Foreword

It is my pleasure to write this brief foreword to the Handbook of Research on Theoretical Perspectives on Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Developing Countries. Indigenous knowledge is an important cultural aspect in developing countries as cultural knowledge encompasses different systems with esoteric and non-esoteric epistemology for scholars to exploit. By publishing this handbook, scholars are given the opportunity to further exploit different aspects of the theoretical perspectives of indigenous knowledge systems that may inform certain empirical studies when need arises.

The School of Interdisciplinary Research and Postgraduate Studies, University of South Africa, is playing an important role in fostering indigenous knowledge systems in developing countries by supporting this work.

I am extremely happy to see the number of contributions from different parts of Africa by African experts to indigenous knowledge systems as they are best placed to reveal what exactly encompass indigenous knowledge on the continent. My sincere thanks go to all the scholars who contributed to this issue and especially to Professor Patrick Ngulube for his excellent editorial effort. I am hopeful that this significant contribution to the field of indigenous knowledge systems will encourage provocative theoretical research that will be followed up with empirical research in order to advance scholarship in the discipline.

Charles Akwe MasANGO
University of Cape Town, South Africa

Charles Akwe Masango is the Research Development Coordinator, Emerging Researchers’ Programme, at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.