



SATOYAMA
INITIATIVE

The Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) 2017

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Institute for the Advanced Study
of Sustainability

IGES
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Ministry of the Environment



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Contents

●	Key messages from SDM projects	2
	Outline of the booklet	3
1	About the Satoyama Development Mechanism	4
2	List and Global Map of SDM Projects	6
3	Projects Newly Selected in 2017	12
4	Results of Projects Completed in 2017	18
5	Contribution to IPSI objectives and global targets	27
●	Commentary	30

Key messages from SDM projects

The Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) was established in 2013 to promote activities in line with the Strategy and Plan of Action of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) through the provision of seed funding to promising projects proposed by IPSI members. Six projects have been selected every year, bringing the total number of projects selected in the five years since the start of the SDM in 2013 to 30 including those selected in 2017. Our grant recipients have so far reported outstanding achievements. Based on their experiences, the projects that were completed in 2017 have the following key messages to share:

- For the successful implementation of a field-level project, it is key to:
 - Engage the local community so that it can take a lead role in a structure and process-oriented initiative
 - Raise awareness among key stakeholders and disseminate knowledge regarding the sustainable use of natural resources
 - Take advantages for creating and implementing partnerships on the ground to enhance project contribution to long-term sustainability and development goals. (IORA Ecological Solutions, India)
- Additional points that need to be considered include:
 - Provide room for collaboration with other projects that may already be on-going in the same SEPLS and may have generated trust among the local communities. This can facilitate access to the communities and secure their support and engagement in project activities so that the project can deliver the desired results.
 - Secure a concrete commitment from collaborating partners, to ensure that they continue providing support during the entire implementation period of the project.
 - Identify opportunities to raise additional funds to support the initiated activities so the project can achieve sufficient scale for even larger impact and lasting outcomes. (A Rocha Ghana, Ghana)

- A key lesson for a more effective conservation of natural areas and better management of SEPLS is the need to enhance the symbiotic relationship between rural areas and urban areas. Key concepts of the Satoyama Initiative can be incorporated into wider landscape and seascape management by reconnecting upstream and downstream, and forest-stream-village-sea linkages between natural, rural and urban areas (National Dong Hwa University, Chinese Taipei).



Well-conserved section within the Kaya forest, Kenya

Outline of the booklet

This booklet has been prepared for IPSI member organisations, as well as for others who are engaged in SEPLS, to introduce the SDM and to provide snapshots of the projects implemented by our sub-grant recipients. The booklet starts with an introduction to the SDM, followed by a list and a global map of the sub-grant projects. The third section provides an overview of the sub-grant projects newly selected in 2017. The fourth section summarises the highlights of the achievements from three sub-grant projects that were completed as of February 2018. Comments on the SDM from the Director of the IPSI Secretariat are provided in the final section.

About the Satoyama Development Mechanism

What is the Satoyama Development Mechanism?

The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) has been working with its diverse partners to promote various activities on the sustainable use of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) in both developed and developing countries since its launch in October 2010. However, there are barriers to the implementation of such activities on the ground, including limited financial resources for initial investments. To overcome these constraints, and to further promote the implementation of IPSI activities, the Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) was jointly established by the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) as a collaborative activity under the framework of IPSI.

Objectives

The purpose of this mechanism is to facilitate activities in line with the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action by providing seed funding to promising projects that demonstrate good practices. These activities are expected to contribute to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in SEPLS for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.



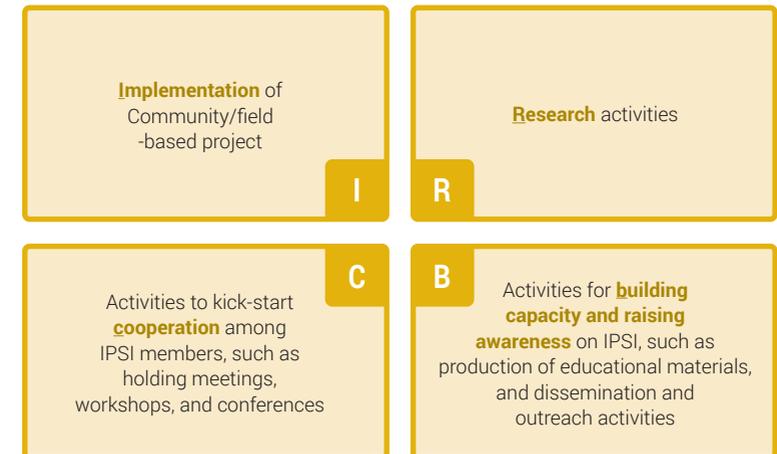
The SDM is expected to fulfil the above three objectives

The SDM fund aims to help recipients further develop their respective projects to attract additional resources, while also facilitating collaboration among members. As such, the SDM encourages the mobilisation of other financial resources for the implementation of its activities. The results of the outstanding activities supported under the SDM shall be shared among various stakeholders through IPSI.

Scope

The SDM grant is provided to selected projects to support development, implementation, monitoring and information dissemination on the sustainable use of SEPLS. The funds may be used to support a wide range of activities implemented by IPSI members, and which fall in line with the IPSI Strategy. The grant particularly focuses on fostering model practices which are both replicable and appealing to the IPSI member organisations.

Proposals from IPSI members are invited under four project types:



Project selection process and governance

IPSI member organisations interested in applying for the SDM grant are welcome to visit our website for more details on how they can apply and on the details of the selection process, by searching for [Satoyama Development Mechanism](#), or directly entering <http://www.iges.or.jp/en/natural-resource/bd/sdm.html#ob> into their internet browser.

List and Global Map of SDM Projects

Since the establishment of the SDM in 2013, 30 projects have been selected, as listed in the table below. An overview of the proposals from six grant recipients newly selected in 2017, as well as highlights of the results of recently completed projects are presented in the following sections.

Organisation	Project title	Project type	Progress*
Projects selected in 2017			
Conservation Solutions Afrika, Kenya	Use of Mobile Technology for assessing community and wildlife use of rangeland resources	I	Ongoing
Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya	Restoration of Sacred Kaya forests in Kenyan Coast for enhanced provision of ecosystem services and products for improved livelihoods	I	Ongoing
Unnayan Onneshan, Bangladesh	Designing an Enhanced Bio-diverse Adaptation to Climate Change in the Sundarbans	I	Ongoing
HDARES, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)	Taiwan stingless bee field investigation and greenhouse pollination preliminary work	R	Ongoing
CORFOPAL, Colombia	Resilience level assessment of the Key Biodiversity Areas San Antonio Forest/KM 18 and community empowerment on conservation	C	Ongoing
University of the Philippines Open University, Philippines	Contextualisation of the Instructional Materials for the Training of Youths toward Conservation of Ifugao Rice Terraces as a Satoyama Landscape	C	Ongoing
Projects selected in 2016			
Community Based Environmental Conservation (COBEC), Kenya	Strengthening Community Participation in Biodiversity Conservation through Benefit Sharing and Capacity Building	I	Ongoing
A Rocha Ghana, Ghana	Mangrove restoration to improve socioecological production landscapes and seascapes for fisheries recovery at the Muni Pomadze Ramsar Site	I	Newly completed
Japan Environmental Education Forum (JEEF), Bangladesh	Project for conserving Bangladesh Sundarbans SAYATOMA and developing its showcase through creating action plan and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources by promoting mangrove restoration, traditional culture and skill of mangrove's shrimp collection	I	Ongoing

M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, India	Problems and 'prospects' of SEPLS' conversion for alternate benefits – A research case study from the Western Ghats	R	Ongoing
National Dong-Hwa University, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)	Facilitating the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI)	C	Newly completed
Landcare Germany, Europe	Preparing the conservation and development of cultural landscapes on a European level	C	Ongoing
Projects selected in 2015			
IORA, India	Integrated participation of institutional stakeholder for upliftment of rural livelihood through sustainable harvesting and market linkages of NTFPs and Agriproducts	I	Newly completed
SPERI, Viet Nam	Restoration of local valuable tree species in the Huong Son upper catchment through nursery, extension of plantings, and field documentation for ensuring sustainability of SEPLS	I	Completed
Conservation Alliance International, Ghana	Enhancing Cocoa Agroforestry in Ghana through an integrated Geographic Information Based (GIS) based monitoring system	I	Completed
APAIC, Peru	Towards an Strategy for Mitigation of Climate Change Effects in the Coastal Region of Peru, in the Context of the El Nino Event	C	Completed
EPIC, Uganda	Satoyama Initiative National Network Workshop for UGANDA	C	Completed
Environmental Education Center Zapovedniks, Russia	Cultural landscapes as vectors for local sustainable development	B	Completed
Projects selected in 2014			
AERF, India	Promoting Green Entrepreneurship for conservation of Satoyama landscapes in the North Western Ghats, India	I	Completed
A Rocha Ghana, Ghana	Restoration of Community Sacred Forest to Enhance Socio Ecological Landscape in the Effutu Traditional Area, Ghana	I	Completed
National Dong-Hwa University, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)	Tailoring Satoyama initiative concepts to national and local context: A Case Study of the collaborative planning process of a Rice Paddy Cultural Landscape in an Indigenous Community, Taiwan	I	Completed
APAIC, Peru	Evaluation of the biodiversity chain in barren landscapes ecosystems restored through reforestation with <i>Caesalpinia spinosa</i> , in the southern semiarid coast of Peru	R	Completed
Landcare Germany, Romania	Fostering cooperative nature conservation to preserve and develop the cultural landscape (SEPL) in the Carpathian Region of Pogány-havas	C	Completed
SPREP, Pacific Region	Healthy islands, oceans and people	B	Ongoing

*As of February 2018

Organisation	Project title	Project type	Progress*
Projects selected in 2013			
IKAP, Thailand	Supporting and Promoting the Karen Indigenous Socio-ecological Production System in Northern Thailand	I	Completed
Kathmandu Forestry College (KAFCOL), Nepal	Documentation of Biological Resources for Preparation and Piloting of Local Bio-diversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP) in Three Ecological Production Landscapes of Nepal	I	Completed
Nature and Livelihoods, Uganda	Experimenting on production of high value market products from indigenous wild fruits	R	Completed
SWAN International, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)	Converting pests as allies in tea farming - a potential case of Satoyama landscape in Hualien, Taiwan	R	Completed
Asociación ANDES, Peru	Hosting the Satoyama Initiative Steering Committee Meeting and Global Conference in 2015	C	Completed
Environmental Education Center Zapovedniks, Russia	Cultural landscapes as vectors for local sustainable development	B	Completed

*As of February 2018



Legend and breakdown of Projects under project types and geographical regions:

Project type	Africa	Americas	Asia & Pacific	Europe	Total
I Implementation of community/field-based project	6		8		14
R Research activities	1	1	3		5
C Activities to kick-start cooperation among IPSI members, such as meetings, workshops and conferences	1	3	2	2	8
B Building capacity and raising awareness on IPSI			1	2	3
Total	8	4	14	4	30



Project location map:

Indicating countries/territories where the newly selected 6 projects (dark colour) and the 24 completed projects (light colour) are/were located

Projects selected in **2013** **2014** **2015** **2016** **2017**



Colombia
2017 p.16

Peru
2015
2014
2013



Ghana
2016 p.21
2015
2014

Kenya
2017 p.12
2016 p.13
2015
2014

Uganda
2015
2013

EU
2016

Romania
2014

Nepal
2013

India
2016
2015 p.18
2014

Bangladesh
2017 p.14
2016

Russia
2015
2013



Viet Nam
2015

Chinese Taipei
2017 p.15
2016 p.24
2014
2013

Thailand
2013

Philippines
2017 p.17

Pacific Region
2014



3-1

Use of Mobile Technology for assessing community and wildlife use of rangeland resources

Conservation Solutions Afrika

Project duration: October 2017 - September 2018

Project outline

The semi-arid rangelands of Laikipia county, Central Kenya, are some of the most important wildlife habitats in Kenya, being home to elephants, rhino, lions, leopard, giraffe, buffalo and several other megafauna species that are an integral part of the tourist industry. The same area is also the mainstay for livestock production, which is the major economic activity for local communities in Laikipia. Laikipia is therefore one of the biggest and most productive SEPLS in Kenya. This study aims to assess the spatial, temporal and seasonal uses of key natural resources in Laikipia by both wildlife and livestock production. The project focuses on rangeland (pasture) resources, forests, and water resources. The main objective of the project is to identify points for an equilibrium between the needs of wildlife and pastoral communities with reference to availability and access to the rangeland, forests and water resources. The project will identify geographical, ecological and social indicators and their baselines, which can be used by conservation and economic planners to manage this landscape. Kenya Wetland Biodiversity Research Team (KENWEB) will provide expertise on water availability, quality, and aquatic ecosystem health.



Interviewing Samoburu pastoralists on livestock movement routes



Interviewing Maasai herdsmen about the origins and destination of their migration

Kenya Wetland Biodiversity Research Team (KENWEB) will provide expertise on water availability, quality, and aquatic ecosystem health.

3-2

Restoration of Sacred Kaya forests in Kenyan Coast for enhanced provision of ecosystem services and products for improved livelihoods

Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)

Project duration: November 2017 - October 2018

Project outline

The Kaya forests in Kenya's Coastal landscape are sacred forests of the Mijikenda community and are part of peculiar multi-functional SEPLS that provide direct and indirect benefits for human wellbeing. Protection of the Kayas remains deeply entrenched in traditional Mijikenda culture. A council of elders employs a system of taboos and traditional rules to protect the forests, and safeguard their integrity and sanctity. Population growth, overdependence on natural resources by local communities and cultural erosion brought about by modern education and religion are increasingly degrading the Kaya forests. Weak law enforcement governing forest conservation and the loss of cultural values that have traditionally contributed to the conservation of the forests present challenges that require urgent holistic intervention. The project aims to restore degraded sites in three Kaya forests for enhanced biodiversity conservation and improved local livelihoods. It will build the capacity of local communities to undertake forest rehabilitation and restoration, establish two community tree nurseries to provide planting materials for participatory rehabilitation, maintain a community seed bank for preservation of important but threatened medicinal and wild food plants, and develop a community based monitoring tracking tool to track the tree nurseries, tree survival and landscape restoration.



Degraded site in Kaya forest



Traditional Mijikenda community house

Designing an Enhanced Bio-diverse Adaptation to Climate Change in the Sundarbans

Unnayan Onneshan

Project duration: October 2017 - October 2018

Project outline

This project aims to design a pilot project by assessing the sustainability of integrated cultivation methods based on traditional knowledge and innovated by the indigenous people and local communities (IPLCs). This method combines some floral and faunal species as a response to the critical impacts of anthropogenic pressures and climate change on the Sundarbans of Bangladesh. The method has been termed as Community Based Mangrove Agro-Aqua-Silvi-Culture (CMAASC). The key project objective is to examine whether the method can contribute to biodiversity conservation and adaptation to climate change. In doing so, the project plans to organise group consultation of the traditional resource users, conduct participatory vulnerability resource assessments, specify sustainability indicators, assess the cultivation method based on the indicators, undertake cost-benefit analysis, verify the findings and disseminate these at the policy level. Expected outputs include: (a) assessment of the sustainability of CMAASC in terms of biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation and (b) designing of a fundable broader pilot project for (i) restoration of vulnerable ecosystems of Sundarbans from climate pressures, and (ii) promotion of alternative climate-resilient livelihoods to ensure food security in the project area.



Taiwan stingless bee field investigation and greenhouse pollination preliminary work

Hualien District Agricultural Research and Extension Station (HDARES)

Project duration: January - December 2018

Project outline

An endemic species of stingless bee, *Lepidotrigona hoozana*, was traditionally used in Taiwan based on aboriginal practices as main pollen insects and for the production of propolis. The main nesting plants include native tree species such as Roche's salt wood, mulberry tree, and Elephant's Ear trees. However, due to habitat degradation and deforestation for betel



Stingless bee



Beehive

nut and tea production, as well as the use of agrochemicals, including pesticides and herbicides, the stingless bee populations are now close to extinction in their native habitat. Recently, in Taiwan only about 30 stingless bees' nests were found in the wild. Stingless bees have considerable potential in the bee pollination, and even medical and chemical use. In order to contribute to the recovery and conservation of pollinated bees, the project will experiment rearing the stingless bees in tree barrel hives from the wild in the primary forest as a rich enough source to supply the feeding environment. The current observations of stingless bees reveal that they can live in rearing conditions. If the population grows well, it might be possible to create artificial swarms. Through rearing and reproduction of the bees, this research project aims to help farmers apply stingless bees in the pollination of greenhouse cultivation.

3-5

Resilience level assessment of the Key Biodiversity Areas San Antonio Forest/KM 18 and community empowerment on conservation

Corporación Ambiental y Forestal del Pacífico (CORFOPAL)

Project duration: January - December 2018

Project outline

The San Antonio Forest/KM18 is a key biodiversity area located in Valle del Cauca, Colombia, that holds a great variety of ecosystems and land uses, which makes it an important source of many services used by the associated cities and rural settlements. This productive and biodiverse landscape faces many threats, such as habitat loss, fragmentation, overpopulation, and climate change. However, these threats are not properly quantified, and neither information on the resilience of the SEPLS nor monitoring tools are available. The main objective of the project is to assess the resilience level of the SEPLS and to provide an accurate and useful evaluation that ultimately helps the communities better understand and strengthen their relationship with nature. To accomplish this, the project will apply the Toolkit for Indicators of Resilience, which includes a preparatory stage to obtain current information about the SEPLS, the communities and local stakeholders, followed by an assessment workshop where the indicators of resilience will be applied. In a follow-up phase the results of the workshop will be evaluated and used as a participatory planning tool that strengthens and empowers the communities.



View of the key biodiversity area from San Antonio Forest Hill towards Cauca Valley



View of the SEPLS from San Antonio Forest Hill towards Elvira village

3-6

Contextualization of the Instructional Materials for the Training of Youths toward Conservation of Ifugao Rice Terraces as a Satoyama Landscape

University of the Philippines Open University

Project duration: January 2018 - January 2019

Project outline

The Ifugao Rice Terraces in the Philippines evolved into a unique cultural context of indigenous communities. Over the past ten years there have been many efforts on the part of the local government, non-government organisations, academia and the private sector to conserve and preserve the Ifugao Rice Terraces. This project aims to contextualise instructional materials/modules that were originally developed in English to provide Ifugao communities with updated information on Ifugao Rice Terraces as a Satoyama landscape, its biodiversity status, ecosystem services and importance of the Ifugao culture and heritage. Research findings consistently show that young learners benefit from using their local language. In line with this, the project aims to:

- (i) validate the content of the instructional materials with the elders and youths of the Ifugao villages;
- (ii) translate the materials into the Ifugao native languages of Tawali and Ayangan
- (iii) share and evaluate the translated instructional materials with selected youths of Banaue, Kiangan, Hungduan and Mayoyao.

The project activities include validation workshops, writeshops, translation of instructional materials, pre-testing, evaluation and incorporation of feedback from the stakeholders.



Ifugao rice terraces



Focus group discussion

INDIA

4-1

Integrated participation of institutional stakeholder for upliftment of rural livelihood through sustainable harvesting and market linkages of NTFPs and Agriproducts

IORA Ecological Solutions

Project duration: January 2016 - December 2017

Project overview

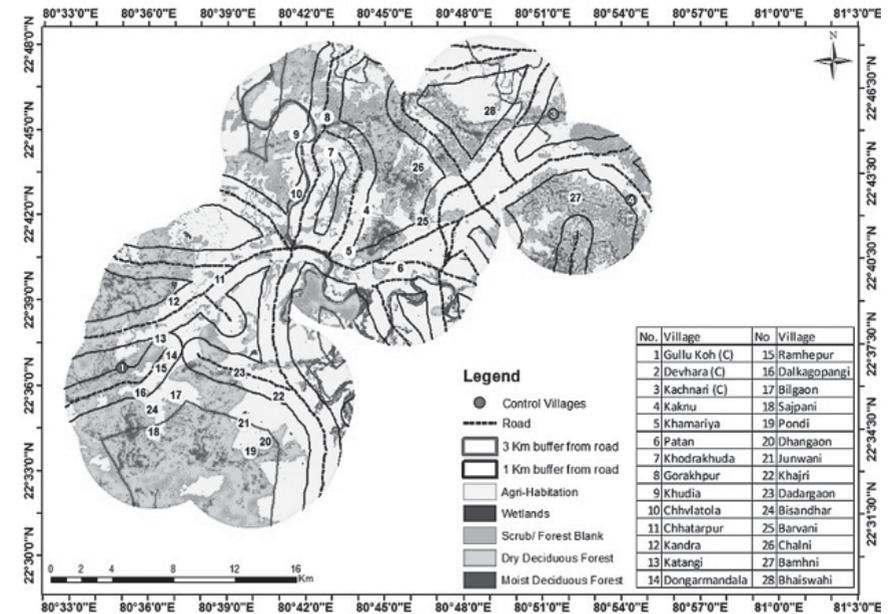
Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh, India, is known as a state with a high number of indigenous tribes who are residing in the vicinity of forests and earn their livelihood from forest resources along with subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry. The use of forest resources can be sustainable if properly managed but has become increasingly unsustainable due to intensifying exploitation and market pressure. The project



aimed to implement an integrated approach to sustainable development and improvement of their livelihood, which include sustainable harvest of commercially important non-timber forest products (NTFP), development of market linkages, promotion of community fodder banks, as well as the promotion of rotational grazing.



Construction of an Azolla Pit as a green fodder supplement for cattle feeding



Project area in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh

Highlights of project results

The major achievements of the project were the successful blend of collaborative activities engaging the state government as well as the local level communities, and the strengthening of community-led initiatives of NTFP and agro-products market channeling and coming up with innovative solutions to create alternative livelihood enhancement. As part of these achievements, the various project activities led to the following results:

- Free and Prior Consent (FPIC), which involved the communities in the project from the initial phase and gave them a sense of ownership.
- A socio-economic and ecological assessment as well as the Four Cell Analysis (FCA) conducted in the villages helped assess and identify the current status of key NTFPs and agro-products available in the forest area as well as other land use areas.
- A value chain analysis and market enterprise creation process helped adding value to the agro-products and enabled marketing of these products – including *Harra* (*Terminalia chebula*), *Cassia tora* (*Chakoda*), Flax seeds *Kutki* (*Little Millet*) – in local as well as state level markets, thus enhancing the livelihoods of villagers.

- The fodder management activity helped to tackle the adverse effects of cattle rearing and over-grazing in forested area. This included activities such as preparation of *azolla* pits, use of a traditional hydroponic system with maize grains, preparation of silage, introduction of root slips of perennial grasses i.e. Napier, Sorghum, Stylo etc. and cultivation of fodder crops (e.g. *Barseem* [*Trifolium alexandrinum*] and oat).
- In addition, a quality manual for sustainable harvesting and value addition of NTFPs was developed, and training to the user communities was imparted to enhance the skills and capacity of the users.

Key lessons

- The following are some of the key lessons derived from the project:
 - Importance of a structure and process-oriented, community-led initiative
 - Development of market linkages for the selected two forest species and two agri species through adopting improved collection practices, primary processing, gradation and packaging. Motivation of the community to become involved in the sustainable practices and get more benefits from their products.
 - Awareness-creation and knowledge dissemination regarding sustainable harvesting of forest resources
 - Advantages of creating and implementing partnerships on the ground for long-term sustainability and furthering development goals.



Introduction of fodder techniques at the household level



Community meetings to assess the status of NTFP resources

Results of Completed SDM 2016 Projects

GHANA

4-2

Mangrove restoration to improve socioecological production landscapes and seascapes for fisheries recovery at the Muni Pomadze Ramsar Site A Rocha Ghana

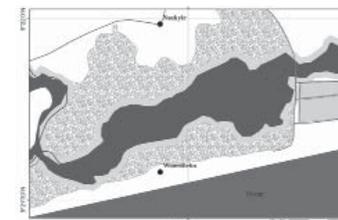
Project duration: December 2016 - December 2017

Project overview

The fisheries sector of Ghana plays an important role in contributing significantly to national economic development objectives related to employment, livelihood support, poverty reduction, food security, foreign exchange earnings and resource sustainability. The Effutu Municipality is one of the vibrant fishing hubs in the Central region of Ghana. However, prior to the project, areas such as advocating for sustainable fisheries management practices and securing fish spawning habitats had received minimal attention.



Demarcating core zone



Fisheries recovery zone

This project aimed to empower coastal communities within the Effutu Area to sustainably manage their own marine resources, resulting in productive and profitable fisheries, coastal ecosystem conservation and resilience. The specific objectives of the project were to undertake (i) behaviour change communication on sustainable coastal resource management for improving the current state of degraded SEPLS; and (ii) initiate actions to enhance sustainable coastal resource management, such as habitat restoration of five hectares of degraded mangrove areas and the demarcation of a community fisheries recovery zone.

Highlights of project results

- The most important achievement was the demarcation of the fisheries recovery zone, which was led by community members. Community members now have clearly demarcated core and buffer zones, which will support the recovery of fish for sustainable livelihoods. This also serves as a learning point based on a readiness plan for future designation as a marine protected area.
- Through awareness raising and engagement of the community in the project, community members are now aware of the issues related to coastal resource management and are able to link them with their livelihoods. Initiatives such as the demarcation of the core and buffer zones within the mangrove areas to serve as spawning sites for fish demonstrates positive behaviour change in the community, whose members now support the conservation of their coastal resources.
- 6,000 red mangrove seedling were nursed and planted over a 5ha degraded mangrove area. The planting of the degraded area has improved the vegetation of the site and mangroves are growing well.
- A community fisheries recovery zone has been demarcated. A core zone encompassing the lagoon was demarcated with red pillars and the buffer zone demarcated with blue pillars. The pillars were erected 50m from the buffer zone and 100m from the lagoon shore covering 12,000 m².
- 15 community volunteer groups were recruited to support monitoring of both project activities and any illegalities that might be going on at the site.
- In addition, the community designated a community waste dumping site and assigned volunteers to monitor and ensure the waste is collected and dumped only at the designated site.



Community engagement of women's group



Community members displaying new waste bins

Key lessons

- One key lesson from the project is the need to provide room for collaboration with other projects. There was another project on-going in the area of the SDM project. Collaboration was established by the two projects and, as a result, a total of three communities gained support for activities such as demarcation of a fisheries recovery zone. The existing working relation between the main collaborator and these communities made it easier for the SDM project to get community support to ensure that the project achieved its desired results.
- Another lesson was that it is always prudent to raise additional funds to support the initiated activities so the project can achieve sufficient scale for even larger impact and lasting outcomes.
- A third lesson is the importance of seeking to secure a concrete commitment from collaborating partners, possibly in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding, to ensure that collaborating partners continue to support the project during its entire implementation. For instance, in this case, the Municipal Assembly agreed to support waste collection but during implementation could not fulfil the agreement due to inadequate funds.



Mangrove planting

CHINESE TAIPEI (TAIWAN)

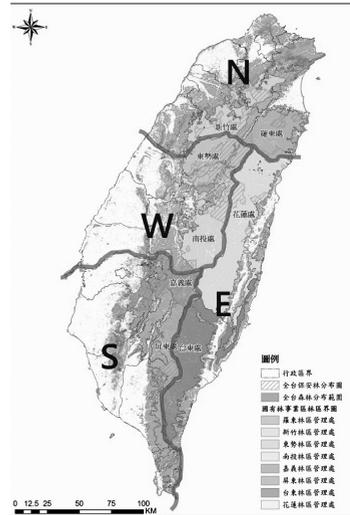
4-3

Facilitating the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI) National Dong-Hwa University

Project period: October 2016 - December 2017

Project overview

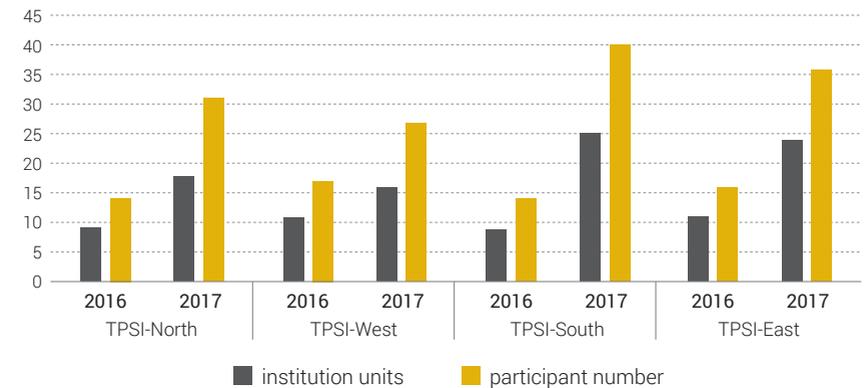
Ever since the Satoyama Initiative was introduced to Taiwan in late 2010, it has received a great deal of attention from the government and the public. Engagement for the conservation and revitalisation of socio-ecological production landscapes (SEPLS) in compliance with the goal of Satoyama Initiative is on the rise. However, a number of challenges in the promotion of the Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan called for a more integrated approach to setting up a national strategic framework for promoting Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan. This collaborative project aimed to develop a national strategic framework for building up the Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI). The project included five aspects of activities including enhancing international participation and exchange, working on policy research and strategic framework, facilitating knowledge of indicators for monitoring, enhancing capacity building and knowledge exchange through networking regional on-the-ground activities.



The four regions of TPIS

Highlights of project results

- IPSI collaborative activities are one of the key instruments for enhancing mutual learning and cooperation among IPSI members. Among the existing 40 collaborative projects, TPSI is unique since it adopts a national scale and focuses on the partnership among IPSI and non-IPSI members in Taiwan.
- Throughout 2017, the project organised four regional (north, west, south, east) TPSI events, involving 134 participants from 57 different governmental institutions, NGOs/NPOs, academics and community organisations. This helped increase the numbers and diversity of participants considerably as compared to 2016 (see chart below). Public authorities in Taiwan have become more interested in participating in TPSI.
- The project also held the first national-scale TPSI meeting in Taiwan in September 2017. This included a half-day symposium and half-day workshop for 'TPSI-all 2017' with 150 participants in the Symposium, and 50 participants in the workshop from different governmental institutions, NGOs/NPOs, community organizations, academic/educational institutions and citizens. This event allowed participants to learn about the origin, process and progress of TPSI development in recent years, as well as to discuss challenges and strategies towards the future.
- A symposium/workshop on IPSI-TPSI Exchange organised under the project in November 2017 allowed representatives of the Satoyama Initiative in Japan, and representatives of TPSI, including the Youth and participants from a similarly diverse background as in the earlier events, to exchange lessons about the recent progress made under both the Satoyama Initiative and TPSI in Taiwan.



Participant numbers and institutional representation in TPSI 2016 & 2017



5

Contribution to IPSI objectives and global targets

- As a follow-up to the project, National Dong-Hwa University continues reviewing and analysing TPSI activities, in order to share its experience of developing a national partnership for the Satoyama Initiative with international IPSI members and other societies.

Key lessons

- The exchange between IPSI and TPSI allowed for a better understanding in Taiwan regarding the Satoyama Initiative as a comprehensive concept and approach to reconnecting natural-rural-urban areas and building a symbiotic relationship between rural and urban areas, which conserves the natural areas more effectively.
- This lesson thus contributes to the current efforts of biodiversity conservation in Taiwan, which include setting up a national protected area system especially for conservation of upper-stream high mountain natural areas and individual wetlands. Concepts of the Satoyama Initiative can be incorporated into wider landscape and seascape management through reconnecting upstream and downstream, and forest-stream-village-sea (in Japanese: 森-川-里-海) linkages between natural, rural and urban areas.

Symposium (morning session) of TPSI-all, September 2017



Participants of TPSI-S (south) in May 2017

Among the 30 SDM sub-grant projects selected since the commencement of SDM in 2013, 18 projects have been completed by March 2018.

All 18 projects demonstrated tangible contributions to the IPSI Strategic Objectives in various manners. In addition, the results contributed to several of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets—up to 11 targets by one project, and approximately four on average, according to the self-evaluation by the grant recipients. This demonstrates the strength of a landscape approach, addressing a number of targets that are locally important and collectively tackled in a flexible manner.

Contribution and relevance of each project to the IPSI Strategic Objectives (based on self-evaluation by grant recipients)

Project type	Recipient	Year of completion	IPSI Strategic Objectives*1			
			Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4
Community/field-based implementation	A Rocha Ghana (2)	2017	●	●		
	IORA, India	2017	●	●	●	●
	SPERI, Viet Nam	2016	●	●	■	●
	Conservation Alliance International, Ghana	2016	●	●	●	●
	A Rocha Ghana	2016	●	●	●	■
	National Dong-Hwa University, Taiwan	2016	●		●	●
	IKAP, Thailand	2015	●	●	●	●
	AERF, India	2015	●	●	●	●
	KAFCOL, Nepal	2014	●	■	●	●
Research	Nature & Livelihoods, Uganda	2015	●	■	■	●
	APAIC, Peru	2015	●	■	■	■
	SWAN International, Taiwan	2014	●	●	●	
Partnership	National Dong-Hwa University (2)	2017	●		●	●
	APAIC, Peru	2016	●	■	●	■
	EPIC, Uganda	2016	●	●		●
	Landcare Germany	2016	●	●	●	
CB / OR	Center Zapovedniks, Russia	2016	●	●	■	■
	Center Zapovedniks	2014	●	■		●

● Contribution ■ Relevance

Commentary

SDM opens a window to the world

In their ideal form, “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS) provide a mutually-supporting system of economic vitalisation and biodiversity enhancement, and work is ongoing to establish this kind of co-beneficial relationship in many landscapes and seascapes around the world. For this purpose, it is vital to connect them—whether they are Satoyama landscapes in my own country of Japan, or any other SEPLS in the world—with consumers in urban areas. That said, it is not enough to think of such people merely as economic “consumers”, but rather as partners in creating and maintaining value.

SEPLS create their own value. It is this value that attracts people living in cities and allows them to appreciate SEPLS’ history, culture and stories, buy products and even visit to enjoy and share in their value. In this way, people in cities can be partners in revitalising SEPLS, but for this to work, the value should be both universal and unique. This kind of value can be created or enhanced by means such as strengthening community networks, conducting research with academic partners, developing tourism programmes that highlight biocultural diversity, and telling stories to people living in cities and others around the world.

The Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) provides small but very flexible grants to IPSI members for exactly these purposes. It encourages and supports recipients to create value in SEPLS, and thus open a window to the world. Through SDM, SEPLS, activities toward their revitalisation and sustainable management, and the value they create are shared widely through and beyond the IPSI network. I would encourage all IPSI members to consider applying to SDM.



Mr. Naoya Tsukamoto

Since July 2016 Mr. Naoya Tsukamoto has served as Project Director of three projects under the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and as Director of the IPSI Secretariat. Before joining UNU-IAS, he worked for the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as Secretary-General/Principal Researcher from July 2014 to June 2016. His current research areas encompass climate change and Japan–China relations.

