Session Report Template

The objective of this report is to showcase tangible examples where science and innovation have significantly contributed to the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda set by the United Nations.

Context

Science and evidence-based actions are indispensable for eradicating poverty, ending hunger, tackling climate change, reversing biodiversity loss, and reducing inequality.
Science is the key, and our best hope, for accelerating progress across the Sustainable Development Goals. Achieving this requires shared expertise from all disciplines.

This was evident at the SDG Summit in September 2023, where the role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) and the importance of closing STI gaps were central to discussions. In their political declaration at the Summit, Member States committed to bridging the science, technology, and innovation divides, responsibly using STI as drivers of sustainable development, and building the capacities necessary for sustainable transformations:

"We commit to bridging the science, technology and innovation divides and the responsible use of science, technology, and innovation as drivers of sustainable development and to build the capacities necessary for sustainable transformations.
We reiterate the need to accelerate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.

We will take action to enhance the ability of developing countries to benefit from science, technology, and innovation and address the major structural impediments to accessing new and emerging technologies including through scaling up the use of open science, affordable and open-source technology, research and development, including through strengthened partnerships.

We aim to increase funding for SDG-related research and innovation and build capacity in all regions to contribute to and benefit from this research.

We will seek to better realize the benefits and address the challenges of artificial intelligence.

We undertake to increase the use of science and scientific evidence in policymaking."
Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly 18 and 19 September 2023

Now we need to illustrate the "HOW".

How science and innovation are advancing the planet's well-being, enhancing human prosperity, fostering partnerships, and promoting peace.

Identification

Session ID: 110109

Session Title: The integration of indigenous knowledge into modern science

Session Date and Time: September 11, 2024, 9am - 11am ET

Convenor name: Mukthika Ananda

Speakers and Panelists

Please list all speakers and panelists, including their names, titles, and organisational affiliations.

Speaker 1

Name: Mukthika Ananda

Organization name: USK Foundation

Type of organization: NGO
(private sector/academic institutions/research center/NGOs/government/professional associations/other)

Title of the presentation: Indigenous Hindu Medicine, Environmental Conservation, Cosmology and Astronomy, Quantum Physics and Power Manifestation, KAILASA's Policies and Initiatives

Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):
In a panel discussion, Mukthika Ananda, Thushy Thirun, Gowri Rammohan, and Leena Marathay will explore Indigenous Hindu Medicine, focusing on Ayurveda and Siddha, and the contributions of ancient physicians like Sushruta. They will discuss Aushadas and their modern healthcare applications.

The panel will highlight case studies such as EN-Pregnancy℠, emphasizing traditional prenatal care practices, and the Jambi Huasi Health Initiative in Ecuador, which integrates traditional and modern medicine for better reproductive health outcomes.

Hindu environmental ethics will be discussed, focusing on reverence for nature, Ahimsa, Karma, and the relevance of ancient practices like tree planting. Insights from other indigenous cultures will be shared alongside KAILASA's climate initiatives like "Healthy air - Healthy planet."

The discussion will cover Hindu contributions to cosmology and astronomy with implications for modern science. The intersection of quantum physics and Indigenous knowledge will be explored through power manifestation techniques taught by SPH Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam.

Finally, the integration of traditional wisdom with modern governance through KAILASA's initiatives in climate action (SDG 13) and promoting good health (SDG 3) will be highlighted.

Name: Thushy Thirun

Organization name: Nithyananda Meditation Academy

Type of organization: NGO
(private sector/academic institutions/research center/NGOs/government/professional associations/other)

Title of the presentation: Indigenous Hindu Medicine, Environmental Conservation, Cosmology and Astronomy, Quantum Physics and Power Manifestation, KAILASA's Policies and Initiatives

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Speaker 3

Name: Gowri Rammohan

Organization name: Kailasa Ohio

Type of organization: NGO
(private sector/academic institutions/research center/NGOs/government/professional associations/other)

Title of the presentation: Indigenous Hindu Medicine, Environmental Conservation, Cosmology and Astronomy, Quantum Physics and Power Manifestation, KAILASA's Policies and Initiatives

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The discussion will cover Hindu contributions to cosmology and astronomy with implications for modern science. The intersection of quantum physics and Indigenous knowledge will be explored through power manifestation techniques taught by SPH Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam.

Finally, the integration of traditional wisdom with modern governance through KAILASA's initiatives in climate action (SDG 13) and promoting good health (SDG 3) will be highlighted.

Speaker 4

Name: Leena Marathay

Organization name: Nitya Ayurveda

Type of organization: Private sector
(private sector/academic institutions/research center/NGOs/government/professional associations/other)

Title of the presentation: Indigenous Hindu Medicine, Environmental Conservation, Quantum Physics and Power Manifestation

Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

In the upcoming panel discussion with Thushy Thirun, Gowri Rammohan and Mukthika Ananda, Leena Marathay will present an overview of Indigenous Hindu Medicine, focusing on Ayurveda and Siddha, and the contributions of ancient physicians like Sushruta. She will explore

Aushadas, or medicinal substances, and their applications in contemporary healthcare.

The presentation includes case studies such as EN-Pregnancy℠, highlighting the significance of traditional prenatal care practices, and the Jambi Huasi Health Initiative in Ecuador, which integrates traditional and modern medicine to enhance reproductive health for indigenous communities.

Leena will discuss Hindu environmental ethics, emphasizing reverence for nature, Ahimsa, and Karma, along with the relevance of ancient practices like tree planting and water conservation for environmental conservation.

Additionally, she will share insights from other indigenous cultures, including Maori knowledge in New Zealand and traditional ecological knowledge in Alaska. The discussion will also cover KAILASA's climate initiatives like "Healthy air - Healthy planet" and ISHANYA Project.

Finally, she will delve into the intersection of quantum physics and Indigenous knowledge, illustrating how quantum principles relate to power manifestation as taught by SPH Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam.

Content

Session Abstract (max. 500 words)

Project Objectives

List the key objectives your session or project aimed to achieve.

Objective 1 (max 50 words)
Integration of Indigenous Knowledge in Modern Science:

This objective focuses on recognizing and incorporating traditional knowledge systems, such as Ayurveda, Siddha, into modern scientific frameworks. It emphasizes the value of indigenous perspectives, offering holistic and experiential insights that can enrich scientific understanding in areas like agriculture, health, natural resource management.

Objective 2 (max 50 words)
Environmental Conservation through Indigenous Practices:

Highlighting the deep-rooted connection indigenous communities have with nature, this objective aims to integrate their sustainable resource management practices into modern environmental science. It underscores principles like Ahimsa and Karma to promote biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation strategies, and sustainable living.

Objective 3 (max 50 words)
Advancing Scientific Understanding through Indigenous Cosmology:
This objective explores the contributions of Hindu cosmology and astronomy to modern science. By examining historical insights from Vedic texts and figures like Aryabhata, it seeks to enhance contemporary scientific knowledge while promoting global peace through interconnectedness concepts found in Hindu cosmology.

Key Themes

Main themes and topics that were covered during the session. The same ones you selected when you submitted your original session proposal. Select from the following.
Maximum three

One Health
Food systems
Security
Financing
Digital
AI

Environment and Climate
Space
Education & Youth
Indigenous knowledge
Biodiversity
Development
Energy
Clean Tech
Policy, Democracy & New Governance
Astronomy
Other:

Planned Impacts of the science and innovation presented in you session

Contribution to the SDGs

The SDGs provide a comprehensive framework for addressing the world's most pressing challenges and promoting sustainable development globally. Select the Goal/s that your project contributes to (max 3 SDGs)

1. **No Poverty**: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
2. **Zero Hunger**: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. **Good Health and Well-Being**: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
4. **Quality Education**: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
5. **Gender Equality**: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
6. **Clean Water and Sanitation**: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
7. **Affordable and Clean Energy**: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

8. **Decent Work and Economic Growth**: Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

9. **Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure**: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.

10. **Reduced Inequality**: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

11. **Sustainable Cities and Communities**: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

12. **Responsible Consumption and Production**: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

13**. Climate Action**: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

14. **Life Below Water**: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development.

15. **Life on Land**: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, manage forests sustainably, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

16. **Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions**: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

17. **Partnerships for the Goals**: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Contribution to the UN Summit of the Future

Main challenges (max 200 words)

Main challenges and difficulties experienced in implementing the science to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and provide recommendations to address the same whole.

The integration of indigenous knowledge into modern science to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) faces several challenges. Firstly, there are significant differences in knowledge construction processes and values between Western science and indigenous systems, leading to misunderstandings and miscommunication. Secondly, institutional barriers often prevent the recognition and incorporation of indigenous perspectives in policy-making and scientific research.

To address these challenges, it is essential to foster collaborative partnerships between indigenous knowledge holders and scientists, promoting mutual respect and understanding. This can be achieved through inclusive policies that recognize the value of traditional knowledge in scientific inquiry. Additionally, integrating indigenous knowledge into science education can enhance intercultural understanding and respect for diverse perspectives.

Furthermore, creating platforms for dialogue and sharing best practices can facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences. By valuing both indigenous wisdom and modern scientific approaches, we can develop more holistic solutions to global challenges, ultimately advancing the SDGs while preserving cultural heritage and promoting sustainability.

Additional goals (max 200 words)

Additional goals, beyond the Goals, which are considered priorities

Beyond the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), additional priorities include fostering intercultural understanding and respect for indigenous knowledge systems. This involves recognizing the value of traditional wisdom in addressing global challenges and promoting cultural diversity. Another priority is enhancing collaboration between indigenous communities and scientific institutions to integrate holistic perspectives into modern science, leading to innovative solutions in areas like health, agriculture, and environmental conservation. Additionally, there is a need to preserve and revitalize endangered indigenous knowledge systems

through education and policy support, ensuring their transmission to future generations. These goals aim to create a more inclusive, sustainable, and harmonious world by valuing diverse perspectives and knowledge systems.

Integration: economic, social and environmental (max 500 words)

The steps being taken to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental) and share best practices where available and how activities are being designed and implemented to reflect such integration.

Integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development—economic, social, and environmental—requires a multifaceted approach that acknowledges the interconnectedness of these areas. Indigenous knowledge systems offer valuable insights into achieving this integration through holistic and experiential understanding.

Economic Integration
Indigenous practices in agriculture and natural resource management enhance economic sustainability. Traditional farming techniques prioritize biodiversity and soil health, leading to long-term productivity and resilience. In KAILASA, SPH Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam ensures that basic necessities like medical care are provided free of charge based on Hindu law. This mitigates financial burdens and promotes a holistic model of well-being and sustainability.

Social Integration
Promoting intercultural understanding through education is crucial for social sustainability. Integrating indigenous knowledge into science curricula fosters respect for diverse perspectives and strengthens community ties. This approach encourages intergenerational learning, preserving cultural heritage while promoting social cohesion. Policies recognizing indigenous governance systems, like those in KAILASA, support responsible democracy and harmonious coexistence.

Environmental Integration

Indigenous environmental ethics emphasize reverence for nature and sustainable living practices. Principles like Ahimsa (non-violence) and Karma (cause and effect) guide conservation strategies that protect ecosystems and foster spiritual well-being. Tree planting initiatives and water conservation efforts rooted in indigenous traditions exemplify effective environmental integration. Hindu rituals that honor natural elements instill stewardship towards the environment, encouraging practices that mitigate climate change and promote biodiversity.

The SPH Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivan teaches that nature and humanity are deeply interconnected. In his discourses, he often highlights the importance of living in harmony with nature, emphasizing that respect for the environment is integral to spiritual and material well-being.

Hindu scripture, Atharva Veda 12.1.12: "Mata bhumih putroham prithivyah," which translates to "Earth is my mother, I am her son." This verse underlines the deep respect and reverence for the Earth in Vedic tradition.

Best Practices

1. Community-Driven Health Initiatives: The Jambi Huasi health initiative in Ecuador integrates traditional and modern medicine, improving reproductive health outcomes. This model can be replicated to enhance healthcare access while respecting cultural practices.

2. Education Programs: Incorporating indigenous knowledge into curricula promotes a holistic understanding of science and sustainability. Experiential learning programs connecting students with local environments foster respect for cultural heritage and environmental stewardship.

3. Collaborative Governance: KAILASA's governance model emphasizes responsible democracy, integrating traditional wisdom with modern policies. Participatory decision-making ensures indigenous voices are heard in environmental and economic planning.

4. Sustainable Agriculture Practices: Utilizing indigenous techniques like crop rotation and permaculture enhances food security and preserves

biodiversity. These practices support local economies and contribute to environmental sustainability.

Implementation Strategies
To effectively design and implement activities reflecting this integration, stakeholders should focus on:

1. Building Partnerships: Collaborate with indigenous communities, scientists, and policymakers to create inclusive frameworks recognizing diverse knowledge systems.

2. Policy Development: Advocate for policies that integrate indigenous knowledge into sustainable development strategies at local, national, and global levels.

3. Capacity Building: Provide training and resources to empower indigenous communities to lead sustainable initiatives aligning with their cultural values and practices.

Impact on the 2030 Agenda (max 1000 words)

A success metric for your project is primarily in how it delivers for all persons in our societies. Describe how other principles of the 2030 Agenda, for example, respect for all human rights, gender equality, the principle of Leaving No One Behind, non-discrimination, etc, have been mainstreamed in your science project.

More info on: 2030 Agenda: https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

*Please select also the **transition** relevant to your science project:*

More info on Six transitions:
https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/Six%20Transitions%20English.pdf

(1) food systems; (2) energy access and affordability; (3) digital connectivity; (4) education; (5) jobs and social protection; and (6) climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution

Respect for All Human Rights:
The project acknowledges that integrating indigenous knowledge into modern science is an extension of respecting fundamental human rights. It ensures that the intellectual property rights of indigenous communities are recognized and protected.

This respect promotes ethical collaborations where indigenous peoples are not merely subjects but also active stakeholders contributing their wisdom and expertise. By involving indigenous knowledge holders in research and policymaking, we honor their rights, fostering mutual respect and equitable partnerships.

In the teachings of the Supreme Pontiff of Hinduism (SPH) Bhagavan Nithyananda Paramashivam, an essential tenet is that every individual is divine and inherently embodies Paramashiva, the ultimate cosmic consciousness.

The principle that every human being is Paramashiva and should be treated as such is central to the governance and spiritual practices of the United States of KAILASA. This doctrine upholds that respecting and treating every person as a manifestation of the divine fosters spiritual growth, societal harmony, and mutual respect.

The foundational law in KAILASA that all human beings are divine, embodying Paramashiva, and therefore, deserve to be treated with the utmost respect and reverence is based on the following key principles:

1. Inherent Divinity:
   - Every individual is a manifestation of Paramashiva, inherently divine and pure.
2. Equal Respect and Dignity:
   - Each person, irrespective of their social, economic, or cultural background, must be treated with the same respect and dignity as Paramashiva.
3. Right to Spiritual and Material Prosperity:

- Every human being has the right to access spiritual knowledge, practices, and material resources that enable them to live a life of prosperity and fulfillment.

Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.4.10 (Hindu text): "Aham Brahmasmimi" which translates to "I am Brahman (the Ultimate Reality)." This aphorism highlights the intrinsic divinity of every individual.

Gender Equality:

Indigenous systems often recognize and value the roles of women as key knowledge holders in areas like traditional medicine, agriculture, and community leadership. This project mainstreams gender equality by actively engaging women in the dialogue and practices of integrating indigenous knowledge.

SPH emphasizes the empowerment of women as a cornerstone of societal progress. Through various programs and teachings, he has consistently highlighted the crucial role of women in nurturing and leading communities. His initiatives ensure that women are provided equal opportunities in all sectors.

Manusmriti 3.56 (Hindu jurisprudence): "Yatra nāryastu pūjyante ramante tatra devatāḥ. Yatraitāstu na pūjyante sarvāstatrāphalāḥ kriyāḥ." (Where women are honored, there the gods are pleased. Where they are not honored, no sacred rites yield rewards.)

Leaving No One Behind:

The principle of leaving no one behind is at the core of integrating indigenous knowledge into modern science. Indigenous communities often reside in remote areas with limited access to modern healthcare and education. By integrating indigenous practices and knowledge into mainstream scientific frameworks, we ensure that these communities are included in the narrative of scientific advancement.

For example, The SPH has passed a Presidential Order in the United States of KAILASA to ensure free access to all ten essential requirements for survival such as medical care

Non-Discrimination:
Non-discrimination is a foundational aspect of this project, promoting equality across various spectra of society.

The project actively seeks to dismantle biases that have historically sidelined indigenous perspectives. This inclusive approach is demonstrated by KAILASA's model of responsible democracy, which integrates traditional wisdom and modern policies, ensuring that every voice, irrespective of ethnic or cultural background, is heard and valued.

Expected Outcomes:

Increased Awareness and Understanding:
Participants will gain a deeper appreciation for indigenous Hindu knowledge systems and their application in modern science, promoting cultural sensitivity and mutual respect.

Enhanced Holistic Health Practices:
Greater adoption of holistic health practices like Ayurveda and Yoga will be promoted, leading to improved health outcomes.

Innovative Scientific Discoveries:
Exploration of quantum physics principles in indigenous knowledge could lead to new scientific advancements and innovative applications of power manifestation techniques.

Improved Environmental Stewardship:
Heightened environmental awareness and sustainable practices, including tree planting and water conservation, will be fostered.

Inclusive Policy Development:
Policies that integrate traditional wisdom with modern governance will be developed and implemented, promoting responsible democracy and holistic well-being.

Global Impact:
The initiatives will contribute significantly towards achieving the SDGs, fostering a more inclusive, sustainable, and harmonious world.

Forward-looking Statement

Financial aspects

Why giving $ 1 million to your project will turbo boost the achievement of the SDGs. Three bullets (50 words/bullet).

1. Empowering Indigenous Knowledge Integration:
Allocating $1 million to the project will significantly enhance the integration of indigenous knowledge into modern science, fostering mutual enrichment and recognition of diverse epistemologies. Funding will support research collaborations, educational programs, and policy development that validate and incorporate traditional wisdom, advancing SDGs related to education, innovation, and reduced inequalities.

2. Promoting Sustainable Practices:
Finding will turbocharge initiatives that leverage indigenous practices in agriculture, natural resource management, and healthcare. By supporting projects like KAILASA's environmental conservation efforts and community-driven health services, the funding will contribute to sustainable economic growth, improved health outcomes, and environmental stewardship—key components of SDGs focused on climate action, good health.

3. Enhancing Global Impact through Education:
With funding, the project can expand educational outreach programs that incorporate indigenous knowledge into curricula worldwide. This initiative will promote intercultural understanding and respect for cultural heritage while equipping future generations with holistic perspectives on sustainability. Such efforts align with SDGs targeting quality education and partnerships for achieving global goals.

To further advance your science project, you will need:

*Please select an option and **develop it further (50 words)**. Multiple selection is possible.*

Access to Funding

Securing funding is essential for advancing the science project, allowing for the implementation of initiatives that integrate indigenous knowledge into modern scientific frameworks. Financial resources will facilitate research, educational programs, and community outreach efforts, ensuring that diverse perspectives are included in sustainable development strategies.

Skilled Personnel

Open Access to Data

Access to Resources (laboratory facilities, research tools, and technology)

Access to state-of-the-art laboratory facilities and research tools is crucial for conducting rigorous scientific investigations that incorporate indigenous knowledge. By providing researchers with the necessary technology, we can ensure accurate data collection and analysis, leading to innovative solutions. This access will also enable collaboration between indigenous knowledge holders and scientists.

Establish Partnerships and Collaborations

Building partnerships with indigenous communities, academic institutions, government agencies, and NGOs is vital for the success of the project. Collaborative efforts will facilitate knowledge exchange, promote intercultural understanding, and enhance the effectiveness of initiatives aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Dissemination and Communication activities

Enhance the Regulatory Environment that supports research initiatives.

Access to Market

Advanced Technology

Integrating advanced technology into the project enhances research capabilities and facilitates effective data sharing. This approach allows for precise monitoring and supports evidence-based decision-making, empowering communities to actively engage in sustainable practices while incorporating indigenous perspectives on resource management.

Conclusions (max. 300 words)

Provide a concluding summary on how science contributes to achieving the SDGs, incorporating policy recommendations.

Highlight any new or emerging issues identified during the session, suggest possible next steps or areas for further research and discussion, and outline the support needed to advance science and innovation in your field.

Science significantly contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by integrating indigenous knowledge systems into modern scientific frameworks. This approach enriches our understanding of sustainability, offering holistic insights that complement Western perspectives. Indigenous knowledge provides valuable contributions in

agriculture, health, physics and environmental conservation, fostering innovative solutions to global challenges.

Policy recommendations include fostering collaborations between indigenous communities and scientists to ensure mutual respect and learning. Governments should incorporate traditional knowledge into policy-making processes, promoting intercultural understanding and sustainability. Education systems must integrate indigenous perspectives to cultivate a diverse understanding of science among future generations.

Emerging issues identified during the session include the need for greater recognition of spiritual wisdom in scientific inquiry, as highlighted by Nobel laureates who found inspiration in Hindu literature. This underscores the importance of bridging science and spirituality to foster innovation.

Next steps involve expanding research on integrating quantum physics with traditional knowledge systems to explore new dimensions of consciousness and energy manipulation. Further discussion is needed on developing frameworks that support responsible democracy through indigenous governance models.

To advance science and innovation in this field, support is needed for funding research initiatives, providing access to resources such as laboratories and technology, establishing partnerships with academic institutions and NGOs, and leveraging advanced technology for data analysis. These efforts will empower communities to actively participate in sustainable development while honoring cultural heritage.