

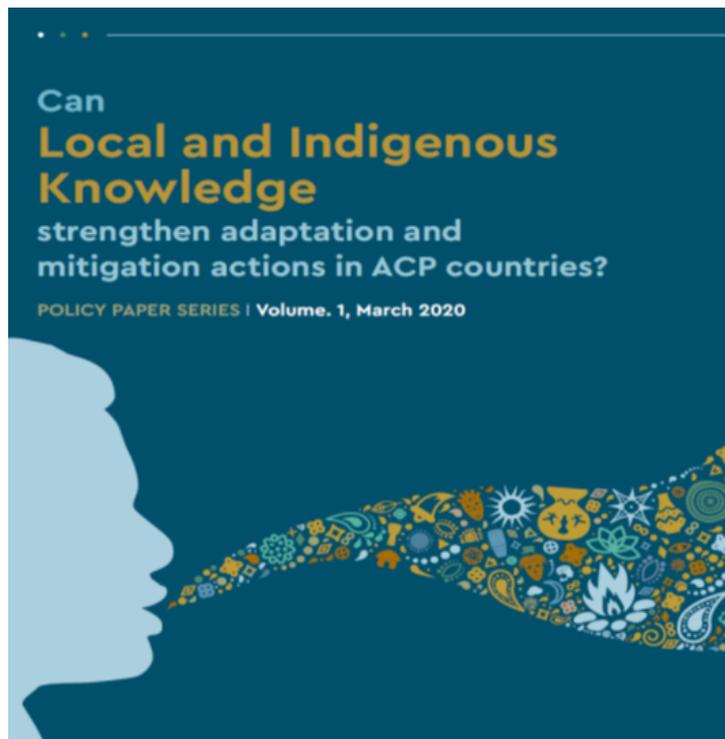


INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund

## ***Can Local and Indigenous Knowledge strengthen adaptation and mitigation actions in ACP countries?***

***The Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the Intra-ACP GCCA+  
webinar series***

**April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**



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## Summary Report

### 1. Introduction

The Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the Intra-ACP Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (Intra-ACP GCCA+) Programme organised a webinar focusing on Local and Indigenous Knowledge (LIK) and its role in tackling climate change in ACP countries, on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2020.

The webinar was very fruitful, gathering over 50 people across ACP regions and Europe, who together shared perspectives on how best to:

- promote dialogue and raise awareness on the use of LIK for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- identify success stories and research findings on the use of LIK for climate change adaptation and mitigation in ACP countries and regions; and
- share knowledge and foster representation of LIK holders/experts from ACP countries in international debates.

The discussion built upon the policy paper published by the Intra-ACP GCCA+ Programme entitled: *“Can Local and Indigenous Knowledge strengthen adaptation and mitigation actions in ACP countries?”* as well as presentations from High level representatives from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Permanent Interstate Committee for drought control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the University of the South Pacific (USP) and FERN.

**During the meeting, participants *inter alia* discussed current activities in the area of LIK as well as examples of best practices. Issues raised included:**

- The importance of traditional knowledge and language for climate resilience;
- The importance of inter- and intra-generational transmission of knowledge and the need for education;
- The incorporation of traditional knowledge at the policy level and in this context the need for encompassing the local, regional and international levels;
- The importance of the OACPS for moving forward the issue of LIK as part of North-South-South cooperation in partnership and complementarity with science;
- The fact that knowledge is not static and the need for constant synergy between science and indigenous knowledge;
- The need to establish regional platforms to enable representatives of the LCIPP Facilitative Working Group to exchange information between regions and international community;
- The need for addressing current challenges such as literacy levels; financial capabilities to deliver climate services to communities; limited infrastructures etc. And
- The importance of indigenous and local communities in the context of forest management.

**Follow up actions:**

On the way forward, participants agreed to furthering exchanges and joint learning on indigenous people and local knowledge in the context of Climate change. The key catalytic role the OACPS could play in this regard, was underscored.

In particular, the Intra-ACP GCCA+ Programme will:

- Continue sharing and exchanging experiences on local and indigenous knowledge from different ACP regions and countries in order to increase awareness;
- Enhance/facilitate the set-up of regional platforms in the ACP region to collect and scale-up local and indigenous knowledge on climate change resilience, as required;
- Join forces with UNESCO, the IIPFCC and regional partners to provide inputs to the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP);
- Participate and contribute to FAO's Global Hub of Indigenous Food Systems in September 2020;
- Organise a follow up webinar to assess progress and follow-up actions.