The Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM)
2014

SATOYAMA INITIATIVE

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
UNU-IAS
Institute of Advanced Studies

IGES
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

環境省
Ministry of the Environment

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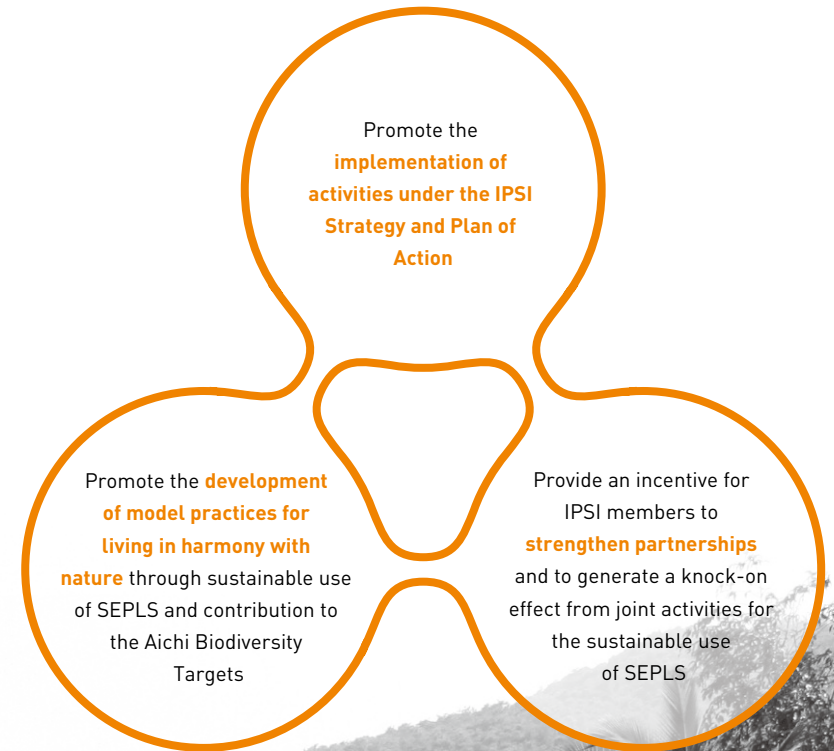
What is the Satoyama Development Mechanism?

Since its launch in October 2010, the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) has been working with its diverse partners to promote the sustainable use of Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) in both developed and developing countries. However, there are barriers to the implementation of such activities on the ground, which are often due to difficulties in securing initial financial investments. Although IPSI is trying to mobilise available resources, many proposed activities have not been implemented due to resource constraints. To address such barriers, the "Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM)" has been 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 of Japan (MOEJ) as a collaborative activity under the framework of IPSI to facilitate further implementation of IPSI activities.

Objectives of the Satoyama Development Mechanism

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 can demonstrate good practices. These activities are expected to contribute to the retention and enhancement of biodiversity in SEPLS for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The 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. Outstanding activities supported under the SDM shall be shared among various stakeholders through the IPSI.

The SDM is thus expected to fulfil the following three objectives:

Promote the **implementation of activities under the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action**

Promote the **development of model practices for living in harmony with nature** through sustainable use of SEPLS and contribution to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Provide an incentive for IPSI members to **strengthen partnerships** and to generate a knock-on effect from joint activities for the sustainable use of SEPLS

Scope of the SDM

Under the Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM), a grant is provided to selected projects to support the 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, 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 these four project types:**

1 Community/field
-based project implementation

2 Research activities

3 Activities to kick-start cooperation among IPSI members, such as holding meetings, workshops, and conferences

4 Activities for building capacity and increasing awareness on IPSI, such as production of educational materials, and dissemination and outreach activities
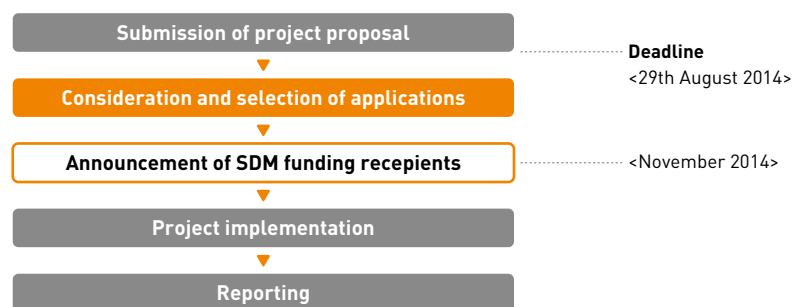
One or two projects are selected under each of these four project types, and are provided with a maximum support of approximately 10,000 USD for their implementation.

To be eligible for funding under SDM, it is a prerequisite that the proposed projects aim to generate tangible outcomes towards changing behaviours and practices for enhancing sustainability, and improving the status of SEPLS.
It is expected that the projects be implemented with good will and a spirit of partnership so that the outcome of the successfully implemented projects can be documented and shared as Good Practices of the IPSI. The SDM Secretariat intends to disseminate information on good practices to facilitate the replication of such successful initiatives.

3 SDM applications

Project selection and implementation process

The applications submitted to the SDM Secretariat are first discussed during an SDM Advisory Meeting, and then a final selection is made at the SDM Board Meeting (please refer to Annex 1 for details).

Submission of project proposal	**Deadline** <29th August 2014>
▼	
Consideration and selection of applications	
▼	
Announcement of SDM funding recepients	<November 2014>
▼	
Project implementation	
▼	
Reporting	

Overview of project applications received in 2014

The SDM 2014 received 18 eligible applications, all of which had presented convincing and promising proposals for the implementation and promotion of the concept of the Satoyama Initiative. Applications were received from a total of 12 countries, representing 5 regions, with a majority of submissions from NGOs as summarised in the following table.

Number of applications	20 (Proposals)	20 (Applicants)
Eligible applications	18 (Proposals)	18 (Applicants)
Region / Country	5 (Regions)	12 (Countries)

Types of organisations	NGO / CBO	Academic / Research institute	Government institution	Intergovernmental institution	Private company
	10	3	3	1	1

A high proportion of the applications targeted community/field-based implementation

or research activities in the Asian region. Out of the four regions represented, a good number of proposals were also from the African region, as seen in the following matrix.

	Community/ field-based implementation	Research activity	Workshops/ conferences/ Meetings	Capacity-building Outreach activity
Africa	4	-	-	1
Americas	-	1	1	-
Asia	3	1	1	2
Europe	-	1	2	-
Pacific	-	-	-	1

Successful applicants were notified by the SDM Secretariat to conclude a Letter of Agreement (LOA) as the basis for project implementation and reporting. The first instalments of the project funds have been disbursed upon the conclusion of the LOA, and the remainder will be disbursed once the Final Reports and Financial Reports have been submitted by the implementing organisations (please refer to Annex 3 for details).

Experience of project selection in 2014

Endorsed as a collaborative activity of IPSI in May 2013, the SDM announced its second call for proposals via email and website in June 2014. The deadline of project submissions was set to 29 August 2014.

Based on a preliminary examination of the applications, an Advisory Meeting and a Board Meeting were held to select the proposals. The final selection of this year's recipients was made based on the SDM Project Selection Criteria, with particular focus on the potential usefulness of projects for other IPSI members in pursuing the sustainable use of SEPLS. The likelihood of achieving outstanding outcomes within the next one to two years, and the ability of proposals to demonstrate a realistic plan within the available funding, were also considered as important criteria. The balance of project types and their geographical distribution were also taken into account in the selection. Projects with potential to generate IPSI Collaborative Activities, or good practices for future up-scaling, were rated highly. Although all proposals had a strong appeal, projects fulfilling the above elements were prioritised (Please refer to Annex 2 for details on Eligibility and the Selection Criteria).

The selected projects were announced by the SDM Secretariat in November 2014.

Past SDM projects

The following table indicates the SDM projects selected to date, as well as their implementation status (details in the SDM 2013 Booklet).

| year	Recipient	Project type	Country	Project title	Status
2013	Nature and Livelihoods (NGO)	2.Research activities	Uganda	Experimenting on production of high value market products from indigenous wild fruits	Ongoing
2013	KAFCOL (Academic/ Research institute)	1.Community/ field-based implementation	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	Complete
2013	IKAP (NGO)	1.Community/ field-based implementation	Thailand	Supporting and Promoting the Karen Indigenous Socio-ecological Production System in Northern Thailand	Complete
2013	SWAN International (NGO)	2.Research activities	Chinese Taipei	Converting pests as allies in tea farming - a potential case of Satoyama landscape in Hualien, Chinese Taipei	Complete
2013	Center Zapovedniks (NGO)	4.Capacity building / Outreach	Russia	Cultural landscapes as vectors for local sustainable development	Complete
2013	Asociación ANDES (NGO)	3.Workshops / Conferences / Meetings	Peru	Hosting the Satoyama Initiative Steering Committee Meeting and Global Conference in 2015	Ongoing

Projects selected in 2014

In 2014, these six projects have been newly selected to receive funding under the SDM. Their highlights are presented in the following sections.

Applicant	Project type	Country	Project title	Region
Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF) (NGO/CBO)	1.Community/ field-based implementation	India	Promoting Green Entrepreneurship for conservation of Satoyama landscapes in the North Western Ghats, India	Asia
A Rocha Ghana (NGO/CBO)	1.Community/ field-based implementation	Ghana	Restoration of Community Sacred Forest to Enhance Socio Ecological Landscape in the Effutu Traditional Area, Ghana	Africa
National Dong-Hwa University (Academic)	1.Community/ field-based implementation	Chinese Taipei	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	Asia
Asociacion Pro Desarrollo Agroindustrial de Camana (APAIC) (NGO/CBO)	2.Research activities	Peru	Evaluation of the biodiversity chain in barren landscape ecosystems restored through reforestation with *Caesalpinea spinosa*, in the southern semiarid coast of Peru	Americas
Landcare Germany (DVL) (NGO/CBO)	3.Workshops / Conferences / Meetings	Romania	Fostering cooperative nature conservation to preserve and develop the cultural landscape (SEPL) in the Carpathian Region of Pogány-havas	Europe
Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP) (Intergovernmental)	4.Capacity building / Outreach	Pacific region	Healthy islands, oceans and people	Pacific

Distribution of past and present SDM projects
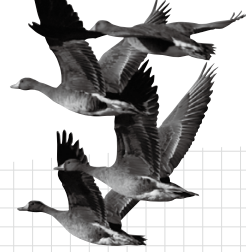
This map indicates the past and present implementation sites of projects selected under the SDM, covering both SDM 2013 and SDM 2014. Through the selection process, various criteria are considered, including a focus on evenly balancing the distribution of projects among the regions of the globe (Please refer to Annex 2 for details on the Selection Criteria).

RUSSIA

ROMANIA

NEPAL

CHINESE TAIPEI

INDIA

THAILAND

GHANA

UGANDA

PERU

PACIFIC REGION

past 6 projects

present 6 projects

INDIA

4-1
Promoting Green Entrepreneurship for conservation of Satoyama landscapes in the North Western Ghats, India — AERF (India)

Project goals and objectives

North Western Ghats is part of the global biodiversity hotspot of the Western Ghats. It is known for its rich cultural and biological diversity. However, in this region the protected area network is sparse and most of the forest areas are owned by communities. The lack of economic incentives and awareness on the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services in providing sustainable livelihoods has resulted in large-scale land use conversion in favour of mono-culture cash crop plantations, loss of biodiversity, and degradation of ecosystem services.

In this context, the project aims to help communities live in harmony with nature through innovative mechanisms to tackle deforestation in socio-ecological production landscapes. The project will target the development of sustainable value chains of high conservation value plant resources, thus creating sustainable income generation opportunities from existing resources, most likely to resonate with aspirations of community members and to contribute to biodiversity conservation.

The project has the following key objectives:

a) To avoid indiscriminate felling of trees through development of sustainable value chains for lesser known and high conservation value plant resources

b) To sensitize local communities on the sustainable use of biodiversity through capacity building

c) To promote sustainable enterprises as a delivery mechanism for biodiversity conservation

Description of project activities

Following activities will be carried out as part of the project.

a) Rapid surveys of high conservation value lesser known plant resources will be carried out in 10 selected villages from the project region to know their conservation status and abundance.

b) Community meetings will be held to understand current uses of these plants and to exchange views on their sustainable use.

c) Market surveys will be conducted to understand the economic potential of these species as well as to know the scope for development of sustainable value chains.

d) A workshop will be conducted with local entrepreneurs to share understanding of market based mechanisms and value chains in biodiversity conservation

e) Sustainable value chain will be developed for at least 2 species from selected target species.

One of the major issues the project is going to address is the low level of awareness about economic benefits associated with sustainable use of biodiversity, and poor capacity at grass-root level for value chain development. In order to measure progress towards the outcomes, pre- and post-project surveys will be carried out with respect to knowledge about the target species and their economic benefits.

Expected outcomes

The outcomes expected from this project are the conservation of important plant resources and their habitats through value addition, supply chain development, and skill building in green entrepreneurship.

The project is expected to result in:

a) Changes in perception about economic benefits associated with sustainable use of biodiversity

b) Higher level of awareness about economic importance of neglected and underutilized species

c) Improved capacity of local community in value addition and supply chain development

d) Case study reports on value chain development and community perception on 2 high conservation value tree species from the Western Ghats.

4-2 Restoration of Community Sacred Forest to Enhance Socio Ecological Landscape in the Effutu Traditional Area, Ghana — A Rocha Ghana (Ghana)

Project goals and objectives

The Effutu traditional area has an age old custom of two groups of traditional warriors catching a live bushbuck with their bare hands from a communal sacred hunting ground for their annual Aboakyir ("deer" hunting) festival. The festival is not only an embodiment of the culture and identity of the people, but also serves as a source of community cohesion. It defines the past, present and future of the Effutu people. The communal sacred forest, which shares borders with the Yenku forest reserve and the Muni-Pomadze Ramsar site, has been designated as hunting grounds for the annual traditional Aboakyir festival.

In 2000, a survey estimated the population of bush bucks in the hunting ground to be 100. Research results in 2006 indicated that the rate of biodiversity decline at the site is increasing due to environmental degradation. In the last three years, neither of the 2 groups have captured a live animal for the annual festival. This confirms that the population of bushbucks has plummeted and could soon become

locally extinct. This has been a matter of great concern for the community and the perpetuation of their cultural heritage, as the extinction of bushbuck signifies the dying-off of an age old festival that unites the Effutu people.

The losses can be attributed to high levels of poaching and habitat degradation, outdated information on underlying causes of biodiversity loss, inadequate awareness of threats, inadequate alternatives to livelihood systems, and weak traditional institutions, norms and laws.

This project therefore seeks to address underlying causes of biodiversity loss in the Effutu traditional area, while enhancing livelihood options through conservation action. The project aims to forestall spillage of resource exploitation into the Muni-Pomadze Ramsar site and the adjoining Yenku forest reserve through the following objectives.

a) To enhance local participation in biodiversity conservation initiatives

b) To create public awareness of the conservation status and biological value of ecosystems

c) To restore a degraded ecological zone.

The project targets traditional authorities, community members, resource users and other relevant stakeholders within government institutions.

Description of project activities

This project has five key activities:

a) Consultative workshops among stakeholders (traditional authorities, local governments, forestry commission and organised resource users) to discuss detailed project activities and implementation plans. Specific roles will be assigned to specific stakeholders.

b) A fauna survey to assess the current population of bushbucks and other fauna within the sacred hunting grounds.

c) Communication Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) campaigns in 10 schools and 7 communities to support traditional authorities in enforcing traditional laws and norms, and to promote the integration of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and modern conservation practices. To reach out beyond the project area, local radio programs will be conducted.

d) Habitat restoration of the hunting grounds with assorted indigenous tree seedlings from a community nursery run by local volunteer staff. Mixed indigenous species will be planted to mimic the natural forest. Individual community members will also be trained in nursery establishment and

management to earn a living. An area of 11.6ha will be replanted with a total of 8,960 seedlings.

e) Training for community members on the production of alternative biomass energy (briquettes) from abundant agricultural residues to reduce fuel wood harvesting from the forest. Briquette production will also serve as an alternative source of livelihood.

Expected outcomes

The project is expected to generate up-to-date scientific data on the current state of resources and future threats in the target area, to increase awareness of threats among the community, to contribute to the reinstitution and enforcement of traditional norms and laws governing resource and biodiversity conservation, as well as to the restoration of degraded areas. The integration of indigenous traditional knowledge and modern conservation approaches in addressing direct threats and underlying causes of biodiversity loss is expected to fill knowledge gaps on the site. A clear boundary demarcation and reforestation of 11.6ha of degraded habitat is expected to contribute to restoring the ecological integrity of the site with expected increase in bushbuck numbers, thus preserving the cultural heritage of the Effutu traditional area. Overall, the project is expected to foster collaborations between relevant stakeholders, traditional authorities and communities.

CHINESE TAIPEI

4-3 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 — National Dong-Hwa University (Chinese Taipei)
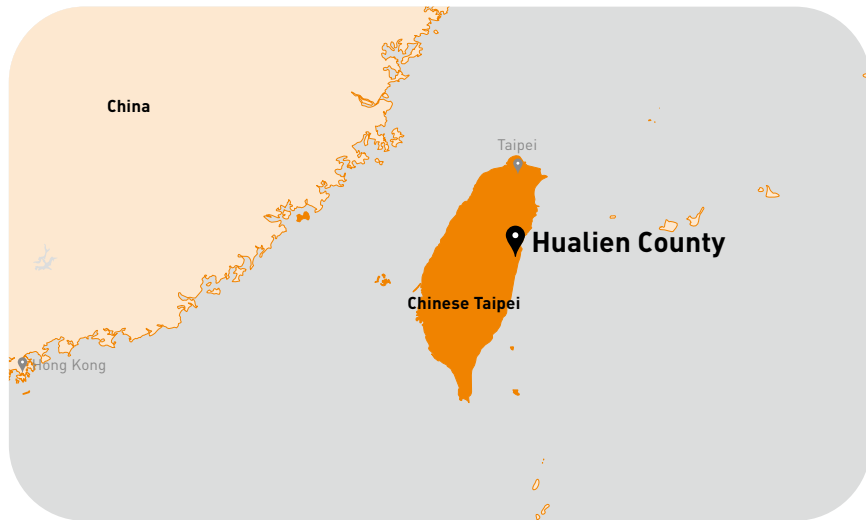
Project goals and objectives

In 2005, the concept of landscape/seascape conservation was introduced into the amended Cultural Heritage Preservation Act of Taiwan as a new legal subject entitled 'Cultural Landscape'. Unlike strictly protected areas, the Cultural Landscape emphasizes the interaction of local people and the land. However, most legally designated cultural landscapes focus on the preservation of historical architecture, and few employ a community-based approach benefitting both local people and their living landscapes. There was also a lack of exemplary cases of collaborative governance for the maintenance of socio-ecological production landscapes in the aging rural areas of Taiwan.

In order to help governmental authorities and local communities to apply this new instrument, a community-based participatory process was introduced in 2011 to enhance partnership among stakeholders in a rice paddy landscape in the indigenous Fengnan Village of Hualien County. Through intense communication,

stakeholders jointly set up a Local Management Committee and designated the site as a Cultural Landscape in 2012. They developed a mid-term Cultural Landscape Management Plan in 2013, and have since continued the stakeholder forums. These experiences have shown that a landscape approach based on the idea of the Satoyama Initiative and the IUCN protected area category V (protected landscapes) can be welcomed by local people and add a new dimension to Taiwan's national protected area system.

Based on this example of multi-stakeholder Cultural Landscape management, this project aims to analyse the processes and outcomes of tailoring Satoyama Initiative concepts to national and local contexts, and to help continue the stakeholder forums for the revitalization of socio-ecological production landscapes in the model area.

The project has two objectives:

a) To explore to what extent the Satoyama Initiative framework can fit into the management plan of the rural cultural landscape

b) To explore what contribution a collaborative planning approach can make to reach consensus among different stakeholders in planning and management of socio-ecological-production landscapes

Through these considerations, this project will seek to develop a feasible way of enhancing the government-facilitator-community interaction for the revitalization of the socio-ecological production landscapes.

Description of project activities

This project has two key activities:

a) Policy Research

The project will explore a landscape and participatory approach to incorporating the three-fold approach of the Satoyama Initiative into Cultural Landscape designation and management under the 2005 amendment of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Act of Taiwan. The project will analyse the processes and outcomes of the activities conducted in 2011–2015 to tailor Satoyama Initiative concepts to national and local contexts. The proposed project aims to create a new 'living landscape' type of protected area, equivalent to IUCN category V, through a collaborative planning process.

b) On-the-Ground Activities

An indigenous Amis tribe, Cihalaay, of Fengnan village and the surrounding production landscape in eastern rural Taiwan is chosen as the case study area. Various formal and informal forums have been conducted from 2011

to 2014 to achieve consensus on the Codes of Conduct and the Management Plan of the rice paddy Cultural Landscape. The project aims to help continue the stakeholder forums and local actions for landscape revitalization in 2015. Seasonal formal stakeholder partnership platform meetings will be facilitated by the research team in the village to help stakeholders implement tasks and review the progress of the Management Plan in 2013-2015.

Expected outcomes

The project is expected to distil lessons on tailoring the three-fold approach of the Satoyama Initiative to a national planning system, and on incorporating the framework into the designation of rural Cultural Landscapes and their Management Plan under the 2005 amendment of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Act of Taiwan. The project is also expected to propose a collaborative framework for local stakeholder participation. The theoretical concepts, steps of actions, analysis of processes and evaluation of outcomes for stakeholder participation in the planning and management of the case study area will be presented. Key elements of the framework include: steps of participatory planning, mutually beneficial linkages between local communities and local authorities, a framework for enhancing dialogue between local communities and local authorities with the help of facilitators, principles for design and operation of a stakeholder partnership platform, and a structure of a SEPL Management Plan.

4-4 Evaluation of the biodiversity chain in barren landscape ecosystems restored through reforestation with *Caesalpinea spinosa*, in the southern semiarid coast of Peru — APAIC (Peru)

Project goals and objectives

The poor ecological status and socio-economic conditions of the coastal areas of Camana are highly representative of the degraded semiarid and sub-humid tropical zones of Peru, where it is necessary to develop alternative social, economic and environmental activities adapted to water scarcity, in order to support the restoration of degraded ecosystems and to improve the living conditions of the rural population.

Based on the experiences and results from two previous restoration projects in the semiarid coastal ecosystems in Peru, this project aims to evaluate their results and impacts by examining the biodiversity chain (water, soil, flora and fauna), generated from the new ecosystem after the reforestation with *Caesalpinea spinosa* (*tara*).

The objectives of the project are the following.

a) To conduct a general assessment of the current status of the environmental

conditions and biodiversity chain, after 6 years of reforestation on degraded semi-arid ecosystems

b) To contribute to the development of a national program of restoration/ rehabilitation of degraded landscapes on the Peruvian coast, as a strategy for climate change mitigation and improvement of the living conditions of the rural population

Description of project activities

This project has five key activities:

a) **Systematize the information currently available**
The background data on the project site and on the restoration measures taken in the past will be organised and compiled.

b) **Rapid rural appraisal**
An evaluation will be conducted with the participation of the stakeholders and public institutions on the restoration of degraded landscapes in arid and semiarid coastal zones and its impacts to the local populations.

c) **Controls and field measurements: water, soil, flora, fauna**
The current status of the environmental conditions and biodiversity will be assessed to determine the changes since the reforestation with *Caesalpinea spinosa* conducted 6 years ago.

d) **Laboratory analysis and data processing**
Laboratory analysis will be conducted to produce solid evidence and scientific arguments to evaluate the impact of landscapes restoration activities.

e) **Reporting and preparation of outputs**
The final report on project activities will be compiled and submitted to the SDM Secretariat, and the general guidelines for restoration of degraded landscapes in the semiarid region of Peru will be elaborated as a final product of the project.

Expected outcomes

Students of the Forest Faculty of the Agrarian University, Lima-Peru, will participate in this study, and are expected to report their observations, analysis, discussions and results, constituting the core of their graduate theses. Through this project, data will be compiled on the various stages of restoration of degraded ecosystems in semi-arid regions together with the results of rural appraisals. This information will also serve the stakeholders in the field to improve their practices for restoration of degraded ecosystems and their livelihood. The results of the project are expected to contribute to enhancing the participation of stakeholders and public institutions in the restoration of degraded landscapes in arid and semiarid zones. Through an agreement between APAIC and the Ministry of Agriculture of Peru, the results of this project will also be used to formulate the general guidelines for restoration of degraded landscapes in the semiarid region of Peru.

1 year plantation

Dense tara vegetation

ROMANIA

4–5 Fostering cooperative nature conservation to preserve and develop the cultural landscape (SEPL) in the Carpathian Region of Pogány-havas — DVL (Romania)

Project goals and objectives

DVL and all Landcare Associations in Germany have been working for over 20 years in the field of SEPL management through cooperation among nature conservationists, land users and local authorities to protect and develop cultural landscapes for the benefit for man and nature. Pogány-havas Regional Association (PHRA) was founded in 1999 in Romania with very similar intentions and members from different stakeholder groups. However, the Association is missing cooperative structures in the region to preserve traditional farm management. Farm abandonment and land use change, as well as challenges arising from the entry into the European Union, are threatening their SEPLs.

Both Romania and Germany have species-rich mountain areas which are threatened due to under-valuation, and it is important to exchange ideas for their preservation and sustainable use. The goal of the project is thus to develop a partnership between DVL and the PHRA in order to exchange experiences and knowledge on cooperative management of cultural landscapes. Experiences will be shared on the process of integrating stakeholder groups, jointly developing local socio-ecological production landscapes with land users, implementing European directives and funding mechanisms, as well as exchanging knowledge on the cultivation of mountain meadows and mountain grazing grounds.

The objectives of the project are to foster local cooperative structures to:

a) Find common solutions for the described challenges,

b) Keep rural areas alive, and to

c) Protect the cultural landscapes and its biodiversity.

Description of project activities

This project has five key activities.

a) **Visit from DVL to PHRA**

DVL will organise a 1 week visit by a member of DVL and an expert from a local Landcare Association to PHRA in Romania in order to specify details of activities in the region, discuss useful funding schemes, identify active stakeholders, and define administration requirements.

b) **Training of PHRA in Germany**

DVL will organise a 1 week training of PHRA in Germany. Field trips and discussions with an expert from a local Landcare Association will be held to exchange knowledge on management and organization of a Landcare Association and on important working fields, as well as to explore solutions for common challenges in mountain meadow/pasture management.

c) **Workshop in Romania**

Another 1 week visit will be organised by DVL and an expert from a Landcare Association in Romania to hold consultations and discussions with local stakeholders, and to organise a final workshop based on preliminary results and impacts from previous activities.

d) **International conference on SEPLs**

DVL will organize an international conference on SEPLs and the management of extensive grasslands in mountain regions in Europe.

e) **Result compilation**

The final results of the project, including the process to set up cooperative structures to preserve cultural landscapes, experiences on project and financial management will be compiled and reported to the SDM Secretariat.

Expected outcomes

This project is expected to establish a cooperative structure for nature conservation through preservation and development of cultural landscapes (=SEPLs) for the benefit of man and nature in the target area. Stakeholder groups are expected to work together to find common solutions for the maintenance of production landscapes and a good quality of life for the local people. The establishment of trust as a basis of such cooperative structures would require time, and therefore the intention of this project is to "kick-start" partnerships in the region. The process of developing cooperation will be documented to allow other stakeholders to apply the knowledge to preserve their SEPLs. An international conference is also expected to foster the exchange of expertise on the management of mountain meadows and pastures among experts and stakeholders. The transferred knowledge would also help other remote areas in Romania to develop and maintain their SEPLs.

PACIFIC REGION

4-6

Healthy islands, oceans and people — SPREP (Pacific region)

Project goals and objectives

The landscapes and seascapes of the Pacific region have a unique composition of small terrestrial island ecosystems and large seascapes, and are highly vulnerable to disturbance. The livelihoods and health of the communities of the Small Island Developing States are closely linked to the condition of their ecosystems, but they face challenges of limited resources and capacity.

Based on recommendations arising from the Rapid Biodiversity Assessments (BIORAPs) recently undertaken in Samoa, Nauru and Tonga, this project will develop a suite of tools to increase awareness of the intrinsic values of biodiversity in the Pacific Islands, and to guide activities for the sustainable use of its landscapes and seascapes. The tools will be designed specifically for the Pacific region to raise awareness and promote the concepts, principles and benefits of the Satoyama Initiative, and to assist in addressing key recommendations from the BIORAPs, as well as National Strategies and Action

Plans, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

This project will be implemented under the following objectives.

a) Develop a suite of Biodiversity tools, including case studies of the unique Pacific Island region, to increase awareness and capacity in the region's socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes.

b) Develop these tools and associated information in a practical and relevant format for use by decision-makers ranging from Government to local communities.

c) Improve awareness of decision-makers to support the implementation of national, regional and international action plans and frameworks, and to address underlying causes of biodiversity decline, as well as associated decline in socio-economic services.

d) Build the capacity of resource owners/managers and communities in planning and implementing measures to protect and manage ecosystems in a manner that sustains biodiversity and livelihoods.

e) Encourage planning and decision-making that combines traditional and scientific knowledge.

f) Raise awareness of IPSI and the Satoyama Initiative at meetings, conferences, and workshops across SPREP member countries.

Description of project activities

This project has four key activities:

a) **Needs assessment of information and awareness-raising tools**

An assessment will be conducted to identify the needs for information and tools for promoting awareness and increasing capacity to live in harmony with nature. This will involve consultation with stakeholders and regional experts. The services of an environmental communications consultant will be engaged to assist in planning a suite of relevant and effective tools.

b) **Developing and designing a suite of Pacific Island biodiversity tools**

The text for the suite of biodiversity tools will be drafted and key messages and concepts will be compiled for developing diagrams. A designer will develop the look and feel for the tools, and produce a final set of products to be printed and uploaded online.

c) **Application and dissemination of the suite of biodiversity tools**

The suite of biodiversity tools will be integrated into SPREP's biodiversity projects, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities. The suite of tools will be utilized, in collaboration with partners and member countries, across a wide range of projects including the Program of Work for Protected Areas under the CBD, the Pacific Islands Protected Areas Portal, the Biodiversity Observatory, the Pacific Environment Information Network, BIORAPS capacity building workshops, etc.

d) **Collection of feedback**

SPREP will undertake a survey of stakeholders to gain insight into their awareness of the suite of biodiversity tools and IPSI following completion of the project. Feedback and comments will be collected on the tools, as well as suggestions for additional tools.

Expected outcomes

As a result of this project, a suite of biodiversity tools, including case studies, will be produced to increase awareness and guide activities within Pacific Island SEPLS. These tools are expected to make knowledge and information widely accessible for decision-makers and other stakeholders in a relevant, interesting and action oriented format. It is expected to serve as an essential support tool for catalysing stakeholder and community involvement when partnered with the regional capacity building activities and projects undertaken by SPREP to enhance the ability of Pacific Island member countries to implement national, regional and international action plans and agreements on biodiversity.

5

Evaluation and Expected Outcomes

Funding recipients under the SDM are responsible for providing project reports, and the final project results will be evaluated following a set of criteria including the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability of the implemented project. The results of the six projects selected in 2014 will also be gathered in the following year and evaluated according to these criteria.

Criteria on **Relevance** will measure the appropriateness of the project approach and design in terms of fulfilling the objectives of the SDM, **Effectiveness** will measure the extent to which the project objectives have been met, **Efficiency** will measure the achievement of the project objectives against the planned financial inputs and timeframe, and finally the **Sustainability** of the project will measure the continuity of activities after the project implementation. (More details on the evaluation of project implementation can be found in Annex 3, or on the SDM website.)

Outcomes of successfully implemented projects will be documented and shared as good practices within and beyond the IPSI network in order to facilitate the further replication of such successful initiatives.

Annex 1.
Governance of the SDM

The SDM is governed by three entities, the Executive Board, the Advisory Group, and the SDM Secretariat.

Executive Board

The Executive Board is the decision-making entity responsible for the implementation of the SDM, including the selection of projects, the review and evaluation of achievements, and dissemination of information on the SDM. It is composed of the following organisations:
- **Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)**
- **United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)**
- **Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).**

Advisory Group

The Advisory Group provides advice on the design of the SDM, on the relevance of SDM to the IPSI Strategy, and on the compilation and dissemination of SDM outcomes. The following members of the Advisory Group have been appointed by the Executive Board.
- **IPSI members with relevant experience and qualification in similar grant management and activities of the CBD, and**
- **the Chair of the IPSI Steering Committee.**

SDM Secretariat

The SDM is operated by the SDM Secretariat, which is composed of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) together with the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS).
The SDM Secretariat is responsible for:
- **Coordinating the selection process of the SDM projects,**

- **Concluding a contract with the selected project implementing organisations,**
- **Channelling SDM funding to the project implementing organisations,**
- **Following-up on the monitoring and evaluation of project implementation,**
- **Accumulating knowledge from the implemented projects, and**
- **Reporting on the above activities to the Executive Board.**
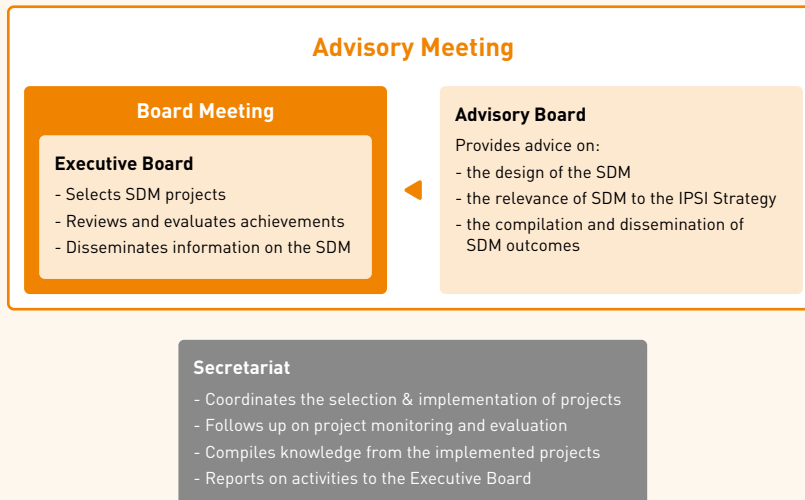
SDM Meetings

Meetings consist of two separate elements, namely Board Meetings and Advisory Meetings chaired by UNU-IAS.

1) Board Meetings

Board Meetings are convened at the request of the ISI Programme Director as the Chair, and can be conducted in-person, or virtually using electronic means if needed.

2) Advisory Meetings

The Advisory Meetings are convened back to back with IPSI-related events and at the request of the ISI Programme Director as Chair of the Executive Board. They can be held in-person or virtually using electronic means if needed.

Advisory Meeting

Board Meeting

Executive Board
- Selects SDM projects
- Reviews and evaluates achievements
- Disseminates information on the SDM

Advisory Board

Provides advice on:
- the design of the SDM
- the relevance of SDM to the IPSI Strategy
- the compilation and dissemination of SDM outcomes

Secretariat
- Coordinates the selection & implementation of projects
- Follows up on project monitoring and evaluation
- Compiles knowledge from the implemented projects
- Reports on activities to the Executive Board

Eligibility criteria for applicants

The consideration of proposals submitted to the SDM Secretariat will follow a step by step assessment against the Eligibility criteria, the Screening criteria, and the Prioritisation criteria before the final set of projects is selected.
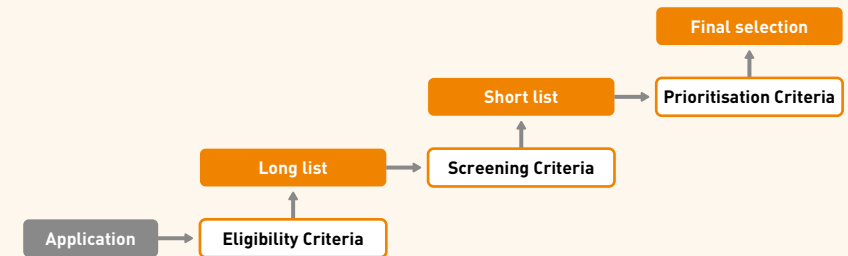
Applicants satisfying the conditions outlined below will be eligible to apply for the SDM funding.

Eligibility criteria	
1	The applicant is an approved member of the IPSI at the date of submission of the project proposal to the SDM Secretariat.
2	The applicant has agreed to act as focal point of the proposed project to be contacted by the SDM Secretariat, in case of joint proposals between IPSI members.
3	The applicant has demonstrated sufficient institutional capability to implement the proposed project.
4	The applicant has demonstrated sufficient English proficiency to deliver a good project report.
5	The applicant is not a member of either the Advisory Group or the Executive Board of the SDM.
6	Any applicant that makes an unequivocally false presentation of him/herself or his/her organisation will be excluded from the SDM.

Screening criteria

Project proposals demonstrating a high relevance to the concept of the Satoyama Initiative, and responding to critical elements required in the designated project proposal format in a concise and convincing manner will be eligible for the SDM funding. Only projects with a duration of less than 24 months will be considered. Project proposals will be assessed against the following Screening criteria and Prioritisation criteria in order to select the final SDM funding recipients.

A	Relevance
1	The contents of the proposed project address **critical needs** of local communities or issues of international concern such as **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**.
2	The proposal addresses the Strategic Objectives outlined in the **IPSI Strategy**, and/or contributes to the five IPSI Activity Clusters.
3	The proposed project is likely to foster **good practices** and provide lessons that will be useful for IPSI members and applicable to other SEPLS.
4	The proposed project fosters concrete **collaborations** between IPSI members.
B	**Effectiveness**
5	The proposal outlines concrete **outcomes and outputs** of the project, and defines the process and mechanisms for promoting **key stakeholders' engagement** in the project implementation.
6	The proposed project demonstrates **cost effectiveness** through efforts to achieve maximum impact with the available resources.
C	**Feasibility**
7	The proposal presents **realistic** project components and implementation plans for achieving project objectives under the proposed **timeframe**.
8	The project proposal demonstrates appropriate **implementation capacity**, with detailed institutional roles and modalities, and a reliable financial plan, including other sources of funding.
D	**Sustainability**
9	The implementing organisation has properly identified measures for **mitigating** possible **risks** that may emerge in the project implementation process.
10	The project proposal intends to establish **self-reliant operating mechanisms** for the continuation of project activities, and/or the activities promoted under the project are likely to generate a positive **knock-on effect** after the cessation of SDM funding.

Prioritisation criteria

In addition to the assessment of individual project proposals, the following aspects will be considered in finalising the shortlist.

1	Facilitating IPSI Collaborative Activities
a	Priority will be given to collaborative activities that have already been endorsed under the framework of IPSI, or to proposals that will lead to the formulation of new collaborative activities.
2	**Consideration for geographical and thematic balance**
a	The geographical balance of project sites and implementing organisation locations will be taken into consideration in the selection of recipients.
b	Priority may be given to projects targeting underrepresented regions, sectors, IPSI clusters, and any other issues worth highlighting through the SDM.
c	Priority will be given to developing countries to support their community-driven activities, but developed countries shall not be excluded.
d	The distribution of the types of projects described under the scope of the SDM may be taken into account in the selection of recipients.
3	**Consideration for wide distribution of funding to IPSI members**
a	Priority will be given to project proposals from applicants who have not been previously selected as recipients of the SDM funding.
4	**Consideration for important funding needs**
a	Priority will be given to project proposals that have demonstrated a strong need for support from the SDM.

Annex 3.
Monitoring and reporting process

Monitoring and reporting will be required to produce useful knowledge on IPSI activities. The compiled information will be shared among IPSI members as a collective resource for future activities.

Funding recipients are responsible for providing project reports. If a project is conducted by multiple IPSI members, one of the organisations must be designated as a focal point for facilitating the project's implementation and to provide reports to the SDM Secretariat.

The monitoring and reporting process will differ according to the type of project implemented.

	① Community-based activities for field implementation	② Research activities	③ Meetings, workshops, & conferences	④ Production of educational materials, dissemination and outreach activities
Implementation plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
1st Fund disbursement	**70%**	**70%**	**70%**	**70%**
Progress report (depending on the duration of activities)	✓	✓		
Final report (self-evaluation)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial report	✓	✓	✓	✓
2nd Fund disbursement	**30%**	**30%**	**30%**	**30%**

① Community-based activities for field implementation

Based on the implementation plan, a progress report must be submitted to the SDM Secretariat upon reaching the middle term of project duration. The project implementing organisation assumes primary responsibility for preparing reports for submission to the SDM Secretariat based on self-evaluation. The final report should cover the evaluation criteria elaborated below with benchmarks and measurable indicators through field observation, collection of documentation, consultative meetings, stakeholder interviews, and other means. A project must be complete with the proposed budget to showcase the achievement with a definite fund and be a model of future projects.

② Research activities

Based on the implementation plan, a progress report must be submitted to the SDM Secretariat upon reaching the middle term of project duration. Apart from research outputs, the implementing organisation is responsible for submitting a final report based on self-evaluation following the evaluation criteria elaborated below. Research activities must also be completed with the proposed budget to showcase the achievement with a definite fund and be a model of future projects.

③ Meetings, workshops, and conferences and ④ Production of educational materials, dissemination and outreach activities

Based on the implementation plan, the implementing organisation shall conduct scheduled activities to organise meetings, workshops, or conferences, to produce educational materials, or to undertake dissemination and outreach events. Upon completion of the activities, the implementing organisation must conduct a self-evaluation using the evaluation criteria elaborated below based on the outcomes, such as participant statistics, stakeholder feedbacks, scale of output dissemination, etc., and submit a final report to the SDM Secretariat.

A	**[Relevance]** will measure the appropriateness of the project approach and design in terms of fulfilling the objectives of the SDM by focussing on the following aspects.
1	How the project responded to the needs of the target group / target area.
2	Whether the project addressed the Strategic Objectives of the IPSI Strategy.
3	Whether the project demonstrated any good/model practices for future IPSI activities.
4	Whether the project resulted in enhanced collaborations between IPSI members.
B	**[Effectiveness]** will measure the extent to which the project objectives have been met, through the following considerations.
5	Whether the project achieved the initial project objectives.
6	The extent of environmental and socio-economic impacts made by the project.
C	**[Efficiency]** will measure the achievement of the project objectives against the planned financial inputs and timeframe through the following points.
7	Whether the project has been completed within the planned budget.
8	Whether the project has progressed following the planned timeframe and modality.
D	**[Sustainability]** of the project will measure the continuity after the project implementation by examining the following points.
9	Whether the project faced any obstacles to its completion, and how they were overcome.
10	What mechanisms/funding/partnerships could be harnessed for the wider dissemination of project experiences/lessons beyond the SDM project period.