



ISAP 2023

International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific

IGES Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies



UNU
IAS

(AT-3) SEPLS Management as Integrated, Inclusive and Localised Actions towards a Nature Positive Society

Opening remark

Prof. TAKEUCHI Kazuhiko, President, IGES



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Setting the scene

Miwa Koji, Policy Researcher, IGES

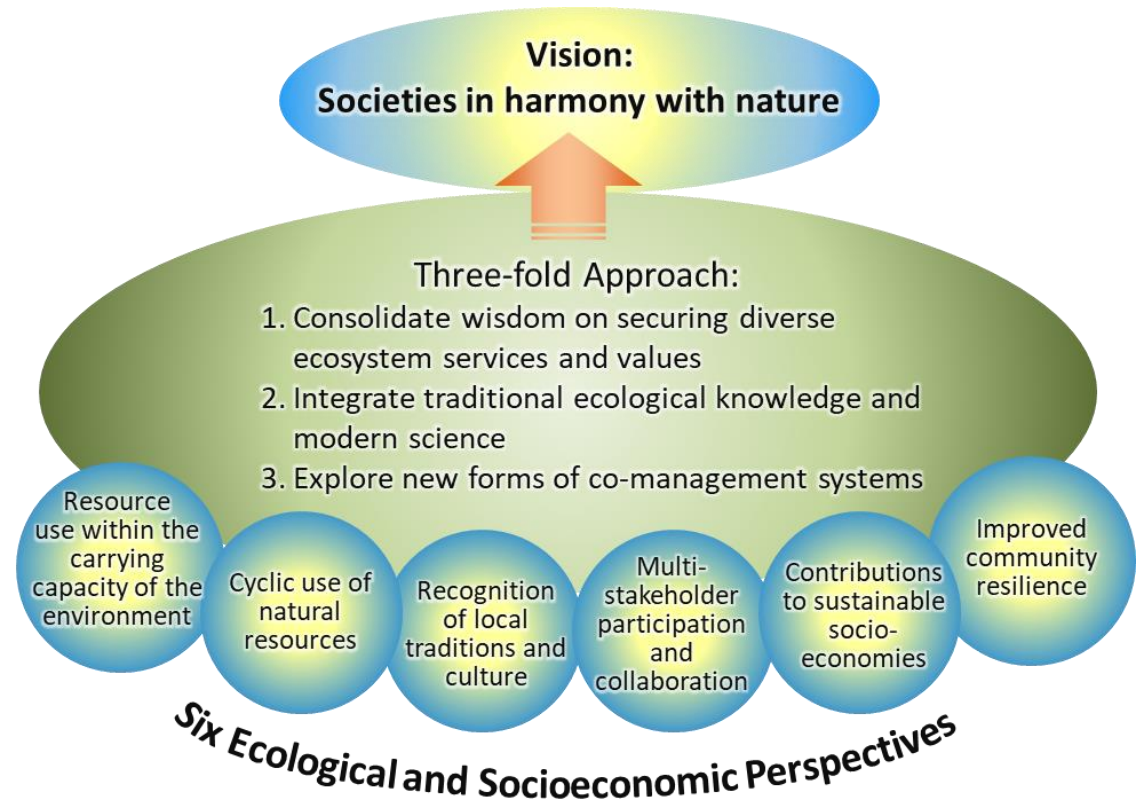
What is Satoyama / SEPLS

- Satoyama or Satoumi is a place where was traditionally formed through the practice of sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries in Japan, thus people were living in harmony with nature.
- Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) is a term produced from a scientific point of view.
- Interaction between people and the landscape maintains or enhances biodiversity while providing humans with the goods and services needed for their well-being.



Satoyama Initiative

- Joint proposal at CBD COP-10 by
 - The Ministry of the Environment of Japan
 - The United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS, now the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability)
- A global effort to realize societies in harmony with nature based on a model of Satoyama.



Source: International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative. <https://satoyama-initiative.org/concept/satoyama-initiative/>.

International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI)

- Promote the work of the Initiative and knowledge sharing
- 51 organizations joined as founding members
- 304 organizations (as of December 2023)
- Members from around the world, including public, private and grass-roots organizations
- The IPSI secretariat is hosted by UNU-IAS



Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM)

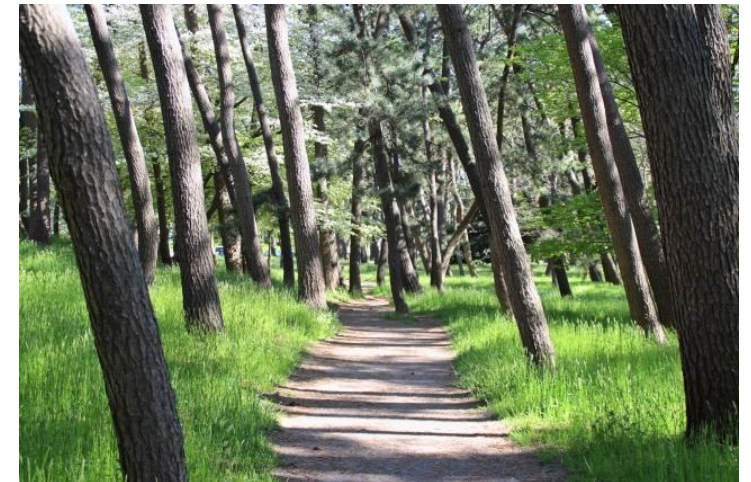
- One of the collaborative activities of the IPSI.
 - A financing mechanism to facilitate the implementation of activities under IPSI.
 - The vision: “societies in harmony with nature”.
 - Established jointly by IGES, UNU-IAS and MOEJ.
- Since 2013, the SDM has funded 64 projects in 28 countries



Why is Biodiversity so important?



- Biodiversity (the variety of life on Earth) includes the diversity of species, ecosystems, and genetic diversity within species.
- It provides crucial supports for ecosystems and our lives in all aspects (i.e. ecosystem services)



What are the causes of biodiversity loss?

Indirect drivers (underpinned by societal values and behaviours)

Demographic (e.g., human population dynamics)

Sociocultural (e.g., consumption patterns)

Economic (e.g., trade)

Technological

Institutions and governance

Conflicts and epidemics

Direct drivers

Land-/sea-use change (e.g., degradation of land and aquatic habitats, deforestation and afforestation)

Direct exploitation of organisms

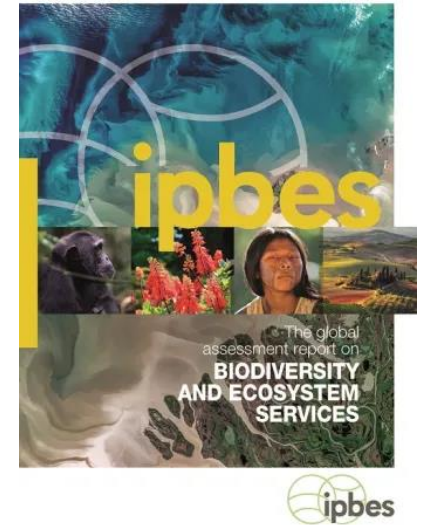
Climate change

Pollution (of soil, water and air)

Invasive alien species

The need of transformation

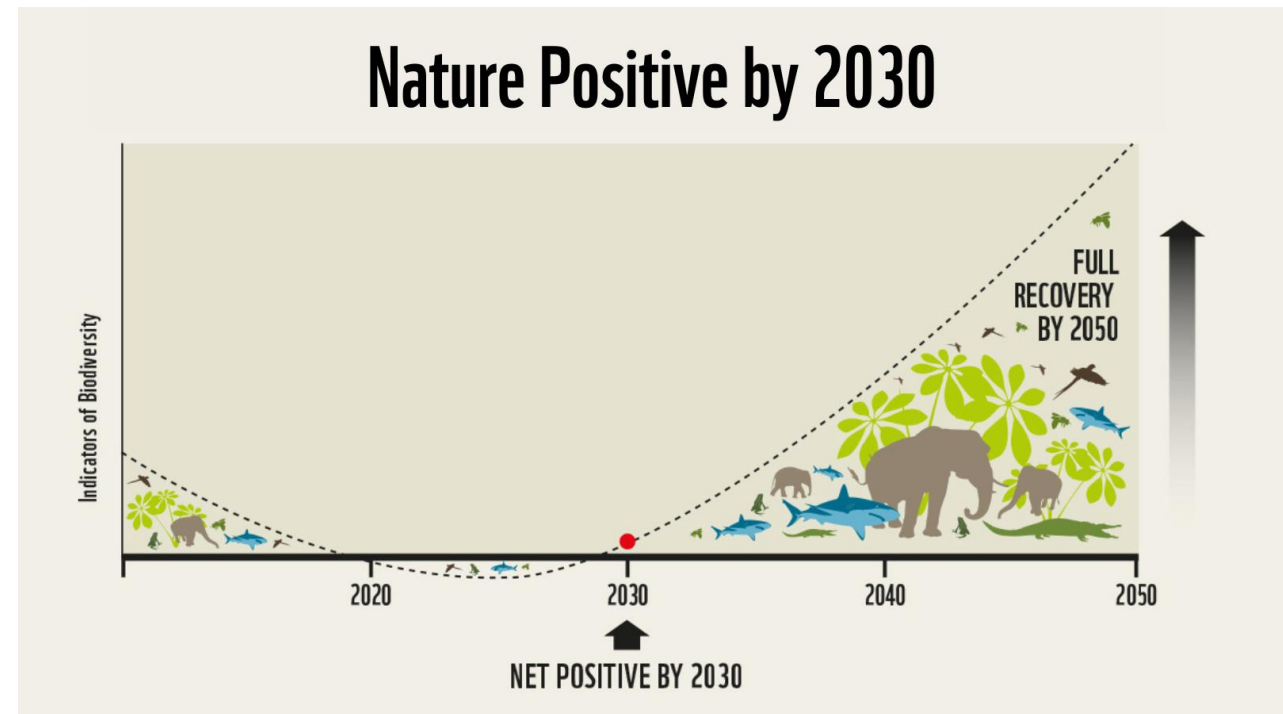
- Global Assessment by IPBES (2019)
 - About 25% of animal and plant species groups (1 million species), are threatened with extinction, and many of these will become extinct in the next few decades if appropriate action is not taken.
 - Transformative change across various sectors is needed
- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
 - “GBF is built around a theory of change”
 - It requires us to take urgent policy action globally, regionally and nationally to achieve sustainable development and the Convention’s Vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050. (CBD, 2021)



THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth

Nature positive

- Definition: ‘Halt and Reverse Nature Loss by 2030 on a 2020 baseline, and achieve full recovery by 2050’. - Ensuring more nature in the world in 2030 than in 2020 and continued recovery after that. (Nature Positive Initiative, 2022)
- 3 basic measurements for 2030
 - Zero net loss of nature from 2020,
 - Net positive improvement in nature by 2030, and
 - Full recovery of nature by 2050

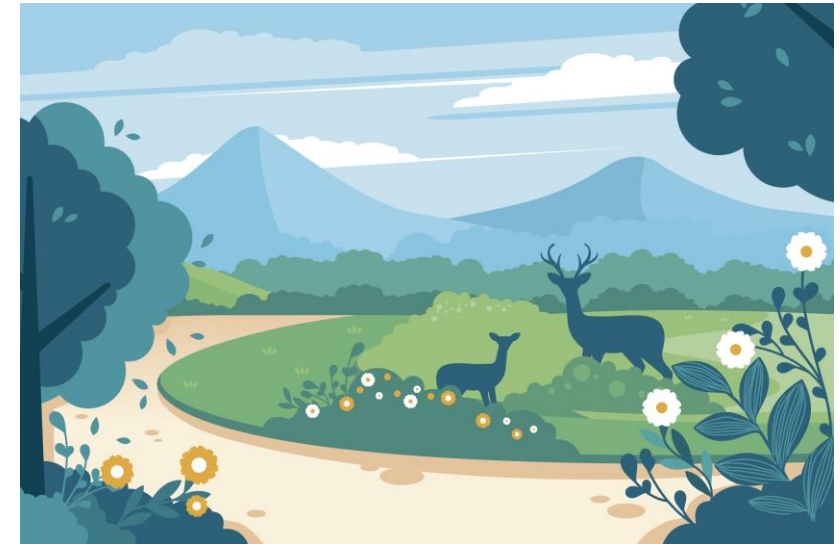


Source: Nature Positive Initiative (<https://www.naturepositive.org/>)

How can transformative change occur? – Transformative governance

What quality is needed for a transformative governance? (e.g. IPBES, 2022)

- **Address the *status quo***
 - *Work on issues and improve the situation*
- **Incorporate diverse values**
 - Consider not only economic values but also other various values in nature
- **Foster institutional change**
 - Modify policies, administration, legislation and institutions to promote sustainable lifestyle
- **Improve the capacities of different actors**
 - Know all the important actors and support them
- **Support integrative-adaptive governance**
 - Keep learning, reflecting, monitoring and feeding back
 - Make sure synergies from different actors and policies
 - Promote the local initiative



How can transformative change occur? – Integrated, Inclusive and Localized actions

- Address the *status quo*
- Incorporate diverse values
- Foster institutional change
- Improve the capacities of different actors
- Support integrative-adaptive governance



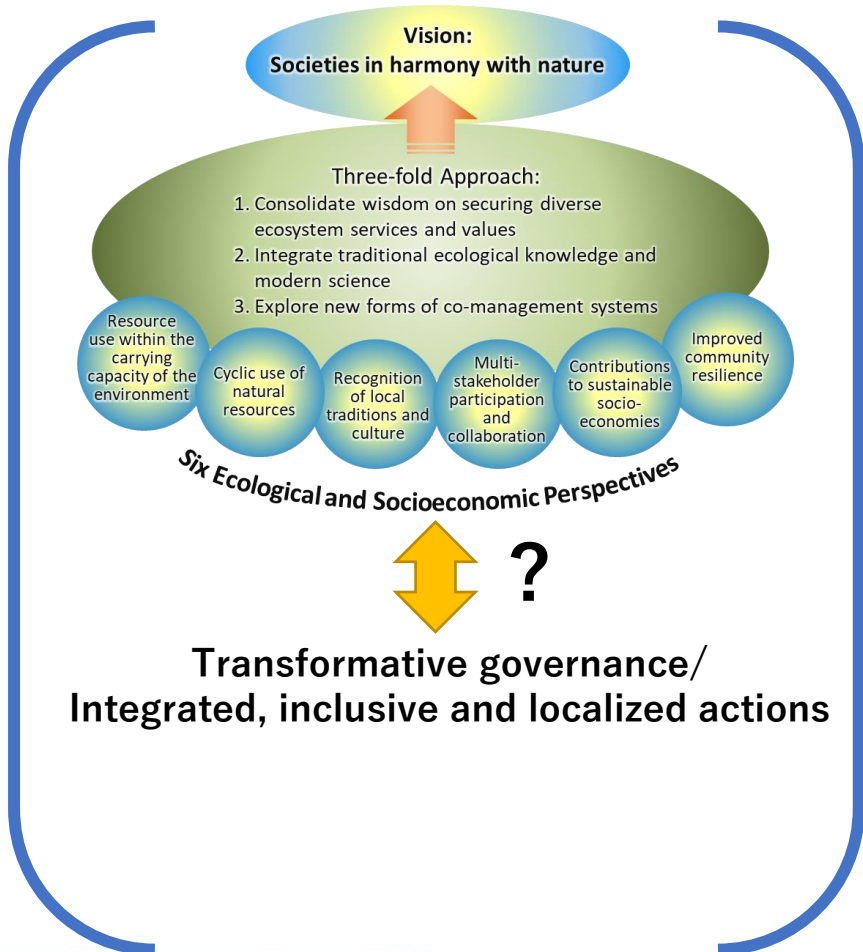
1.Integration: Maximizing synergies and minimizing trade-offs across climate, biodiversity and circular economy are essential to advancing the sustainability agenda.

2.Inclusion: Empowering all actors, including those currently marginalized or disadvantaged, to help shape the future they want can also inject much needed momentum into the sustainability agenda.

3.Localization: Tailoring solutions to relevant contexts can foster ownership of, and support for, the sustainability agenda.

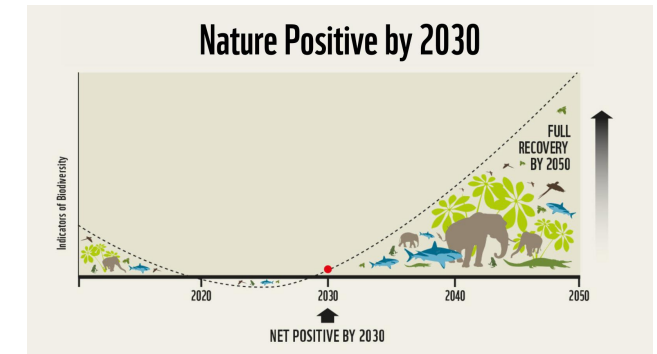
How SEPLS can promote integrated, inclusive and localised actions towards sustainable/nature positive societies?

In theory...



Indirect drivers
Demographic
Sociocultural
Economic
Technological
Institutions and governance
Conflicts and epidemics

Direct drivers
Land-/sea-use change
Direct exploitation of organisms
Climate change
Pollution (of soil, water and air)
Invasive alien species



Cases from the world: SDM2022 implementers

Implementers of SDM 2022 projects:

- Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI), Ethiopia
- Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation(TOAF), Chinese Taipei
- Fundación Semillas de Vida, A.C. (FSVAC), Mexico
- Unnayan Onneshan (UO), Bangladesh
- Social Policy Ecology Research Institute (SPERI), Vietnam (ongoing)

Reports from SDM 2022 implementers

1. **Rashed AL MAHMUD TITUMIR**, Chairperson, Unnayan Onneshan (UO)
2. **Malin JÖNSSON**, Director, Fundacion Semillas de Vida, A.C., Mexico
3. **Alice JJ HSU**, Coordinator, Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation (TXOAF)
4. **Dese Yedeta EDESA**, Researcher, Forest and Rangeland Plants Biodiversity Research, Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI)

Panel discussion

□ **Moderator: MIWA Koji, IGES**

□ **Panelists:**

- **Rashed AL MAHMUD TITUMIR**, Chairperson, Unnayan Onneshan (UO)
- **Malin JÖNSSON**, Director, Fundacion Semillas de Vida, A.C., Mexico
- **Alice JJ HSU**, Coordinator, Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation (TXOAF)
- **Dese Yedeta EDESA**, Researcher, Forest and Rangeland Plants Biodiversity Research, Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI)

Questions

- How useful was the SEPLS approach to promote integrated, inclusive and localized actions?
- What were the major barriers or constraints to achieve the project goal? And what would be the important factors to overcome them?
- What would be the ideal involvement of the business sector for the SEPLS conservation and restoration?
- (If possible, take a few questions from the audience)

Question 1: How useful was the SEPLS approach to promote integrated, inclusive and localized actions?

1.Integration: Maximizing synergies and minimizing trade-offs across climate, biodiversity and circular economy are essential to advancing the sustainability agenda.

2.Inclusion: Empowering all actors, including those currently marginalized or disadvantaged, to help shape the future they want can also inject much needed momentum into the sustainability agenda.

3.Localization: Tailoring solutions to relevant contexts can foster ownership of, and support for, the sustainability agenda.

Transformative governance

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- Incorporate diverse values
- Foster institutional change
- Improve the capacities of different actors
- Support integrative-adaptive governance

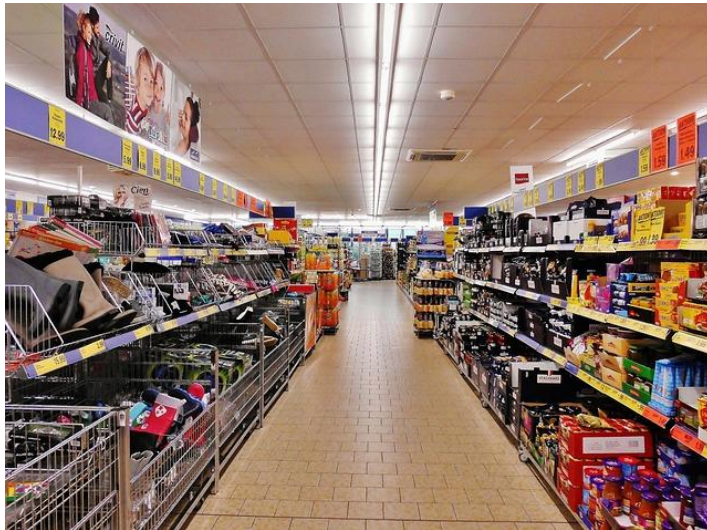


Question 2: What were the major barriers or constraints to achieve the project goal?

And what was/would be the important factors to overcome them?



Question 3: What would be the ideal involvement of the business sector for the SEPLS conservation and restoration?



Question 4: What was the key to encourage the local communities to take actions towards the project goal?



Closing remark

**SUZUKI Wataru, Director, Biodiversity Strategy Office, Ministry of
the Environment, Japan**

ご清聴ありがとうございました。
Thank you very much for your attention.

