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**Ecological Crisis and Sustainable Life in Africa: Engaging Indigenous Knowledge in
dialogue with Christian Churches**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of global goals for sustainable life at every level: from planetary biosphere to local community. The aim is to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure sustainable wellbeing for all. Their implementations invite the involvement of various stakeholders (SDG 17), of which faith-communities. This paper explores to what extent the dialogue between indigenous Knowledge and Christian belief may contribute to moving Sub-Saharan Africa towards sustainability through the lens of SDGs. In the past, Africa sustained its existence through a threefold ontology, namely 1) the *moral or spiritual dimension of nature*, 2) the *pre-eminence of the community over individual interests*, and 3) the *cosmological dimension of the chieftaincy (Governance)*. This triple worldview protected people from dangers that might result from unhealthy ecosystems, promoted responsible ways of interacting with nature and enforced responsibilities to ensure the sustainability of resources. With a proper re-configuration in combination with a contextual biblical eco-theology, this African trine framework can be transformed into a highly effective hermeneutical vehicle to enhance African churches' contribution to the attainment of the SDGs.

Keywords: indigenous knowledge, Christian churches, dialogue, ecology, Eco-Theology, Sub-Saharan Africa

