowledge system
 - Symbiotic relation with forest and natural resources
 - Connection of spiritual and cultural values with forest and resources
 - Sustainable Forest Management system and livelihoods
 - High importance of transformation of the indigenous knowledge system to the future generations for adaptation of the impact of climate change: Education on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Some Glimpses Indigenous Peoples in Nepal



Climate Change and Its Impact

- Global Rise of temperature- 0.8°C since 1880 and would rise between 1.4 to 5.8°C by 2100 (IPCC Report)
 - Average Rise of temperature in Nepal: 0.06 degree centigrade (rise of temperature in the plain (*Tarai*) is 0.03°C **but on the hill and mountain is from 0.06 to 0.12°C** (THT, 2009) and expected to rise by 1.4°C by 2030
- Impact of Climate change on Indigenous Peoples
 - Ecological and Environment Diversity
 - Melting ice/ bursting lakes/ flooding/ changing rainfall pattern/ hurricane
 - Traditional customary practices
 - Spiritual sites/ species/ trees/ rives
 - Cultural-Eco System

Some glimpses of the impact of climate Change in the Himalayas



Global Partnership Initiatives on CC Education & Trainings (Asia, Africa and Latin America in partnership with TEBTEBBA)

- Education and training on Climate Change and Indigenous peoples: Formal & Information institutions
- Awareness raising and capacity building
 - Customary laws/ institutions/ sacred sites
 - Environment and territorial mapping, delineation using GPS/ Carbon Mapping, 3 D model,
 - Community based Monitoring and Information Systems through right based and ecological approaches/ holistic approach
 - Indigenous institutions education on **Inter-cultural values**/ Eco-calendars , own knowledge systems in Mother Tongue language
- Advocacy and Lobby - Parties on the recognition of the indigenous traditional customary practices/ knowledge system for addressing the impact of climate change
 - Indonesia: Constitution Court Decision on forestry law: ownership of indigenous forest and impact on forest management

Glimpses of awareness raising activities





Initiation Education Activities on CC and IPs

- Diploma courses on Indigenous Peoples' Territorial Governance and Climate Change conducted by Center for the autonomy and development of Indigenous Peoples in North east of Nicaragua and Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region University (2010-2012)
 - More than 150 Indigenous Leaders already graduated from the course (6 months)
- Master level course, “ Environmental Education and Sustainable Development” Kathmandu University (2011-2012)
 - Introduced course on Climate Change, REDD and Indigenous Peoples

Initiation of Education Activities on CC and IPs

- School Curriculum and Text books development and implementation on the course, “ Social Science and Environmental Education” in Nepal, already implemented in 6 schools in Lamjung District in Nepal
 - 20% local curriculum on Education on Climate Change and Indigenous Traditional Customary Practices/stories for grade 4 & 5
 - Text books & Materials: Stories/ cartoon/ Documentary/ oral stories from local leaders
 - High Demand for developing 100% curriculum and text books till 8th grades

Research, School, Media Activities



Some glimpses of Education Activities



Challenges for Indigenous Peoples in the arena of Climate Change and its impacts

- Awareness level and Capacity Building of Indigenous peoples, local communities and women on Climate change and its measures: Adaptation and Mitigation
- **Recognition of Indigenous Peoples Customary/cultural practices, traditional knowledge** for addressing the impact of Climate Change and sustainable resources/forest management and livelihoods
- Implementation of internally agreed convention and treaty like ILO C 169 and UNDRIP in the national legal regimes of forest related policies and programs
- Inter-cultural education & Transfer of the knowledge to the future generations

For Further Information

- pdsherpa2008@gmail.com
- www.nefinredd.org
- www.tebtebba.org



Thank You