



Networking and increasing awareness: institutional support, communication, fundraising and events

The first Slow Food event dedicated entirely to Indigenous Peoples took place in Jokkmokk (Sweden) in 2011 and was followed by a second Indigenous Terra Madre meeting held in Shillong (India) in 2015.

Hundreds of communities gathered to celebrate their traditions and debate the food system. Both events produced strong shared declarations.

Regional and international events play an important role in enhancing traditional food systems and raising awareness among the public and participants. Such gatherings have a great importance for networking, celebrating and exchanging food and knowledge but also increasing self-esteem and a sense of belonging to a wider, local-global community.

Being connected to other indigenous and non-indigenous networks both in rural and urban areas is essential to avoid isolation and marginalization and creates a sense of belonging to a wider community.

Slow Food supports and promotes the ITM network's activities by creating alliances, fundraising and by focusing its communication on the network's main needs.

Regional, national and local networking are key aspects which the ITM network is currently working on. In addition to this, ITM members are willing to create thematic networks to gather shamans, bee keepers, pastoralists etc.