Local Contexts Labels

The Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Biocultural (BC) Labels are an initiative for Indigenous communities and local organizations. Communities can use the Labels to communicate community rules, governance, and protocols for using, sharing, and circulating knowledge and data. The Labels were developed through sustained partnership and testing within Indigenous communities across multiple countries.

How can I use the Labels?

Each Label is accompanied by pre-written template text, which can be used as-is or **customized by communities** – giving the Labels specificity and context. The title of each Label can be **translated into one or more languages** and displayed in addition to the default Label title. The Label icons are not to be altered. This is to ensure national and international recognition and integrity across content and collection management systems, online repositories, websites, and physical exhibits.

Communities can customize their TK and BC Labels and apply them to internal projects and to material stewarded by institutions, data repositories, and other organizations through the Local Contexts Hub: **www.localcontextshub.org.**
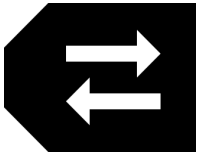
Are there any examples of Labels in use?

There is a growing number of Labels in use around the world and in various settings. Visit the Local Contexts website for links to these and additional examples.

- **Passamaquoddy Tribe** using Labels at the **Library of Congress**
- **Sq'éwlets Band of the Stó:lō First Nation** using Labels on **their website**
- Labels used in digital publication **"As I Remember It: Teachings (Ɂəms tɑɁɑw) from the Life of a Sliammon Elder," by Elsie Paul**
- Videos of Cook Islands Language Project, **E Reo Noku - My Language**

What Labels are available?

There are 20 Traditional Knowledge (TK) Labels and 10 Biocultural (BC) Labels. Communities usually start with the four Labels below. We recommend that you begin by customizing one or a combination of these, and as you create more projects and connect to more materials, other Labels can be added.

Local Contexts Labels

TK Attribution (TK A) Label: This Label should be used to identify correct sources, custodians, cultural authorities or owners. This is especially useful if the material has been wrongly attributed or names of the people involved in making or safeguarding of the material are missing. This Label allows you to correct historical mistakes and asks future users to also apply correct names and attribution.

TK Verified (TK V) Label: This Label should be used when you and your community are satisfied with the way in which your traditional knowledge materials are being represented online or offline. This Label affirms that appropriate conditions for access and use are in place and that whoever has made this material accessible has made accommodations for cultural protocols associated with the knowledge. It lets users know that the right thing is being done by your community protocols and standards.

TK Non-Commercial (TK NC) Label: This Label should be used when you would like to let external users who have access to your material know that it should only be used in non-commercial ways. You are asking users to be respectful and fair with your cultural materials and ask that it not be used to derive economic benefits or used in any way that makes it into a commodity for sale or purchase.

TK Outreach (TK O) Label: This Label should be used when you consent to your cultural materials used for educational outreach activities outside the community to increase and raise awareness and education about your family, clan, and/or community. Sites for outreach activities can include schools, libraries, archives, museums, online forums, and learning groups.

Where can I find more information?

Find all available Labels and contact information: **www.localcontexts.org**

Connect with others using the Labels through the ENRICH working groups: **www.enrich-hub.org**

For the latest updates, follow: **@LocalContexts** (Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn) and **@LocalContextsOrg** (Facebook)