

Input to EU and Costa Rica on the concept paper: *Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development*

the Institute for Planetary Synthesis for the Partnership: Rights of Nature. Integrating Nature into the Implementation of all of the SDGs

The Institute for Planetary Synthesis, is one of the founding members of the *Partnership: Rights of Nature. Integrating Nature into the Implementation of all of the SDGs*. We shall supply relevant links to UNEP MS.

We are deeply grateful to the EU and Costa Rica for putting forward this concept note, on a draft resolution on "*Nature-based Solutions for supporting sustainable development*" and their recognition that it will be critical to "*support the uptake of relevant knowledge and methods of indigenous peoples and local communities*" in this process.

But more is needed.

At the heart of problem-solving in many cultures today is the so called "objective approach" that has required us to *distance* ourselves from problems we are trying to solve as a means of gaining objectivity. Such an approach has actually led to the escalating global problems we face today for the following reasons:

1. We can not distance ourselves from Nature, because
 - a. Humans are an *integral* part of systems of Nature through the air we breathe, the food we eat, etc. We cannot stand outside of Nature.
 - b. Nature consists of systems within systems which nurture the systems of our human bodies as well as our social/economic systems.
2. While some, such as many Indigenous Peoples have retained a *conscious* capacity to communicate with the systems of Nature, many people are unaware that they are in constant unconscious communication with Nature and that both personal, social, economic and global problems occur because we habitually distance our selves from Nature.

To come to grips with the problems that are threatening human survival, we must rely heavily on those that have retained this capacity to *consciously* communicate with Nature as guides, teachers and decision makers *at every level of decision making*.

Increasingly these can be joined by those who are reawakening this capacity, including those being educated in institutions that are currently enabling students to rekindle a conscious connection between the development of their individual potential and the ongoing guidance of Nature.

Thank you, once more EU and Costa Rica for this important proposal.