

# Indigenous Knowledge (IK)

Indigenous Knowledge is deep knowledge of the land. In some ways it is very much like science, as it observes and measures aspects of the natural world. But it also includes knowledge of how the land relates with people's lives, communities, cultures, spirituality, and decision-making.

## Experience

Elders and harvesters are experts about environmental change. Their experiences, observations and perceptions represent important "data" that exists about the regions, places, and resources.

## Time

IK develops over long periods of time (hundreds or thousands of years) through direct contact with the land. People pass down knowledge from generation to generation via oral histories. Oral histories are not written down but are passed on out loud.

## Communities

IK connects knowledge of the land with people's everyday lives. Knowledge is important for making decisions about the community, e.g. relating to stable access to food and water, or safe travel.

## Land/Places

IK is connected to place. Elders and harvesters have knowledge about places that matter to them, e.g. traditional fish camps, travel routes, spiritual sites, and sites for healing.

