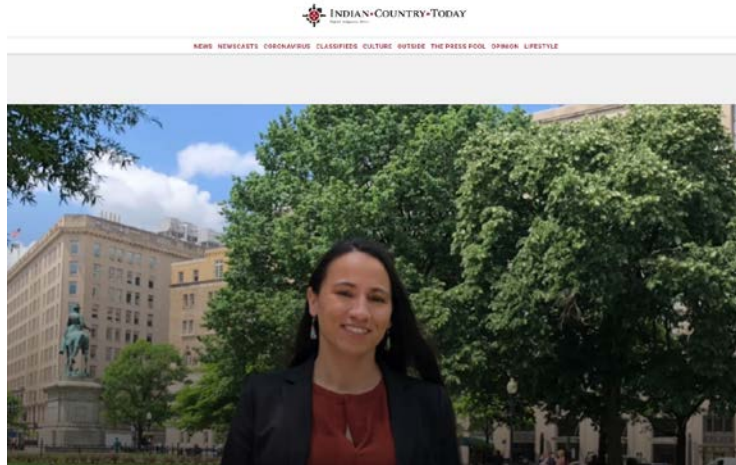


# Lessons of Sustainability from the world's Indigenous People



🌿 If we manage habitats for the benefit of the animals that live on them, they can thrive. Despite the world losing 2/3 of its wildlife species since 1970, lands managed by indigenous communities have had far less or no impact to ecology. This way of life is of great benefit to the environment.

🌿 When Europeans discovered America, Native Americans donated some of their harvest to the hungry colonists. Native Americans also taught the colonists how to plant and hunt in the new land. The Great Law of Peace written by the Iroquois tribes in the 18th century directed chiefs to never let people go without food. Sharing with those less fortunate should be fundamental and is part of the social aspect of sustainability.

🌿 The Great Law of Peace reads: “The Great Creator has made us of one blood and of the same soil...only different tongues constitute different nations.” The Iroquois nation’s Great Law of Peace was later a source of influence for the US Constitution. Equality is a core value of indigenous people and is essential to the social aspect of sustainability.

🌿 The Covid pandemic has shown us that the destruction of remote natural habitats is fundamentally triggering the emergence of highly infectious viruses through zoonosis.

🌿 Indigenous economies create opportunity for all members to provide subsistence, community, self-realization, respect for the land, safety and security, and ongoing stewardship of their resources for generations to come.

**To learn more, visit this link:**

<https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.un.org%2Fdevelopment%2Fdesa%2Fdsdpd%2F2021%2F04%2Findigenous-peoples-sustainability%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cerb%40buffalo.edu%7Ce993b59c2a0c43e6d9e208d9f0c9f388%7C96464a8af8ed40b199e25f6b50a20250%7C0%7C0%7C637805572548122764%7CUnknown%7CTW FpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&amp;sdata=ysZAB%2FKXtonhyVLJmZPV%2BGFH5w98bkWq7GZr7j7fGi4%3D&amp;reserved=0>



Updated 2/2022