



UNPFII SIDE EVENT



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
ARTISANAL FISHERIES
AND AQUACULTURE

2022

Towards the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022):

Indigenous Peoples inland small-scale fisheries for healthy food systems

Thursday, 22 April 2021
1pm – 2:30pm EST / New York time
(virtual on Zoom)

BACKGROUND

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). Celebrating IYAFA in 2022 will give recognition to the millions of small-scale fishers, fish farmers and fish workers who provide healthy and nutritious food to billions of people. The Year will also offer opportunities implement the recommendations of the Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) which pay special attention to Indigenous Peoples.

The celebration of IYAFA needs to include Indigenous Peoples, in particular those depending on inland waters, as they are an integral part of this fundamental group of food producers.

The forthcoming FAO/Biodiversity publication on *Indigenous Peoples' food systems: Insights on sustainability from the front line of climate change* acknowledges this importance, but more is needed to include Indigenous Peoples inland fisheries in the global dialogues on sustainable food systems, including in the context of the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit.

The **Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems** launched at the last session of FAO's Technical Committee on Agriculture (COAG) in September 2020, and hosted by the **FAO Indigenous Peoples Unit**, provides an important platform to advance the knowledge around Indigenous Peoples inland fisheries. It brings together Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts, scientists and researchers to establish a knowledge-dialogue that gathers evidence-based contributions on Indigenous Peoples food systems. This Hub informs policy discussions and research agendas on food security, biodiversity and climate change at local, national and regional levels, ensuring that Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and rights are at the center and that their food systems are valued and protected¹.

Led by the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, the *White/Whipala paper on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems* resulted from a process of co-creation of knowledge between academic researchers and Indigenous scientists. The paper gathers contributions from more than 50 Indigenous Peoples organizations, universities and individuals from the seven socio-cultural regions. This reference paper presents evidence-based information on the resilience and sustainable elements of Indigenous Peoples' food systems and aims to influence the dialogues and processes of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit and beyond.

PURPOSE OF THE SIDE EVENT

It is against this background that the side event will explore the fundamental role Indigenous Peoples inland small-scale fisheries play in healthy food systems. It will unpack the environmental, socio-cultural, economic and governance dimensions of Indigenous Peoples inland fisheries to inform the upcoming 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, and will create a pathway to include Indigenous Peoples in the celebrations of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in 2022.

¹ As of today, 18 research, academic, and multilateral institutions working on Indigenous Peoples food systems have joined the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems.



PROPOSED AGENDA

1:00pm **Welcome and introduction**

Moderator: **Anandi Soans**, *Indigenous Peoples Unit, FAO*

1:05pm **Spiritual Ceremony and Welcoming**

Vyacheslav Shadrin, *Yukaghir people. Institute of Humanities and North Minority Peoples' problems, Russian Federation*

1:10pm **Opening of the Side-Event**

Anne Nuorgam, *Sámi people, Chair of the UN Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues*

1:15pm **Global Considerations from a Fisheries Perspective**

Nicole Franz, *Equitable Livelihoods team leader, Fisheries Division, FAO*

FAO Indigenous Peoples Unit, Global-Hub & White Paper on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems

Yon Fernandez-de-Larrinoa, *Chief of the Indigenous Peoples Unit, FAO*

Panel Discussion

1:20pm **Dalee Sambo Dorough**, *Inuit people. Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Arctic Canada & Alaska*

1:30pm **Rochelle Diver**, *Ojibwe people. Environmental Health Program, International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)*

1:40pm **Paul Sein Twa**, *Karen people. Founder of KESAN indigenous organisation, Thailand & Myanmar*

1:50pm **Vyacheslav Shadrin**, *Yukaghir people. Institute of Humanities and North Minority Peoples' problems, Russian Federation*

2:00pm **Liseth Escobar Aucu**, *Expert documenter of the Tikuna, Cocama and Yagua peoples, Amazon*

2:10pm **Q & A**

2:25pm **Closing remarks**

Manuel Barange, *Director, Fisheries Division, FAO*