



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai



DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

COURSE NAME : 19MC003 - ESSENCE OF INDIAN TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

III YEAR /VI SEMESTER

UNIT II – Protection of Traditional knowledge

Topic 5: Traditional Ecological Knowledge



Introduction

- Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) represents experience acquired over thousands of years of direct human contact with the environment. The term TEK came into use in the 1980's, the practice of TEK is as old as ancient hunter-gatherer cultures. The earliest studies of TEK were done by anthropologists. In addition, the study of traditional ecological knowledge is valued in a number of fields.



Defining Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- There is no universally accepted definition of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK)
- As a cumulative body of knowledge, practice and belief, evolving by adaptive processes and handed down through generations by cultural transmission, about the relationship of living beings (including humans) with one another and with the environment.
- (Berkes 1993; Gadgil et al. 1993; Berkes et al. 1995)



TEK

- It is an attribute of societies with historical continuity in resource use on a particular land. These are non-industrial or less technologically orientated societies, many of them indigenous or tribal, but not exclusively so.
- (Ex. Non-indigenous groups, such as inshore cod fishers of Newfoundland)



TEK differs from scientific ecological knowledge in a number of ways:

- TEK is mainly qualitative (as opposed to quantitative)
- TEK has an intuitive component (as opposed to being purely rational)
- TEK is holistic
- In TEK, mind and matter are considered together (as opposed to separation)
- TEK is moral (as opposed to supposedly value-free)



- TEK is spiritual
- TEK is based on empirical observations and accumulation of facts by trial and error (as opposed to experimentation and systematic, deliberate accumulation of act)
- TEK is based on data generated by resource users themselves (as opposed to that of specialized researchers)
- TEK is based on long time-series on information on one locality (as opposed to short time-series over a large area)



Traditional Ecological Knowledge practices in Nanaimo

- Harewood Plains Environmentally Sensitive Areas Project
- Ecotrust Canada (involvement with trolling practices in Nanaimo)
- Nanaimo Bird Alert
- Nanaimo Sustainable Aquaculture Committee

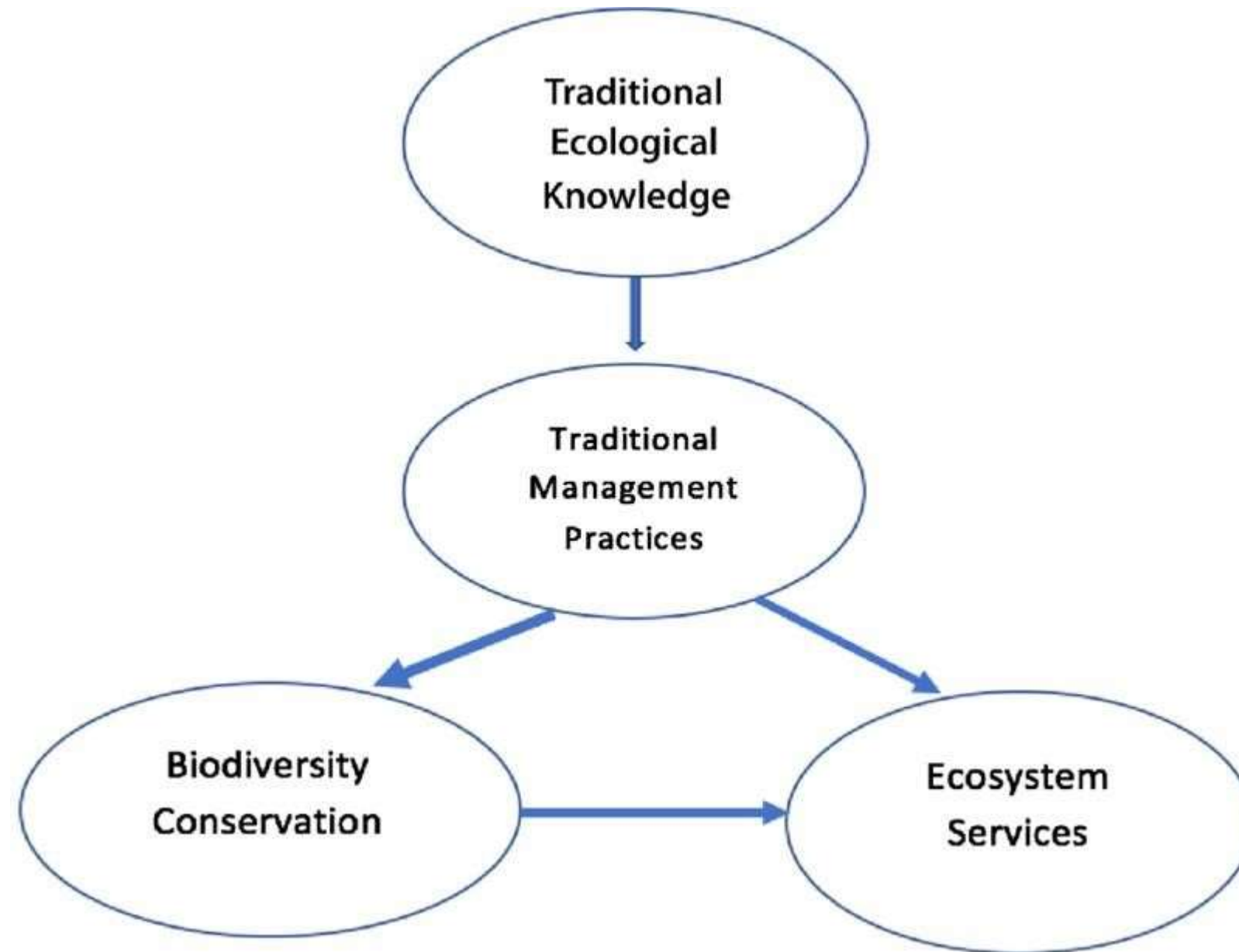


Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- Traditional Ecological Knowledge, also called by other names including Indigenous Knowledge or Native Science, (hereafter, TEK) refers to the evolving knowledge acquired by indigenous and local peoples over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment.

Example of traditional ecological knowledge

- An example of this is the Australian government giving back land to the Aboriginal people to practice their tradition of controlled fires.
- This made the areas more biologically diverse and decreased the threat of wildfires and their severity.





Thank You