



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Natural Resources
& the Environment

Indigenous Regenerative Agriculture

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
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Indigenous Regenerative Agriculture (IRA)

“IRA is the process of incorporating place-based ways of knowing supported by culture, belief systems, and environmentally derived survival schemes over millennia.”

Kotutwa, 2022

Indigenous Biodiversity

- Indigenous Peoples protect 80% of global biodiversity on a mere 25% of the planet's land with less than 5% of the world's population.

Schuster, et al., 2019 & IPBES, 2018



Climate Adapted Crops



Human Well-Being



Recommendations (Legislative and Financial)

- Enforce existing legislation-American Indian Agriculture Resource Management act of 1993 (DOI) and Alternative Funding Arrangements 2018 Farm Bill (USDA-NRCS).
- Create funding mechanisms through legislations to support locally led small farms and regenerative agriculture initiatives.
- Fund initiatives geared toward agriculture related infrastructure as suggested in the Native American Agriculture Fund's (NAAF) Reimagining Food Economies Document. https://nativeamericanagriculturefund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/NAAF_NativeFoodEcon_Spread.pdf
- Support adequate funding for the Federally Recognized Tribal Extension Program through an act of Congress. [FRTEP_IndianCountryExtensionCommissionRecs_Summary_Final.pdf](#)
- Aid in the development of permanently funded regionally based or nationally based Native American policy and technical centers in the United States. <https://environment.arizona.edu/irc>
- Use the word “tribes” in federal legislation in the area of natural resource legislation.