

Montpellier hosts the 13th Congress of the International Society of Ethnobiology (ISE) May 20 – 25, 2012

Meet indigenous people and local communities to discuss environmental issues

An original, scientific and participative event

The Congress is a part of the ISE's initiatives: participatory action research and citizen science. It is held once every two years and will be held for the first time this year in France on the theme of **“Cultural diversity and biological diversity for sustainable development: Exploring the past to build up the future.”** The Congress will bring together many ethnobiology researchers as well as representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities from five continents. The Congress will be held in the historic city centre of Montpellier and will have **four components**:



- **Scientific:** work sessions and scientific posters, at the Corum (on registration).
- **General public and academics:** an “off” festival with an association forum, conferences, films, round tables, entertainment, exhibitions and a program of reports on educational projects and of debates open to all.
- An **indigenous peoples forum** will present intercultural dialogue on the major international instruments before the Rio+20 Earth Summit being held Brazil in June 2012.

Montpellier, a Global Village

There are a number of reasons that Montpellier was chosen for this event: hosting of the Global Conference on Agricultural Research and Development (GCARD), base for the CGIAR consortium, international organization on agricultural research and hosting of the G20 Conference on Agriculture Research and Development in 2011. It was also named the European capital of biodiversity in 2012, making it a cultural, scientific and academic centre for the region.

Practical Information about the Congress

A **press conference will be held Monday, May 21 at 16:30 at the Corum in Montpellier**, in the presence of representatives of indigenous peoples. A “Media corner” section can be found on the Congress website. There you will have access to the scientific program, and the general public and academics program, documents, photos and practical information <http://congress-ise2012.agropolis.fr/>.

The Congress is organized by the Research Institute for Development (Institut de recherche pour le développement, IRD), with support from Agropolis International and from CIRAD, CNRS, EPHE, Montpellier SupAgro, the University of Montpellier 1, 2 and 3, and with supervision from the joint research units of CEFÉ (Centre for functional and evolutionary ecology) and GRED (Governance, risk, environment, development).

<p>Some numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress Budget : 300.000 € • Close to 600 international attendees • Over 40 sessions • 450 scientific contributions • Over 100 representatives of indigenous peoples • 70 countries in presence • 50 educational projects involving over 100 students • Dozens of events open to the general public 	<p>Definition</p> <p>Ethnobiology is a scientific process that consists of examining biodiversity and large-scale environmental issues from the perspective of a certain culture. This means examining local knowledge and know-how in all the regions of the world.</p>
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Media Contacts

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