

Please read this document carefully before you start! Your homework submission should be *at least* 250 words total, addressing the questions at the bottom of the page.

Scientist Spotlight: Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim is an environmental activist and geographer from Chad. She is member of the Mbororo pastoralist community which is an indigenous community in Cameroon, Central African Republic and Chad. As a member of this indigenous community, she has been a strong advocate for environmental justice as the effect of climate change impacts the location and migration of these communities. She founded the Association for Indigenous Woman and Peoples of Chat when she was only 16 years old, which aims to introduce way for women to make money through 3D participatory mapping which can be used to manage sustainable ecosystem resources. Her goal is to increase support for both traditional knowledge and science to improve resilience to climate change especially for rural communities.

She has a variety of awards, including being recognized as top 100 woman by the BBC, and by TIME's Women Leaders in Climate Change. In addition to all of this, a fun fact that she likes to share is that she is highly passionate about scuba diving, despite living in a land-locked African country.

Learn more about Hindou Ibrahim in the resources below:

- Listen to this Ted talk about the intersection between indigenous science and climate change: Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim: Indigenous knowledge meets science to take on climate change | TED Talk
- Learn more about her organization here: AFPAT – Association of Indigenous Fulani Women of Chad

Instructions for Written Assignment:

After reviewing these resources, write a 250 word or more reflection with your responses TO BE SUBMITTED TO Blackboard, which addresses ideas related to the following questions:

- *What was most interesting to you in reviewing these resources?*
- *What did you learn from these resources about indigenous knowledge and climate change?*
- *What do these resources tell you about the types of people that do science?*
- *What new questions about indigenous knowledge do you have after reviewing these resources?*

Reflection:

What I found most interesting to me while reviewing these resources was how she explained that science and technology is still very new to this world, but indigenous knowledge has been around, continuously cultivating and growing, for thousands of years. In my opinion, it really puts into perspective the reason why it is so important to have indigenous knowledge being at the forefront leading these decisions and “solutions” to these environmental problems such as climate change. What I learned from these resources about indigenous knowledge and climate change is that it goes deeper than science currently does. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim states that the elders would know hours beforehand that it was getting ready to rain, and they knew this because they watched the insects around them racing to put up their eggs and food. This allowed them to know it was going to rain way sooner than the scientists did, even though they never believed them in her story. What these resources tell me about the types of people that do science is that science is done by all people no matter if they have a PhD or not. These scientists in Chad were doing science and at the same the elders from that community were doing it as well. The new question about indigenous knowledge that I have after reviewing these resources is are there different ways to predict these situations such as rain or hurricanes, and how does this help in predicting climate change and ways to move forward.