



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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CTD: 24IC - INDIGENEITY, CULTURAL RIGHTS AND HERITAGES

SUB-DOMAIN: 3. INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

PANEL TITLE:

ANTHROPOLOGY OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CONVENOR: DR. DEBAHIS DEBNATH

ABSTRACT

Social Anthropology provides insights into the complexity of social processes and cultural pattern of diversified cultures or ethnic groups. The 1970s-1980s onwards, anthropologists turned their attention to exploring how indigenous knowledge and institutions could contribute to more culturally appropriate sustainable development, which is based on sustaining of ecology and society i.e., conservation of biodiversity and simultaneously with preservation of culture. The focus on indigenous knowledge systems has been made on traditional wisdom, institutional processes, local technology, customary practices, and innovation. The subfield of Environmental Anthropology when contextualized in the domain of Applied Anthropology, assists in policymaking and program planning. It combines expertise in ecology with ethnographic methodology to comprehend the social and cultural dynamics of communities, potentially affected by policy decisions. The sessions will aim at the applications in various ways in Participatory Rural Appraisal, Institutional process, local level initiatives, cognition like Totem & taboos, sacred trees & groves, customary practices and so on.

Keywords: Indigenous, Knowledge, Participatory development, Cultural Rights

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