



# **SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

**Kurumbapalayam(Po), Coimbatore – 641 107**

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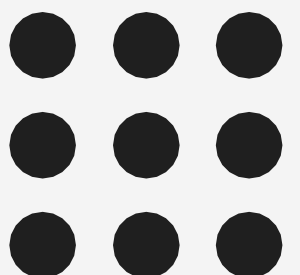
## **Department of AI &DS**

**Course Name – 19AD602 DEEP LEARNING**

**III Year / VI Semester**

**Unit 4- Strategies to increase protection of traditional  
knowledge**

**GULSHAN BANU.A/ AP/AI AND DS /Strategies to increase protection of traditional  
knowledge/SNSCE**





## Strategies to increase protection of traditional knowledge



Traditional knowledge (TK) encompasses the wisdom, practices, and innovations developed by indigenous and local communities over generations. This knowledge is integral to cultural identities and biodiversity conservation. However, TK faces threats from misappropriation, biopiracy, and cultural erosion. Implementing effective strategies to protect TK is essential for preserving cultural heritage and ensuring equitable benefit-sharing.

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# Strategies to increase protection of traditional knowledge



## 1. Establishing Sui Generis Legal Frameworks

Conventional intellectual property (IP) systems often fail to address the unique characteristics of TK, such as collective ownership and oral transmission. Developing sui generis (unique) legal frameworks allows for tailored protection that respects the specific needs of TK holders. These frameworks can define rights, set criteria for protection, and establish mechanisms for enforcement, ensuring that TK is safeguarded in a manner consistent with indigenous customs and traditions.

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## 2. Creating Traditional Knowledge Databases

Documenting TK in accessible databases serves as a defensive mechanism against unauthorized patents and biopiracy. For instance, India's Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) has been instrumental in preventing the misappropriation of medicinal knowledge by providing evidence of prior art to patent examiners worldwide. Such databases help protect TK from exploitation while respecting the confidentiality concerns of indigenous communities.

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## 3. Implementing Access and Benefit-Sharing Agreements

Establishing clear protocols for accessing TK ensures that any utilization is conducted with the free, prior, and informed consent of the knowledge holders. Benefit-sharing agreements can provide communities with compensation, technology transfer, or other advantages arising from the use of their TK. This approach not only safeguards TK but also promotes equitable partnerships between indigenous communities and external entities.

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## 4. Strengthening International Legal Instruments

Engaging with international frameworks, such as the World Intellectual Property Organization's Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC), can enhance the protection of TK. The recent adoption of the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources, and Associated Traditional Knowledge in May 2024 marks a significant step toward combating biopiracy and ensuring that patent applicants disclose the origin of genetic resources and associated TK.





# Strategies to increase protection of traditional knowledge



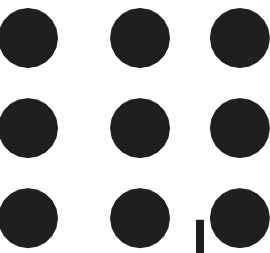
## 5. Empowering Indigenous Communities

Empowering indigenous communities to manage and protect their TK is crucial. This includes supporting initiatives that document and revitalize languages, practices, and cultural expressions. For example, in Kenya, efforts to preserve the Yaakunte language involve teaching it to both elders and children, thereby maintaining the cultural knowledge embedded within the language. Such community-led initiatives ensure the transmission of TK to future generations.

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