

# **“The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI): From Formation to Current Practice”**

Wataru Suzuki, William Dunbar and Kaoru Ichikawa  
United Nations University Institute of the Advanced Study of Sustainability  
(UNU-IAS)

## **1. Introduction: The Satoyama Initiative – toward society in harmony with nature by conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being**

The Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity was held in 2010 with the official theme “Life in harmony, into the future”. The meeting addressed not only protecting and conserving wild species, but also a much broader scope with humans as a part of the life of Earth being sustained into the future. Thus, the year 2010 was significant milestone. The global target for diversity leading up to that time was the 2010 Biodiversity Target, but it became obvious that the world would fail to meet this Target even if the total area of protected areas continued to increase. The year 2010 was also designated as the International Year of Biological Diversity in order to raise awareness and mainstream concepts and practices of conservation in every corner of society.

Why was the 2010 Biodiversity Target not successful? Who should be blamed? The answers to these questions perhaps lie in the fact that socio-economic activities have grown ever greater, and so has the impact of human activities on ecosystems. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) of 2001 to 2005 warned that the unprecedented loss of biodiversity would lead to unexpected non-linear changes in ecosystems. While modern society depends largely on fossil energy, much of humanity, especially people living in developing countries, depends on ecosystem services that can only be secured through healthy biodiversity. The MA called for drastic changes in not only conservation but also economic and social policies, and its message influenced G8 processes as well as international conventions, related meetings and reports.

The global population was estimated to have reached 6 billion in 1999,<sup>1</sup> and is projected to reach 9.6 billion by 2050.<sup>2</sup> To meet the resulting demand for food, thirty percent of land has already been devoted to cultivation globally.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, unsustainable production activities are causing soil degradation, water scarcity and accumulation of nitrogen that will contaminate the water system. Sustainable agriculture has been practiced in rural areas where modern machineries cannot be used due to geographical reasons or where traditional

practices are still respected and maintained. However, the populations in such areas have declined as members of the younger generation continue to move to cities, and most of their communities find it difficult to maintain themselves. Even though the production of food and other necessities from the land and sea is vital also to those who live in cities, the global economy and transportation system make it all too easy to ignore this fact. To ensure resilience for both urban and rural life, it is necessary to maintain sustainable consumption and production, which requires responsible management of production activities in our landscapes and seascapes.

As Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Senior Vice-Rector of the United Nations University (UNU) points out,<sup>4</sup> the context described above shows that “to truly achieve societies in harmony with nature, it is important to consider not only the ecosystems that surround us and their natural processes. We must also understand the role that people around the world have played in shaping landscapes to support their livelihoods and well-being.” Many landscapes and seascapes around the world have traditionally been made up of healthy mosaics of different land uses that help to maintain a balance between human activities and nature.

It is worth noting here, however, that while we continue to learn from a rich history of traditions and practices, it is important in today’s world to consider innovative new possibilities for achieving harmonious human-nature interactions. New business models and value-added activities may hold great potential in this respect. The term “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS)” has been proposed to refer to places that provide goods and services in line with the three pillars of sustainable development, namely economic development, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.<sup>5</sup>

Environmental sustainability in production areas implies a healthy and functioning ecosystem in which living and non-living components interact to provide provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural services that will be sustained for generations– the four types of ecosystem services identified by the MA. The value of these services can be judged in monetary or non-monetary terms. In monetary terms they give a basis for economic development, and in non-monetary terms for social development.

According to Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, with their mutual social, ecological and economic benefits, SEPLS can be viewed as showcasing the “social, economic and ecological systems (SEES)” concept, which is fast gaining attention as the world moves towards the post-2015 development agenda based on Rio+20’s theme of the “Future We Want”. Activities in SEPLS contribute to achieving the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and will also contribute towards concrete indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the post-2015 development agenda.<sup>6</sup> The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) was also launched in 2010 as a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnership to support

recognition of the potential of SEPLS. Bringing together universities, private-sector, NGO, governmental and other organizations, IPSI members are working individually and collectively to realize the partnership's vision of "society in harmony with nature".<sup>7</sup>

## **2. Background to the Satoyama Initiative**

### **A. Sustainable development and ecosystem services in the global context**

The UN Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm in 1972. The meeting raised challenges to enjoying economic proficiency while maintaining environmental sustainability at the global scale. In the same year, a book "Limits to Growth"<sup>8</sup> was published by the Club of Rome, foreseeing that finite resources and environmental capacity would inevitably collide with ever-expanding human activities and lead to a future collapse.

Although the concept behind "sustainable development" had gained global attention as early as 1972, the term itself was introduced in a 1980 publication titled "World Conservation Strategy: Living Resource Conservation for Sustainable Development".<sup>9</sup> It was then adopted by the World Commission on Environment and Development – the so-called "Brundtland Commission" – which defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" in its report "Our Common Future" in 1987.<sup>10</sup> The concept of sustainable development was then widely adopted including at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was created as one of three Rio Conventions that set out international frameworks to cope with global environmental issues.

One significant feature of the CBD is that it has two more objectives beyond its first and most obvious goal of the conservation of biological diversity: the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. These show that the convention was intended to also address the balance of sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. However, most efforts were being made toward the first objective, at least until the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) in 2005 clearly illustrated that global biodiversity was still facing unprecedented loss that could affect the very basis of human existence.

In addressing how biodiversity matters for human existence, the MA proposed the concept of "ecosystem services", which are provided by a healthy biodiversity. If the status of biodiversity is excessively damaged, these services would decrease and eventually not be able to meet the humanity's requirements to sustain economic and social activities. Meanwhile, the world's growing population will likely require more land to be converted to farmland for production and more marine resources to be extracted to fulfill human needs. In

this context, conservation of ecosystems cannot be achieved by only expanding protected areas and protecting endangered species, but must also prioritize biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes in order to achieve sustainable resource use and services globally.

As the concept of ecosystem services is more accepted by diverse communities, biodiversity is coming to be perceived not just a matter concerning wildlife and rare plants, but as a major socio-economic issue. As one example of this shift in perception, at the G8 summit held in Germany in 2007, it was stated in the outcome document that “biodiversity and ecosystem services are the basis of the world economy”. This was the first time that the issue of biodiversity was given status on equal footing as other major international issues. It was these kinds of international debate and changes in recognition of biodiversity that led eventually to the establishment of the Satoyama Initiative.

## **B. Japanese *satoyama* and “SEPLS”**

### ***Satoyama***

Like people around the world, most Japanese people traditionally depended on surrounding ecosystems for subsistence until fossil fuels and chemically synthesized and imported products were widely introduced into daily life starting in the 1960s. Traditional models of natural-resource and ecosystem use are considered to have been sustainable, since people would not have been able to sustain their life if it was not appropriately managed and maintained. Even though use may have been intensive and the fine balance sometimes tipped toward overuse, people developed ways to adapt to their natural environment by carefully utilizing, reshaping and altering it for production activities based on time-tested knowledge and practices. Such interactions between humans and nature created complex and diverse systems throughout the Japanese archipelago and created unique human-influenced but relatively stable forms of landscapes and seascapes.

The Japanese word *satoyama* was revived in modern times by Prof. Tsunahide Shidei of Kyoto University in the 1970s to refer to wooded areas neighbor rural communities where fuel wood, fallen leaves and underbrush for compost, wild vegetables and mushrooms, fodder and other natural resources were collected.<sup>11</sup> Most of such forest was owned and managed by the communities as commons. In time, the larger landscape came to be known as a *satoyama* landscape, which is characterized by mosaics of paddy fields, upland fields, woodlands, grasslands, ponds, canals and human settlements.<sup>12</sup> This kind of ongoing human intervention in natural processes kept the diversity of life forms in the system at a certain level.

For example, under the prevailing climate conditions in Japan, the forest would mainly consist of evergreen tree species without any human interference. However, periodically cutting trees for fuel wood allowed broad-leaved deciduous woods to flourish in *satoyama* landscapes. This is considered to have enabled the

survival of other relict species from the ice age whose life-cycle fits the environment, such as the light conditions, of deciduous woodlands.<sup>13</sup> Similarly, grasslands were maintained near settlements for various purposes such as for fodder, roofing materials and green fertilizer despite the fact that, in the Japanese climate, grassland would soon become wooded under natural succession processes. Maintaining grassland has unintentionally provided more diverse habitats for grassland-dependent species.<sup>14</sup> Rice paddies also provide unique habitats for various plants and animal species that depend on aquatic environments. These are some fortuitous characteristics of human-influenced rural landscapes managed by communities where farmers grow rice, cut grasses to maintain soil fertility and feed animals, and use wood for fuel and as a house-building material among other production activities. *Satoyama* landscapes also play an important role as the setting for a range of religious and cultural activities.

Rich levels of biodiversity are the results of these mosaics of diverse habitats shaped and maintained by appropriate human management.<sup>15</sup> In addition to *satoyama*, the word *satoumi* refers to production seascapes, or coastal areas similar to *satoyama* landscapes.



Figure 1. *Satoyama* and *satoumi* in Japan<sup>16</sup>

### ***The Japan Satoyama-Satoumi Assessment (JSSA) and “SEPLS”***

A major research undertaking called the Japan Satoyama-Satoumi Assessment (JSSA) was conducted from 2006 to 2010 across Japan in order to analyze the conditions and trends in *satoyama* and *satoumi* ecosystems over the past 50 years. The JSSA adopted the conceptual framework of the MA and followed a similar process and structure.

*Satoyama* and *satoumi* as understood in the JSSA process refers to a “dynamic mosaic of managed socio-ecological systems producing a bundle of ecosystem services for human well-being”<sup>17</sup> (see Figure 1). In Japan, *satoyama* and *satoumi* include many diverse ecosystems such as agricultural, forest, wetland, grassland, marine and coastal ecosystems. They were found to provide both direct use values such as food, fibers, fuel and water, and indirect use values such as

water regulation and flood prevention, water purification, cultural services and pollination (Figure 2). Such values contribute to human well-being in local communities and often wider areas, not only in socio-economic but also in cultural and other more intangible terms.

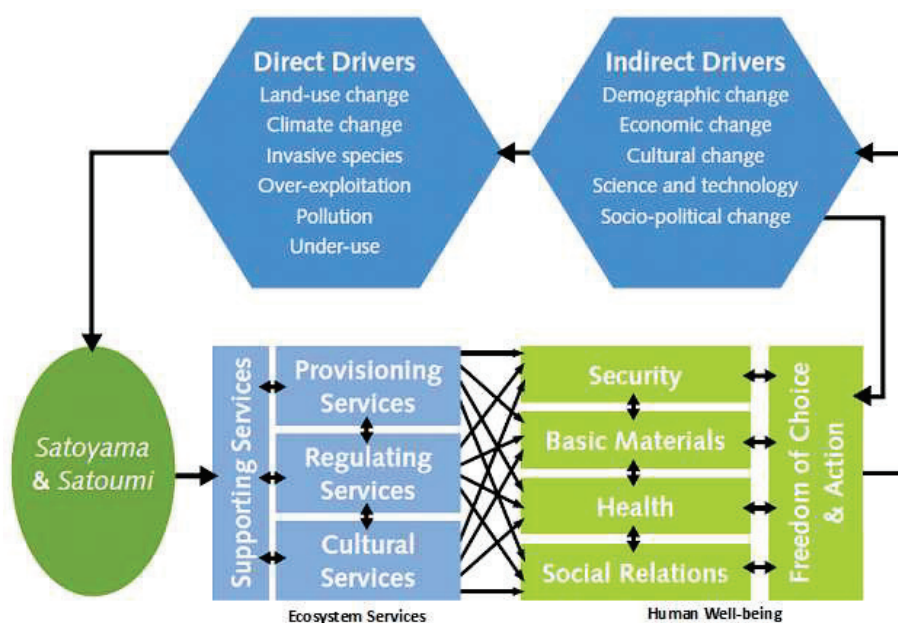


Figure 2. *Satoyama* and *satoumi* and their relationship to ecosystem services and human well-being<sup>18</sup>

Discussions during the JSSA resulted in the generalization of the *satoyama* and *satoumi* concepts into “socio-ecological production landscapes (SEPLs)”. The term SEPLs was coined for use when referring to production areas with both social and ecological benefits, helping to highlight the productive capacity of *satoyama* as well as the important social and ecological components that contribute to their resilience.

Although *satoyama* and *satoumi* are Japanese terms referring specifically to Japan, it was pointed out that mosaic types of ecosystems where human-nature interaction is central are not unique to Japan. Such landscapes can be found throughout many regions of the world. In this context, “SEPLs” was intended to be a descriptive and inclusive term for areas within and outside of Japan where land and sea uses have been shaped and maintained in a broad variety of different ways by harmonious interactions between people and the nature they inhabit.

At a later stage, it was considered that, in order to recognize the manifold linkages between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, “SEPLs” should be further

expanded to explicitly include seascapes, resulting in the term being slightly altered to “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS)”.

Even as the terminology has evolved, however, it remains clear that these landscapes and seascapes – and the sustainable practices and knowledge they represent – are increasingly threatened in many parts of the world. Commonly recognized causes include urbanization, industrialization, and rapidly shrinking rural populations. Innovative measures are urgently needed to conserve and advance these sustainable types of human-influenced natural environments through broader global recognition of their value and through greater efforts towards collective action.

### **3. Development and recognition of the Satoyama Initiative**

The Satoyama Initiative is a global initiative that has been developed primarily through a joint collaboration between the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) and the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) with the vision of “realizing societies in harmony with nature” through the promotion and conservation of SEPLS. Activities carried out under the initiative include expanding the body of knowledge about how the relationships between humans and nature should function in such landscapes and seascapes from both social and scientific points of view.

At an early stage of the initiative’s development, a symposium called “SATOYAMA from Asia: Toward the Harmonious Coexistence of Human and Nature” was held in Sanda, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan from 26 to 27 April, 2008. The symposium was co-organized by MOEJ and the Museum of Human and Nature Activities of Hyogo Prefecture. The aim of the symposium was to discuss issues related to biodiversity and how they can be solved not only by protective or restrictive means but also through sustainable use and harmonious human-nature interactions. Several case studies of SEPLS from Japan and other Asian countries were presented at the symposium, and discussion carried out based on them. One of the keynote speeches was delivered by Dr. Alphonse Kambu, former Director of the Ishikawa International Cooperation Research Centre (IICRC), a special program that was later developed into an official operating unit of the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) in Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan, who spoke on “The Urgent Need to Address Satoyama Crisis”, introducing and describing the situation and possibilities for SEPLS based on findings including the ongoing JSSA assessment. As a result of discussions at the symposium, it was recognized that the typical Asian view of nature – in which human beings are considered a part of nature – and the sustainable use of natural resources seen in *satoyama* landscapes in Japan are important from the viewpoint of sustainability. It was also pointed out that there

was a need to further clarify the definition and concept of *satoyama* in order to gain more recognition and possible global application.

In terms of national and international policymaking processes, the Satoyama Initiative had earlier been discussed in the course of enacting the Japanese national strategy decision “Becoming a Leading Environmental Nation in the 21st Century: Japan’s Strategy for a Sustainable Society”,<sup>19</sup> adopted by the cabinet in June 2007, and also incorporated into the “Third National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan”<sup>20</sup> adopted by the cabinet in November of the same year. Based on these decisions, the Japanese government developed concepts and initiatives regarding biodiversity for the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting held from 24 to 26 May 2008 in Kobe, Japan, where the “Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity”<sup>21</sup> was adopted as one of the major outcomes of the meeting. This marked the time when the Satoyama Initiative was first recognized in an international forum.

Parallel to the JSSA, a series of meetings was also held to develop consensus regarding international policy debates. MOEJ organized the first experts’ meeting on the Satoyama Initiative in March 2009, followed by two preparatory workshops held by MOEJ and UNU-IAS. The first one was the “International Experts Meeting on the Satoyama Initiative Concept” held in Tokyo in July 2009, and the second was the “Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative Concept” held in Penang, Malaysia in October 2009.

An important milestone came in January 2010, when the “Global Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative” was held at the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris. One of the major outcomes of this workshop was the “Paris Declaration on the Satoyama Initiative”, which was subsequently submitted to the CBD SBSTTA-14 as one of the official information documents of the meeting, and became a fundamental document that led to the Initiative’s recognition during the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10), held in Nagoya, Japan in 2010. The CBD Decision X/32 was adopted at CBD COP 10 recognizing 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.”

The “Paris Declaration”, as text agreed upon by the participants of the workshop in Paris, has served a key foundational role since the beginning of the initiative, particularly as it lays out elements of its conceptual framework. In particular, the Declaration identifies the initiative’s goals to enhance understanding and raise awareness of the importance of, and to support and expand SEPLS, and to collaborate with other initiatives and programs that are operating in this area. It also provides direction for concrete mechanisms, including to identify and develop potential windows and mechanisms to finance the implementation of the initiative and mobilize financial resources for this purpose, to facilitate consultations among partner organizations, and to report on



relevant achievements to CBD bodies. Importantly, it also states that “an International Partnership will be established and strengthened, with links to national/sub-national and regional partnerships, to carry out the activities identified by the Satoyama Initiative”.<sup>22</sup>

#### **4. Establishment of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI)**

As a first step toward establishing a partnership as directed in the Paris Declaration, the “International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative Preparatory Meeting” was held in August 2010 in Yamanashi, Japan. Another meeting, the “South America Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative and its International Partnership” was held in Brasilia, Brazil in September 2010.

IPSI was officially launched the following month at a ceremony held as a side event during the Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10) in Nagoya, Japan on 19 October 2010. 51 founding organizations entered into the partnership at the time of its launching ceremony. The Conference of the Parties then recognized the Satoyama Initiative in Decision X/32 for its potential usefulness “...to better understand and support human-influenced natural environments for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being.” This endorsement was reinforced in Decision XI/25 of CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad, India in 2012, which reaffirmed “that the Satoyama Initiative is to be used consistent and in harmony with the Convention, internationally agreed development goals and other relevant international obligations,” and invited “Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to support the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative”, and again in several decisions of CBD COP 12 held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea in 2014.

Since its launch, the number of organizations within the diverse IPSI membership has grown rapidly. By March 2015, IPSI had more than tripled in size from 51 to 167. As an international platform open to organizations dealing with SEPLS, IPSI has sought to foster synergies in the implementation of their respective activities, as well as other activities planned under the Initiative. An inclusive spirit has been fostered in recognition of the multi-sectoral and international dimensions of sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources.

IPSI is made up of the following types of member organizations:

- National/local governmental organizations;
- Non-governmental/civil society organizations;
- Indigenous/local community organizations;
- Academic/educational/research institutions;
- Industry/private sector organizations;
- United Nations or other inter-governmental organizations; and
- Other types of organizations that do not fall into the above categories.

By bringing together expertise from across sectors and around the world, the partnership provides a platform for creating synergies and sharing knowledge. One of the core components of IPSI is its collection and publication of case studies relevant to SEPLS. Member organizations share case studies based on their own experiences with a wide range of different regions and ecosystems. All case studies are made freely available on the IPSI website,<sup>23</sup> and constitute a continually growing body of knowledge useful to policymakers, practitioners, researchers and interested members of the general public.

In addition, IPSI includes a mechanism for creating collaborative activities among member organizations. During the Steering Committee's regular meetings, new collaborative activity applications are considered, and to date, around 30 collaborative activities have received the Committee's endorsement.

## 5. Development and administration of IPSI

As the partnership has grown both in size and efficacy, it has required more clarity in its strategic planning and organizational structure, leading to the development of documents necessary to define the structure, identify and strategic goals and priority activities, and setting operational procedures and rules.

The documents created and adopted by IPSI as listed below comprise the basis for the operations of the partnership. All of the documents were endorsed by the IPSI General Assembly in order to fulfill certain roles in directing the partnership's ongoing strategic direction.

- The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative *Charter* embodies the basic principles behind the partnership, including its purposes and a general outline of its governance.<sup>24</sup>
- The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative *Operational Guidelines* contain more detailed rules for the normal operations of the partnership, including membership procedures, details of its governance and guidance for activities carried out under the partnership.<sup>25</sup>
- The *Strategy* for the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative establishes general strategic direction for the partnership by laying out its vision and mission, as well as strategic objectives meant to guide IPSI activities.<sup>26</sup>
- The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative *Plan of Action 2013-2018* was created in 2013 in order to provide more specific guidance for working toward the strategic objectives established in the Strategy over the five-year period, including priority actions for each objective.<sup>27</sup>

As stated in the *Charter*, the vision of IPSI is “to realize societies in harmony with nature”, and its strategic mission is to:

- Work together within the partnership and with other networks and/or organizations dealing with socio-ecological production landscapes and

seascapes (SEPLS) for the promotion and support of the concept and practices of SEPLS.

- Maintain or enhance the contribution of SEPLS to the objectives of the Rio Conventions and other relevant international agreements, processes and frameworks, to the achievement of sustainable development goals such as the Millennium Development Goals and, in general, to livelihoods and human well-being.
- Promote concrete benefits to the environment, livelihoods, and community well-being on the ground.

Discussions at various forums and events on the Satoyama Initiative leading up to IPSI's launch in 2010 resulted in the development of the "three-fold approach" to realizing its vision. The three-fold approach consists of:

- 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

Six perspectives were also incorporated into the *Charter* to guide specific activities under this approach, evolved from the initial set of five perspectives identified at the beginning of IPSI's development. The six perspectives are:

- Resource use within the carrying capacity and resilience of the environment;
- Cyclic use of natural resources;
- Recognition of the value and importance of local and indigenous traditions and culture;
- Multi-stakeholder participation and collaboration in sustainable and multi-functional management of natural resources and ecosystem services;
- Contributions to sustainable socio-economies including poverty reduction, food security, sustainable livelihood and local community empowerment;
- Improved community resilience to achieve multiple benefits, including ecological, social, cultural, spiritual and economic benefits, inter alia through ecosystem-based approaches for climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.

Details of IPSI's structure are described in the IPSI *Operational Guidelines*. IPSI is fundamentally administered by three bodies:

- The IPSI General Assembly
- The IPSI Steering Committee
- The IPSI Secretariat

The IPSI General Assembly is made up of representatives of all member organizations, and has the ultimate authority to vote on all major decisions regarding IPSI functions. The IPSI Steering Committee provides

recommendations to the General Assembly for the direction of the partnership and has the authority to make decisions regarding the normal functioning of the partnership and its membership. The IPSI Secretariat handles the day-to-day operations of the partnership and its activities, including communications, and coordinates meetings of the General Assembly and the Steering Committee.

The IPSI *Charter* states that “IPSI shall be open to all organizations committed to promote and support socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being”, and further that “organizations referred to here include (1) national or local governmental organizations, (2) non-governmental or civil society organizations, (3) indigenous or local community organizations, (4) academic, educational and/or research institutes, (5) Industry or private sector organizations, (6) United Nations or other international organizations, and (7) others.” An applying organization must submit an application form to the IPSI Secretariat, which then forwards completed applications to the IPSI Steering Committee, which in turn evaluates the application and determines whether the organization is accepted as an IPSI member or not.

The most important of IPSI’s events is the IPSI Global Conference, required to be held regularly by the **Operational Guidelines**, consisting of a meeting of the General Assembly and a Public Forum. The General Assembly discusses matters relating to the functioning of IPSI at its meeting, while the Public Forum is open to the public as a chance for discussion and information-sharing within and outside the partnership.

IPSI also periodically organizes Regional Workshops for the Satoyama Initiative, focusing on issues particular to SEPLS at a regional level. The Secretariat and member organizations also organize seminars, expert workshops, side events at major international conferences and other events relevant to the partnership and its activities.

Activities carried out under the partnership are guided by four strategic objectives, as identified in the *Strategy* as follows:

- **Objective 1:** Increase knowledge and understanding of SEPLS
- **Objective 2:** Address the direct and underlying causes responsible for the decline or loss of biological and cultural diversity as well as ecological and socio-economic services from SEPLS
- **Objective 3:** Enhance benefits from SEPLS
- **Objective 4:** Enhance the human, institutional and sustainable financial capacities for the implementation of the Satoyama Initiative

Priority actions for each of these strategic objectives have been identified and collected in the *Plan of Action*.

In addition to the work carried out by individual members – including research, capacity-building, resource-mobilization, on-the-ground and other activities – IPSI also provides a mechanism for Collaborative Activities initiated

by two or more member organizations, as explained in the *Operational Guidelines*. IPSI Collaborative Activities can range from organizing workshops to conducting research on indicators to creating a funding mechanism for on-the-ground projects, and can benefit from the greater exposure gained through recognition by a global-scale partnership.

Three overall mechanisms are proposed to implement the priority actions identified in the **Plan of Action**:

- Building the partnership, by increasing the number of partners, especially within under-represented categories, and through further awareness-raising.
- Promoting Collaborative Activities, both by encouraging new activities and by reviewing and supporting already-existing ones.
- Collaboration with relevant international agreements, initiatives, programs and networks, both by creating new connections to other initiatives and by strengthening existing connections to CBD and other international processes.

The progress and impacts of activities described in the **Plan of Action** are subject to review three years into the process and a final evaluation at the end of the fifth year, with results of both of these to be used in further developing the strategic planning of the partnership.

## **6. Major IPSI meetings to date**

### ***The First IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-1)***

The First IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-1), consisting of an Assembly and Public Forum was held in Aichi, Japan from 10-11 March 2011. The venue held special significance, as IPSI had been officially launched at the CBD COP 10 in Nagoya just a few months earlier.

Over the course of the two-day conference, the structure of the partnership began to rapidly take shape, with the formation of the Steering Committee, designation of the Secretariat at UNU-IAS, and 23 new member applications approved, expanding the partnership from 51 to 74 member organizations in its first six months.

Positive precedents set at the IPSI-1 Assembly have continued to guide subsequent meetings. In addition to sharing relevant updates and developments with the members, it has become practice that the date and venue of the next Global Conference are introduced for discussion and approval at each Assembly meeting. At IPSI-1, plans were introduced to hold IPSI-2 in March 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The IPSI-1 Public Forum was conceived as a participatory and inclusive mechanism serving two main purposes: (1) to strengthen collaboration and synergies among members as well as between the Satoyama Initiative and other relevant initiatives and programs; (2) to enhance understanding and raise awareness of the importance of socio-ecological production landscapes and

seascapes. To encourage lively and fruitful discussion among participants, a major element of the IPSI-1 Public Forum was to divide people into smaller groups for in-depth discussion.

Discussions were further enhanced by individual presentations by 43 member organizations, who introduced their activities in line with IPSI concepts. During a subsequent plenary session, a panel was assembled to share the conclusions drawn from each session and to summarize key points of discussion.

Outcomes of the IPSI-1 Public Forum and Assembly were disseminated through a range of knowledge materials, including an in-depth summary report.<sup>28</sup> To further raise awareness of the outcomes, the Satoyama Initiative website has also made all presentations and associated materials publicly available for download and continues to draw on these outcomes in its planning and development.

### ***The Second IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-2)***

The Second IPSI Global Conference was held from 13-14 March 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya and underscored the synergistic collaboration that was already being promoted within the partnership. An IPSI member organization, the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) made its facilities available for hosting IPSI-2. In addition, to enhance cooperation and encourage mutually beneficial arrangements, IPSI-2 was held back-to-back with a forum organized by another IPSI member organization, the Eco-Agriculture Partners.

During the IPSI-2 Assembly, the chair of the Steering Committee, Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, presented a report on the Committee's activities since the First IPSI Global Conference in March 2011. A major organizational development during this period was initial work towards developing the IPSI *Strategy*. A proposal was also introduced for the Assembly's consideration to organize IPSI-3 back-to-back with 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, planned for October 2012 in Hyderabad, India.

Following the close of the IPSI-2 Assembly, IPSI members were joined by other interested stakeholders and journalists during the one-and-a-half-day Public Forum (13-14 March 2013). A total of over 30 short presentations were delivered by IPSI members during working group sessions, and served as a starting point for additional in-depth discussions among participants.<sup>29</sup> Each of the three working groups then reported back to the plenary session including: (1) a summary of their session; (2) identified needs and challenges; (3) strategies for addressing these needs and challenges; (4) concrete actions. The final plenary session helped all participants to learn about the diversity of discussions during the forum, and helped to renew a sense of shared purpose and cooperation towards achieving the Satoyama Initiative's vision.

### ***The Third IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-3)***

The Third IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-3) was held back-to-back with CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad, India from 6-7 October 2012, and marked two years since

IPSI's launch concurrent with CBD COP 10. In recognition of the venue and the partnership's expanding profile, the theme for IPSI-3 was "Contribution to Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets", and full use was made of the opportunity to raise awareness of IPSI and its activities by organizing IPSI-related events over the course of CBD COP 11.

During the Assembly, Prof. Oteng-Yeboah presented a report on the activities of the Steering Committee. Dr. Jo Mulongoy, visiting professor at the United Nations University Institute for Advanced Studies, then introduced a final draft version of the *IPSI Strategy* for the Assembly's approval, which was endorsed pending final changes suggested by the members. The Assembly also reviewed the arrangement of the Steering Committee, welcoming the renewal of many current members, while also approving the expansion of the Committee to include more members. In addition, representatives of Japan's Fukui Prefecture made a formal offer to host the Fourth IPSI Global Conference in September 2013.

Under the theme "IPSI's Contribution to Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets", more than 70 individuals from IPSI member organizations and the general public attended the IPSI-3 Public Forum. The working group sessions began with short presentations linking the working group topics with corresponding Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Following extensive and fruitful discussions, short presentations were prepared by each working group to share with the plenary. The final presentations shared a number of key points of discussion as well as insight into how IPSI is poised to contribute to achieving many of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. A final plenary discussion session provided a broad range of useful suggestions for further development of the partnership and its activities.

#### ***Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (Kathmandu, Nepal)***

From 13 to 15 May 2013, a wide range of IPSI members and other interested stakeholders gathered in Kathmandu for a two-day workshop on the Satoyama Initiative and one-day excursion, co-organized by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), Government of Nepal and the IPSI Secretariat. The objectives of the workshop were to: share information and experiences from the Asian region relevant to the Satoyama Initiative; further promote IPSI activities and understanding of the partnership in the region; and contribute to the further development of the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action.

Lively and dynamic discussions were conducted throughout the workshop, intercut with plenary sessions to share outcomes from each group. In line with the regional workshop's objectives, participants shared information and experiences from the Asian region relevant to the Satoyama Initiative, there were opportunities for further promoting IPSI activities and understanding of the partnership within the region, and the expert insight provided by the participants contributed directly to the further development of the IPSI *Strategy* and *Plan of Action*.

#### ***The Fourth IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-4)***

The Fourth IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-4) was held from 12 to 14 September 2013 in Japan's Fukui Prefecture, along with a number of SEPLS-related events organized by the Fukui Prefectural Government.

Among other things, the Assembly endorsed the five-year IPSI ***Plan of Action 2013-2018***, which provides a supportive framework to guide the implementation of activities in line with the four strategic objectives described within the IPSI ***Strategy***. It also accepted 8 new organizations as IPSI members. In addition, the Secretariat announced a plan to hold IPSI-5 from 4-5 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, back-to-back with the twelfth Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP12).

The IPSI-4 Public Forum was held under the theme "Challenges and opportunities for socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) from local perspectives". The plenary session broke into five smaller groups to provide opportunities for dynamic discussion among members. Recurring themes included the need for deeper understanding of the complexity of SEPLS in terms of their ecological, economic and societal characteristics and the importance of reaching out to and fully engaging women and younger generations.<sup>30</sup>

In related events, a poster session was held, featuring posters in the global category (English) and the local category (Japanese). A "Satoyama Poster Award" was arranged by the Ink-jet Cartridge Satogaeri Project with the support of the Fukui Prefectural Government and United Nations University. A dialogue event was also organized in the evening of 13 September by UNU-IAS, Fukui Prefectural Government, Ishikawa Prefectural Government, and featured the governors of Ishikawa Prefecture and Fukui Prefecture. During the dialogue, both governors highlighted innovative and cutting edge efforts being carried out under their political leadership in their prefectures.

A national network to promote the Satoyama Initiative in Japan was launched in the evening of 13 September. The governors of Ishikawa Prefecture and Fukui Prefecture were selected as the co-leaders of the Network, and Japan Committee for IUCN was appointed as its sub-leader.

#### ***Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (Florence, Italy)***

The first Satoyama Initiative European Regional Workshop was held from 27 to 29 May 2014 in Florence, Italy. The theme for the workshop was "Revitalizing production landscapes in Europe: travel and dialogue for people and biodiversity", which reflected the concepts of the Satoyama Initiative and the role of responsible travel in promoting better societies and environmental outcomes around the world. Participants enjoyed the historic city of Florence as well as rural landscapes and local cuisines supported by the rich culture, knowledge and landscapes.

Future actions were identified falling into four broad categories: the collection and systematization of data; issues of collaboration, education and capacity-building for different stakeholders; connecting policy and practice; and



awareness-raising. As a conclusion, it was suggested that priority activities should be identified during follow-up phases, and that the compilation of specific data and cases, and also specific means of influencing EU policy, could help to create greater collaboration and synergies for implementation.

#### ***The Fifth IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-5)***

The Fifth IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-5) was held from 4 to 5 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. The conference was held back-to-back with the twelfth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP12), and offered a good chance for many IPSI members and non-members alike to meet in person and discuss further ways to collaborate and promote the principles of the Satoyama Initiative.

The IPSI-5 Assembly covered a number of items related to the operations and strategic planning of IPSI, including the endorsement of a new IPSI Charter and Operational Guidelines, two documents created through revision of the IPSI Operational Framework, which they came to supersede.

The theme of the IPSI-5 Public Forum was “Furthering action in production landscapes and seascapes for sustainable development”. The event was well-attended by both IPSI members and non-members, with presentations on various activities carried out under IPSI stimulating a great deal of discussion about ideas and good practices for the revitalization and sustainable management of production landscapes and seascapes.

#### ***Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (Accra, Ghana)***

The next Regional Workshop is scheduled to be held from 10-12 August 2015 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop will explore issues particular to SEPLS and their management in the African region, with representatives gathering from all over the continent for the event.

#### ***IPSI Case Study Workshops***

A major part of IPSI activities is the collection of case studies from IPSI members, highlighting their activities related to the revitalization and sustainable management of SEPLS. Workshops were held in July 2014 and June 2015 in order to bring together authors of selected IPSI case studies and other experts for discussion of best practices in SEPLS and ways to optimize use of the knowledge embodied in the 80 case studies already collected.

The 2015 IPSI Case Study Workshop, with the theme “Enhancing knowledge for better management of SEPLS”, was organized to lead to the publication of a Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review bringing together the case studies presented at the workshop along with a synthesis paper. The Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review is planned for publication by the end of 2015. A broad-scale review and analysis of IPSI’s case studies is also currently under way.

## **7. Contribution to relevant international frameworks and meetings**

Since the Satoyama Initiative's adoption at CBD COP 10, one of its main purposes has been to contribute to implementation of the CBD, particularly its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Those involved in CBD processes have found that biodiversity continues to decrease despite the fact that the total area of protected areas has grown. The concept of the Satoyama Initiative recognizes the roles and functions of sustainable human interventions in helping biodiversity and ecosystems, thus contributing to the maintenance of ecosystem services that secure human well-being. Sustainable human activities such as the management of landscapes for production, agriculture, forestry and fisheries have greatly contributed to biodiversity around the world. This has been especially true in developing countries and at times before the use of fossil resources and modern technologies were introduced. Of course, today's socio-economic system does not permit strict adherence to traditional management practices in most cases, it can be helpful from the point of view of biodiversity and empowerment of local communities to find ways to maintain these roles and functions in the modern world. While efforts in many areas focus on the CBD's first objective – the conservation of biodiversity – under the Satoyama Initiative, efforts continue toward the second objective – the sustainable use of biodiversity.

While the Satoyama Initiative and IPSI have most prominently been recognized under CBD processes, there are also relevant needs and opportunities related to other international frameworks and meetings. For example, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat relates to the Satoyama Initiative especially as SEPLS may include man-made wetland environments like paddy fields, canals, fish-ponds and others. IPSI actively participated in the Rio+20 meeting in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, where it was determined that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would be developed to build upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) starting in 2015. In this process, goals and targets relevant to biodiversity have been greatly enhanced, especially from the context of sustainability and resilience. Contributions have also been made or are planned for IUCN meetings such as the Asia Parks Congress 2013 in Sendai, Japan, World Parks Congress 2014 in Sydney, Australia and World Conservation Congress in Jeju, Republic of Korea in 2012 and Honolulu, USA to be held in 2016.

## **8. Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes**

The Indicators of resilience in socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) are a set of 20 indicators developed as an IPSI collaborative activity with the main goal of contributing to the conservation of sustainable SEPLS for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being. The idea behind the development of these indicators was to create an analytical framework for assessing and building local strategies to strengthen resilience, through adaptation, innovation and the sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.

Further development resulted in the production of a Toolkit booklet with guidelines for applying the indicators. The “Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS)”<sup>31</sup> was officially launched at an event on 17 November 2014, held parallel to the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014 in Sydney, Australia. It contains concrete advice and instructions for using the Indicators of Resilience in the field for carrying out community-based assessment of landscape and seascape resilience.

## **9. Analysis of IPSI Case Studies**

Collection and sharing of case studies, serving as examples of successful implementation of SEPLS knowledge and other relevant information, among IPSI members as well as with a wider audience helps to enhance understanding and raise awareness of both SEPLS and IPSI. As such, case study submissions from IPSI members based on their experiences are encouraged.

To further enhance knowledge generation and sharing, the IPSI Secretariat has initiated a project to systematize and analyze the more than 80 case studies that have been collected so far. The goal of the project is to gain an overall picture of the knowledge contained in the case studies, and therefore understand what lessons may be learned from the members’ experiences. It is also hoped that such information will contribute to identifying areas that need to be strengthened, developing sharing mechanisms for the knowledge, promoting further submission of case studies, and developing a set of best practices.

The project is currently being carried out by UNU-IAS in collaboration with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), an IPSI member organization. A final report for this phase of the case study analysis is expected to be produced during 2015.

## **10. Disaster recovery in the Urato Islands**

The Urato Islands are located in Matsushima Bay, in northeastern Japan. Their people have been supported for centuries economically and culturally by abundant natural resources provided by the ecosystems of the sea and islands. However, the major earthquake and tsunami that hit the area in 2011 caused

enormous damage to communities already suffering from aging and depopulation. In response to these challenges, the Urato Islands Project was started in 2012 under an IPSI collaborative activity. The project aims to develop an optimal model and plan for restoring and revitalizing disaster-affected communities in a sustainable manner while respecting the rich ecosystems and biodiversity and to explore solutions to long-standing challenges.

The first action was to organize community dialogues in 2012 and 2013, inviting residents from all islands as well as representatives of administrative bodies and related support groups such as NPOs to identify problems and opportunities in the islands. Opinions collected at these dialogues were compiled as a petition and filed with the mayor to be incorporated into a development plan for the revitalization of the Urato Islands, which is to be recognized based on national legislation for the development of remote islands in Japan. Voices from the community also served as useful references in designing projects for support organizations.

In 2015, four years after the disaster, the project moved into a new phase, aimed at motivating disconnected islanders by engaging them in the revitalization of agricultural lands. In order to make the activity sustainable, the project seeks to establish an inclusive mechanism for both islanders and visitors and contribute not only to agricultural areas, but also to other sectors such as tourism, and farm and marine product processing.

## **11. Capacity building and resource mobilization**

### ***COMDEKS Programme***

The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) Programme is an IPSI collaborative activity that supports local community activities to maintain and rebuild SEPLS, and collects and disseminates knowledge and experiences from successful on-the-ground actions for replication and up-scaling in other parts of the world. Working through the UNDP's Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme, small grants are provided directly to local community organizations, empowering communities to implement participatory landscape planning and develop integrated solutions to respond to economic, environmental and social challenges.

Originally launched in 2011 in ten pilot countries (Brazil, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Fiji, India, Malawi, Nepal, Slovakia and Turkey), in June 2013, the second phase of the programme was launched in ten additional countries (Bhutan, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, Mongolia, Namibia and Niger). Due to its success, the model is now planned to be replicated in other countries where GEF's Small Grants Programme funds are to be allocated.

### ***Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM)***

The Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) is an IPSI collaborative activity for capacity building to facilitate activities of members in line with the IPSI *Strategy* and *Plan of Action* by providing seed funding to promising projects that can demonstrate good practices. These activities are expected to improve the status and trends, as well as retention and enhancement of biodiversity in SEPLS and contribute to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. SDM funding recipients are encouraged to further develop their respective projects to attract additional resources, while also facilitating collaboration among members.

The grants particularly focus on fostering model practices which are both replicable and appealing to IPSI member organizations. To be eligible for funding under the SDM, proposed projects must aim to generate tangible outcomes towards changing behaviors and practices for enhancing sustainability, and improving the status of SEPLS.

### ***GEF-Satoyama Project***

The GEF-Satoyama Project, officially titled “Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable management in priority Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS)”, is an IPSI collaborative activity, created to mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while improving human well-being in priority SEPLS.

Three target geographies – the Tropical Andes, Madagascar, and Indo-Burma – have been identified, where ten site-based projects will be funded for enhanced conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Other components will focus on improved knowledge generation and management to increase understanding, raise awareness and promote mainstreaming biodiversity, and on improved inter-sectoral collaboration and capacities to maintain, restore and revitalize social and ecological values.

## **12. Selection of events related to IPSI’s launch, continuing development and Collaborative Activities**

2009

- International Experts Meeting on the Satoyama Initiative Concept (25 July 2009, Tokyo, Japan)
- Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative Concept (1-3 October 2009, Penang, Malaysia)
- A Symposium on Agroforestry including Relationship with the Satoyama Approach (16 December 2009, Tokyo, Japan)

2010

- A Global Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (29-30 January 2010, Paris, France)
- CBD SBSTTA14 Side Events (10, 17 May 2010, Nairobi, Kenya)

- Side Event at WGRI3 (24-28 May 2010, Nairobi, Kenya)
- International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative Preparatory Meeting (23-24 August 2010, Yamanashi, Japan)
- South America Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative and its International Partnership (22 September 2010, Brasilia, Brazil)
- Launch of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (19 October 2010, Nagoya, Japan)

2011

- First IPSI Global Conference (10-11 March 2011, Nagoya, Japan)
- Great East Japan Earthquake Rebuilding Symposium (5 August 2011, Tokyo, Japan)
- CBD SBSTTA15 Side Event (8 November 2011, Montreal, Canada)

2012

- Second IPSI Global Conference (13-14 March 2012, Nairobi, Kenya)
- Rio+20 Side Event (18 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- ISAP2012 Parallel Session and Expert Workshop (24 July 2012, Yokohama, Japan)
- First Community Dialogue Seminar in Tsunami-affected Tohoku Region (25 August 2012, Matsushima, Japan)
- IUCN World Conservation Congress Workshop (10 September 2012, Jeju, Republic of Korea)
- Third IPSI Global Conference (6-7 October 2012, Hyderabad, India)

2013

- Second Community Dialogue Seminar in Tsunami-affected Tohoku Region (14 April 2013, Matsushima, Japan)
- Public Symposium on Indicators of Resilience in SEPLS (22 April 2013, Yokohama, Japan)
- Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (14-15 May 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal)
- ISAP2013 Parallel Session and Expert Workshop (22-24 July 2013, Yokohama, Japan)
- Fourth IPSI Global Conference (13-14 September 2013, Fukui, Japan)
- CBD SBSTTA 17 Side Event (15 October 2013, Montreal, Canada)
- 9th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Parallel Session (4 December 2013, Suva, Fiji)

2014

- Seminars and Workshop on Indicators of Resilience in SEPLS (29-31 January 2014, Rome, Italy)
- Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (27-29 May 2014, Florence, Italy)
- IPSI Strategy Meeting at CBD WGRI-5 (16 June 2014, Montreal, Canada)

- IPSI Case Study Experts Workshop Yokohama 2014 (22-23 July 2014, Yokohama, Japan)
- ISAP2014 Parallel Session (24 July 2014, Yokohama, Japan)
- Fifth IPSI Global Conference (4-5 October 2014, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea)
- Side Events at CBD COP 12 (6-8 October 2015, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea)
- Side Events and Stream Sessions at IUCN World Parks Congress (13-17 November 2014, Sydney, Australia)

2015-2016

- IPSI Case Study Workshop Tokyo 2015 (24-26 June 2015, Tokyo, Japan)
- ISAP2015 Parallel Session (29 July 2015, Yokohama, Japan)
- Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (10-12 August 2015, Accra, Ghana)

(Planned meetings and events)

- Side Event at CBD SBSTTA-20 and WG8J-9 (November 2015, Montreal, Canada)
- Sixth IPSI Global Conference (2016, Cambodia)
- Regional Workshop on the Satoyama Initiative (2016, Peru)

For a list of current IPSI members, please see the IPSI website: [http://satoyama-initiative.org/en/partnership/ipsi\\_members/](http://satoyama-initiative.org/en/partnership/ipsi_members/)

## References

1. Sommerfeld, J. (2004, March 4) World population hits 6 billion. Msnbc.com. Retrieved from [http://www.nbcnews.com/id/3072068/ns/us\\_news-only/t/world-population-hits-billion/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/3072068/ns/us_news-only/t/world-population-hits-billion/).
2. World population projected to reach 9.6 billion by 2050 – UN report (2013, June 13) UN News Centre. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=45165#.VZU5e0YwArc>.
3. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005) Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Retrieved from [www.millenniumassessment.org/](http://www.millenniumassessment.org/).
4. Takeuchi, K. (2014) Foreword: Innovative Pathways towards Harmony with Nature. In: IPSI Secretariat (2014) The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI): Working Towards Societies in Harmony with Nature. United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. Tokyo. p.4.
5. United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly (n.d.) UN News Centre. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/65/issues/sustdev.shtml>.

6. Oteng-Yeboah, A. (2014) Foreword: Changing Lives and Contributing to Sustainable Development. In: IPSI Secretariat (2014) The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI): Working Towards Societies in Harmony with Nature. United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. Tokyo. p.5.
7. IPSI Secretariat (2014) The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI): Working Towards Societies in Harmony with Nature. United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. Tokyo.
8. Meadows, D. H., D. L. Meadows, J. Randers, and W. W. Behrens III, (1972) Limits to Growth. Signet. New York.
9. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) (1980) World Conservation Strategy: Living Resource Conservation for Sustainable Development. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Gland, Switzerland.
10. World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) Our Common Future. Oxford University Press. Oxford.
11. Shidei, T. (1974) Mori ya Hayashi (Woods and forest). Chuokoronsha-Sha Inc. Tokyo. p.206.
12. Takeuchi, K. (2003) Satoyama landscapes as managed nature. In: Takeuchi, K., R. D. Brown, A. Tsunekawa, and I. Washitani (eds) Satoyama: The Traditional Rural Landscape of Japan. Springer. Tokyo. p.9–16.
13. Moriyama, H. (1988) What does environmental conservation mean? Rural Culture Association Japan. Tokyo.
14. Duraiappah A. K., K. Nakamura, K. Takeuchi, M. Watanabe, and M. Nishi (eds) (2012) Satoyama-satoumi ecosystems and human well-being: socio-ecological production landscapes of Japan. United Nations Press. Tokyo.
15. Washitani, I. (2003) Satoyama landscapes and conservation ecology. In: Takeuchi, K., R. D. Brown, A. Tsunekawa, and I. Washitani (eds) Satoyama: The Traditional Rural Landscape of Japan. Springer. Tokyo. p.16–23
16. Saito, O. and H. Shibata (2012) Satoyama-satoumi and ecosystem services: a conceptual framework.  
In: Duraiappah A. K., K. Nakamura, K. Takeuchi, M. Watanabe, and M. Nishi (eds) (2012) Satoyama-satoumi ecosystems and human well-being: socio-ecological production landscapes of Japan. United Nations Press. Tokyo. p.17–59.
17. Duraiappah A. K., K. Nakamura, K. Takeuchi, M. Watanabe, and M. Nishi (eds) (2012) Satoyama-satoumi ecosystems and human well-being: socio-ecological production landscapes of Japan. United Nations Press. Tokyo.
18. Ibid.



19. Becoming a Leading Environmental Nation in the 21st Century: Japan's Strategy for a Sustainable Society (2007, June 1) Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan. Retrieved from <https://www.env.go.jp/en/focus/attach/070606-b.pdf>.
20. The Third National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan (2008, November 27) Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan. Retrieved from <https://www.env.go.jp/en/focus/attach/071210-e.pdf>.
21. G8 Environment Ministers Meeting 2008: Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity (2008) Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan. Retrieved from <http://www.env.go.jp/en/focus/attach/080610-a3.pdf>.
22. Paris Declaration on the Satoyama Initiative (2010, May) Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Retrieved from <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-14/information/sbstta-14-inf-28-en.pdf>.
23. Case Studies (2015) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from <http://satoyama-initiative.org/en/casestudies/>.
24. The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative Charter (2014) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from <https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/IPSI-Charter-endorsed.pdf>.
25. The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative Operational Guidelines (2014) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from <https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/IPSI-Operational-Guidelines-endorsed.pdf>.
26. IPSI Assembly (2012) Strategy for the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI). Secretariat of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI Secretariat), United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS). Yokohama.
27. IPSI Secretariat (2014) International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) Plan of Action 2013-2018. United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. Yokohama.
28. Summary Report: First Global Conference: International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) (2011) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from [https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Final\\_Summary-Report\\_IPSI-1\\_for-printing.pdf](https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Final_Summary-Report_IPSI-1_for-printing.pdf).
29. The Second Global Conference of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) Contribution Papers submitted by IPSI Members (2012) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from <http://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Contribution-Paper-Booklet-Final.pdf>.
30. Summary Report: The Fourth Global Conference of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI-4) (2013) The Satoyama Initiative. Retrieved from <https://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/IPSI-4-Official-Report.pdf>.

31. UNU-IAS, Bioversity International, IGES and UNDP (2014) Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS).