



Satoyama Initiative

Clean Asia Initiative

- Location
- Background

Worldwide

Protecting biodiversity entails not only preserving pristine environments, such as wilderness, but also conserving human-influenced natural environments, such as farmlands and secondary forest, that people have developed and maintained sustainably over a long time. These human-influenced natural environments are often inhabited by a variety of species adapted to and rely on these landscapes to survive, hence they play an important role in sustaining and enhancing biodiversity. But these landscapes – and the sustainable practices and knowledge which have shaped them - are increasingly threatened in many parts of the world, due for example, to urbanisation, industrialisation, and rapid change in local population characteristics. Measures are urgently needed to conserve these sustainable types of human-influenced natural environments through broader global recognition of their value.

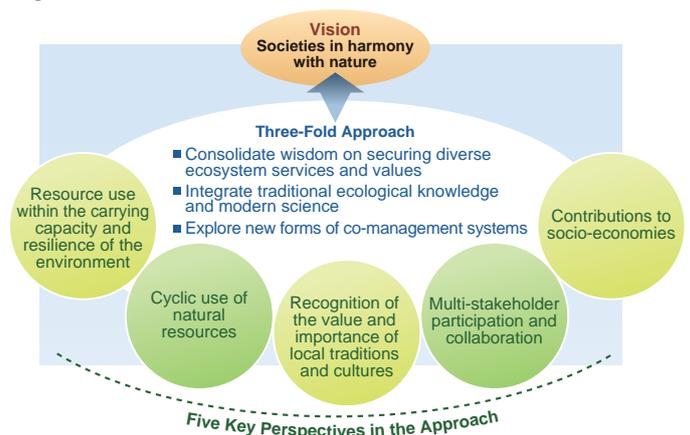
To tackle this critical issue, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) jointly initiated the *Satoyama* Initiative. This international effort promotes activities consistent with existing fundamental principles including the Ecosystem Approach. Our vision is to realise societies in harmony with nature, that is, built on positive human-nature relationships.

- The Vision and the Approach

The vision of the *Satoyama* Initiative is to realise societies in harmony with nature, comprising human communities where the maintenance and development of socio-economic activities (including agriculture and forestry) align with natural processes. By managing and using biological resources sustainably and thus properly maintaining biodiversity, humans will enjoy a stable supply of various natural benefits well into the future. Through the *Satoyama* Initiative, we will review, with social and scientific points of view, how relationships between humans and nature should function in what are now referred to as socio-ecological production landscapes (SEPL).

Our three-fold approach is intended to maintain and rebuild landscapes in which land and natural resources are used and managed in a more sustainable manner:

- Consolidating wisdom on securing diverse ecosystem services and values
- Integrating traditional ecological knowledge and modern science to promote innovations
- Exploring new forms of co-management systems or evolving frameworks of “commons” while respecting traditional communal land tenure



• Project Achievements

- The International Experts Meeting on the *Satoyama* Initiative was held in Paris, France on January 29-30, 2010 joined by government officials, researchers and experts from around the world. The Meeting was organized by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), and co-organized by UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD). In the Meeting, an active discussion was exchanged on development policies of the *Satoyama* Initiative for the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP10). The Paris Declaration on the “*Satoyama* Initiative” was adopted, which summarized benefits and outlines of the Initiative, and what to note in promoting activities.
- The IPSI was launched as an international platform for organizations engaged in maintenance and re-building socio-ecological production landscapes at a side event during COP10 held on October 19, 2010 with 51 founding partner organizations.
- A decision on the Sustainable use of Biodiversity (X/32), which specifically recognizes the *Satoyama* Initiative as a potentially useful tool to better understand and support human-influenced natural environments for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being, was adopted at COP10. The decision also invited parties, other governments and relevant organizations to participate in the IPSI for further promote this Initiative.



Launching ceremony of IPSI
(introduction of founding partners)



Launching ceremony of IPSI
(presentation by the United Nations University)

• Planned Activities

The first Global Conference of IPSI will be held in Nagoya, Aichi, Japan from March 10-11, 2011.

• Partners

IPSI participating organizations

• Related URL

Satoyama Initiative: <http://satoyama-initiative.org/en/>

Contact



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