

# Indigenous Peoples

The term "Indigenous Peoples" encompasses a wide diversity of beliefs, cultures, languages and livelihoods, all of which have one element in common, deep connections to territory and ecosystems. These relationships demonstrate their capacity for resilience and adaptation to constantly changing social, economic and environmental situations.

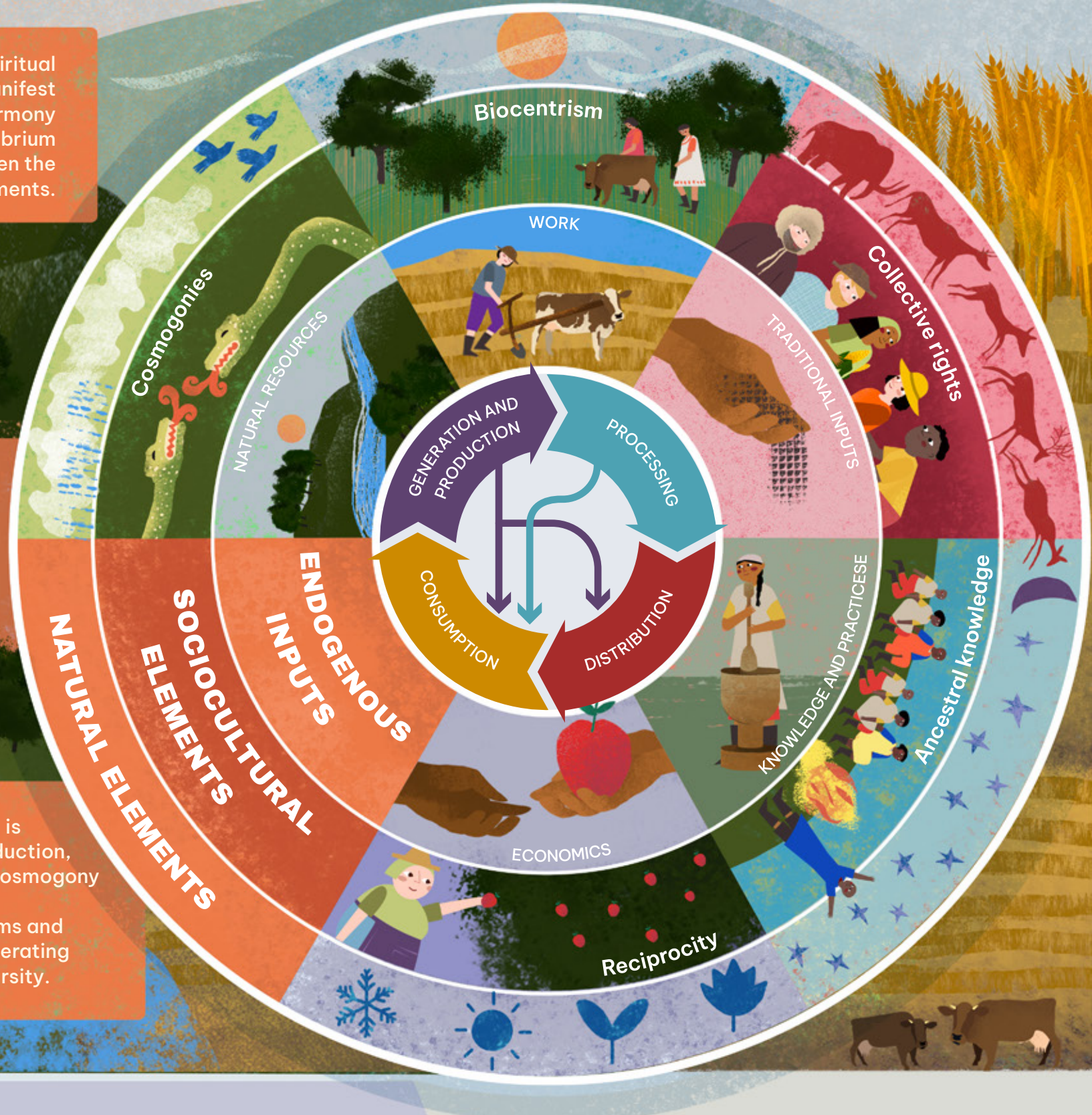
Indigenous peoples generate food through fishing, hunting, gathering, and produce food through agriculture, aquaculture and livestock breeding.

The land is where the spiritual and material worlds manifest themselves, where harmony is sought through equilibrium and peace between the different elements.

Indigenous peoples' food systems have remained intact for hundreds, sometimes thousands of years, and are living proof of their sustainability and resilience.

Their resource management is not solely dedicated to production, but rather, guided by their cosmogony and maintaining reciprocal relationships with ecosystems and natural resources, while generating food and preserving biodiversity.

While occupying only **25%** of the earth's land surface, Indigenous Peoples are custodians of **80%** of the planet's remaining biodiversity.



**"If one hornbill dies, seven fig trees are left defenceless. If a gibbon dies, seven forests become sad."**

KAYIN PROVERB

The United Nations Decade for Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF) is a great opportunity to acknowledge the diversity and contributions of Indigenous Peoples in terms of territorial management practices that generate food while preserving biodiversity, and to define concrete instruments to support them.