

Ref.: SCBD/STTM/JM/VA/69356

04 November 2009

NOTIFICATION

Voluntary contribution to the collection of examples of sustainable natural resources management in landscapes like *satoyama*

Dear Madam/Sir,

The Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOE-J) and the United Nations University – Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, are collating case studies on sustainable natural resources management as part of the in-depth review of work on sustainable use in preparation for the 14th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-14) and the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-10). The case studies will be published in a special volume of the CBD Technical Series and will be released in January 2010.

I hereby invite you to submit at your earliest convenience but **no later than 15 December 2009**, case studies describing sustainable natural resources management in mixed landscapes consisting of agricultural lands, forests, grazing land, wetlands, water reservoirs and rural communities, referred to as *satoyama* landscapes in Japan and found in many places in the world under different names. You may also wish to encourage submissions from other relevant organisations in your respective countries. The attached guidelines provide a framework that will facilitate the analysis of commonalities and differences among the management types.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: SBSTTA Focal Points

GUIDELINES FOR CASE STUDIES

What should be the focus of the case studies?

Management, functioning and importance of *satoyama* and similar landscapes

Satoyama landscape is a traditional Japanese socio-ecological production landscape and an example of multi-functional land use wherein residents employ agricultural practices and natural resource management techniques that optimize the benefits derived from the local ecosystem. The resulting products, including food and fuel, help safeguard the community against poverty. This is accomplished without degrading land, water or other resources, and while providing habitats for wildlife. Thus the community can enjoy long-term economic and agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner. Typical *satoyama* landscapes consist of secondary woodlands usually in mountainous areas, agricultural lands, wetlands with paddy fields, secondary grasslands that can include pastures for livestock and rural settlements. All these features are functionally linked. *Satoyama* landscapes are significant in terms of biodiversity richness, sustainable productive activities and social coherence. They have historically provided a wide range of ecosystem services.

Similar landscapes can be found in many parts of the world. They bear different names such as *muyong*, *uma* and *payoh* in the Philippines, *mauel* in the Republic of Korea, *chitemene* (shifting cultivation) in Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia, *sehesa* (silvopastoralism) in Spain, mixed farming systems including agroforestry and livestock etc. Such multi-functional land and ecosystem use, which relies on traditional knowledge and requires concerted actions among villagers, has long been practised in various countries by peoples leading lives centred on agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fishing. These landscapes like *satoyama* have sustained millions of people for thousands of years. Yet with the various forces of modernization and urbanization, such practices have been increasingly undermined or abandoned, and many landscapes that were under sustainable management have lost their integrity and become degraded, and the corresponding communities weakened.

In recognition of the potential inherent in socio-ecological production landscapes for optimizing ecosystem services and human well-being in a sustainable manner while also conserving biodiversity, the Government of Japan organised some consultations in the Asia region and is planning to hold an international consultation with representatives from all the UN regions in January 2010 before launching at COP10 an initiative called “**Satoyama Initiative – Advancing socio-ecological production systems for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being.**” (www.satoyama-initiative.org). The overall objective of the Initiative is to revitalize and promote the sustainable management of *satoyama* and similar landscapes by forging common strategies and cooperative frameworks. The portal of the initiative is accessible. The initiative is meant to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention especially conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components through the application of the ecosystem approach, the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for sustainable use of biodiversity, and other tools adopted by the CBD in a holistic manner. It is contemplated that the initiative would become one of the tools for the implementation of the post 2010 Strategic Plan of the Convention.

What are the elements that should be included in the case studies?

In order to collect comparable information on *satoyama* and similar landscapes from every part of the world, it is advisable (but not compulsory) that case studies contain, as much as possible, information addressing the following:

1. *Provide an overview of the study area.*

- (a) Geographical outline: name of the country, region and place, latitude and longitude, map of the target region, geographical inter-linkages among natural wilderness landscape, cities, and other types of landscapes
- (b) Socio-cultural background: population, population trends, ethnic groups, religion, history
- (c) Public services available to the population (water, sanitation, health, education etc.)
- (d) Natural environment: topography, altitude, climate, vegetation, soil.
- (e) Biodiversity and ecosystems: species that are closely linked with or considered important for the utilization and management of natural resources, species that are particularly valuable or are threatened with extinction and their characteristics, recent biodiversity-related changes and reasons for such changes.
- (f) Local economies: major industries, livelihoods, including data or estimates on production
- (g) Main stakeholders and agencies that are affiliated with projects: government, experts, NGOs etc.
- (h) Main process of decision-making in the formal (political system) and traditional systems, including the role of women and elderly.

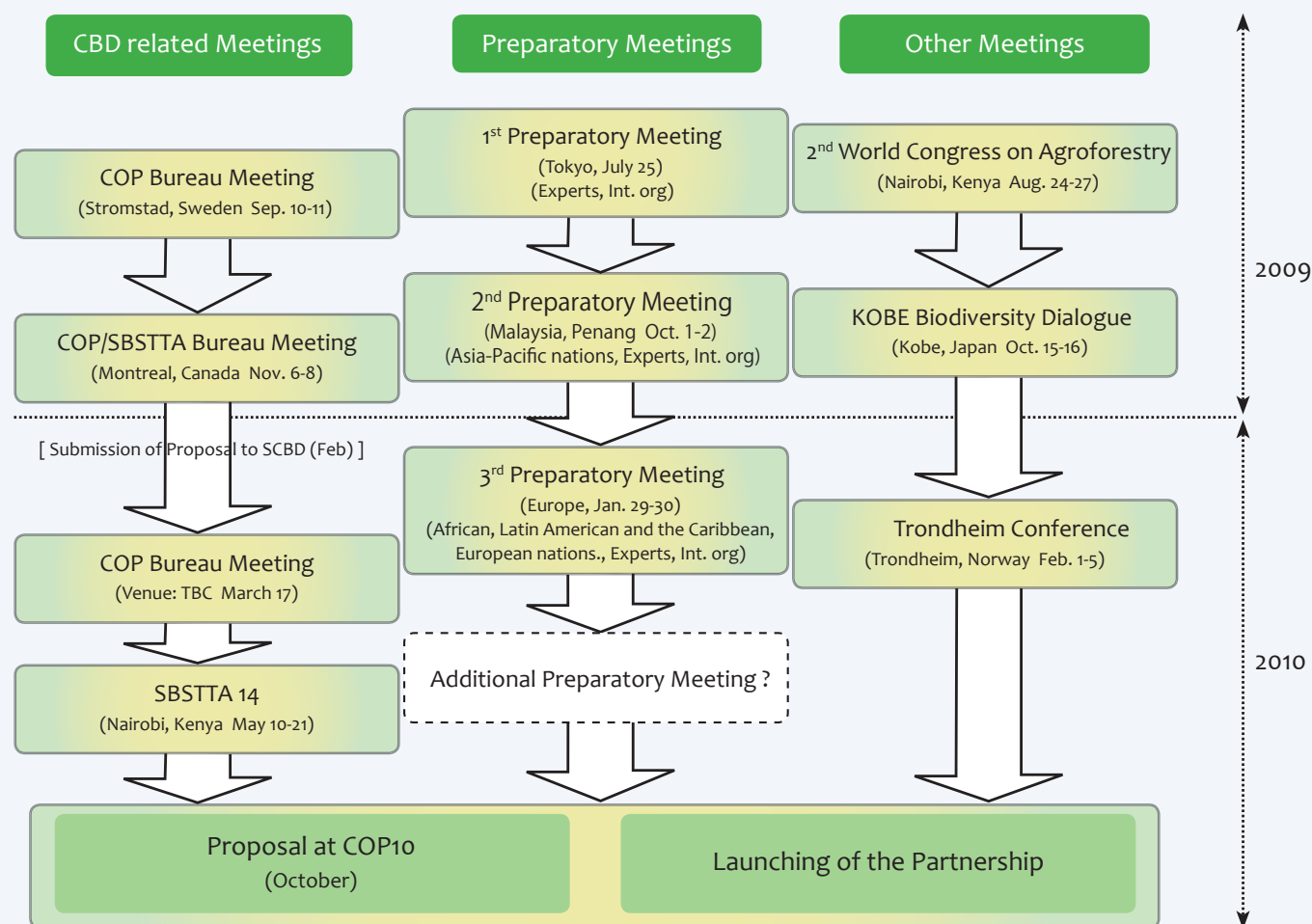
2. Describe the land utilization and natural resource management in the study area by considering the following questions:

- (a) What have been performed to understand the features of the landscape and to assess the carrying capacity and resilience of the natural environment of the study area?
 - (i) What kind of ecosystems in the study area and the ecosystem services derived from them?
 - What is the state of the carrying capacity/resilience of the study area?
 - (ii) What are the positive/ negative impacts of resources utilization and management schemes on biodiversity or ecosystem of the site?
- (b) How have the traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and practices in the study area been integrated with modern scientific knowledge?
 - (i) What are the TEK and practices which have been maintained and employed in the land utilization and natural resource management?
 - (ii) Are these TEK and practices being understood as rationale?
 - (iii) Are there any TEK and practices being re-introduced into modern practice and why have they been introduced?
 - (iv) -Are there any specific techniques which integrate TEK and modern scientific techniques/knowledge?
 - (v) How are TEK and practices being passed down to the next generation?
 - (vi) Are there any new methods on land utilization and natural resource management being introduced from outside the study area? How were they introduced and suited to local conditions and needs?
- (c) What are the existing planning activities for the purpose of optimizing ecosystem services in the study area?
 - (i) What are the types of land use/management techniques? (e.g., land use adapted to natural characteristics of the land, such as topography, soil, climate *etc.*, land use system which enables natural resource reuse and recycling, multi-layered and mosaic pattern land use system *etc.*)
- (d) How is the participation of various stakeholders in land utilization and natural resource management in the study area?
 - (i) What kind of decision making process being employed with regard to land utilization and natural resource management?

- (ii) Are there any mechanisms dealing with land ownership which enhance sustainable land utilization and natural resource management?
 - (iii) Are there any community based mechanisms which enhance sustainable land utilization and natural resource management?
 - (iv) Are there any mechanisms for sharing benefits and burdens associated with land utilization and natural resource management among various stakeholders beyond the community?
- (e) How have the practices of sustainable land utilization and natural resource management in the study area contributed to human well-being? (e.g. improvement of livelihoods of local indigenous communities, resolving of food security, poverty reduction, coping with energy and global warming related issues *etc.*)
- (i) What are the specific activities which contribute to the improvement of human-well being in the study area? (e.g., ecotourism, biomass resource use, crop certification schemes, farm fresh)

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Time-line of the Satoyama Initiative Preparation



SATOYAMA INITIATIVE

Advancing socio-ecological production systems for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being

What is Satoyama landscape?

Satoyama landscape refers to multi-functional land use found in traditional rural Japan, where residents employ agricultural practices and natural resource management techniques based on socio-ecological production systems, which optimize the benefits derived from the local ecosystems. The resulting products, including food and fuel, help safeguard the community against poverty. This is accomplished without degrading the land, water or other resources, while providing habitats for wildlife. Thus the community can enjoy long-term economic and agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner.

Similar landscapes can also be found in various parts of the world under various local terms, such as *muyong* in the Philippines, *kebun* in Indonesia and Malaysia, *mauel* in Korea, *dehesa* in Spain, *chitemene* in Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. Such multi-functional land use relies on traditional knowledge and requires concerted actions among villagers centred on agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery. These landscapes, which have sustained the livelihoods of people for thousands of years are increasingly under various pressures, such as urban expansion and migration, population growth and diminishment, leaving these ecosystems in a state of decline both areally and functionally. Therefore, the re-acknowledgement of the socio-ecological production values of these landscapes throughout the world and their contributions to biodiversity conservation and human well-being becomes an urgent task.

The Initiative

The Satoyama Initiative is a global effort led by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies. In recognition of the potential inherent in socio-ecological production systems for optimizing ecosystem services and human well-being in a sustainable manner while also conserving biodiversity, the Satoyama Initiative aims to help evaluate the landscape and promote the revival and amelioration of the mechanisms for managing such landscapes. The Initiative can help achieve the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), especially “Conservation of Biodiversity” and “Sustainable Use of Biodiversity”. In order for the Initiative to achieve maximum impact globally, it will be officially proposed at the CBD’s Tenth Conference of the Parties (COP 10) in 2010 and incorporated into Convention-related activities.



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Printed in November, 2009





kebun landscape in the Republic of Indonesia

Vision

The key components of the Initiative's vision are the consolidation of wisdom on the sustainable use, reuse and recycling of natural resources and harmonious co-existence between nature and human society, the integration of traditional ecological knowledge with modern science, and the creation of a new commons, linking the communities and ecosystems in which they live and derive the benefits for human well-being.

This vision supports socio-ecological production systems through which communities are enabled to tackle food and fuel crises and augment their economic and social resiliency, thereby reducing poverty and aiding human development.

Initiative's Threefold Vision

Consolidation of wisdom on the sustainable use, reuse and recycling of natural resources and harmonious co-existence between nature and human society

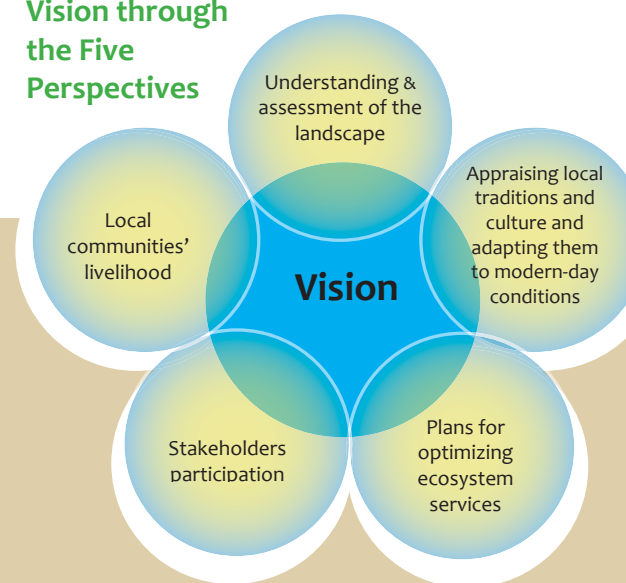
Integration of traditional ecological knowledge with modern science

Creation of a "New commons"



Federal Republic of Germany

Vision through the Five Perspectives



Perspectives

Based on the vision, the perspectives of the Initiative form the approaches for the revitalization and advancement of the socio-ecological production systems. The Initiative will seek an understanding of the features of various landscapes and assess the carrying capacity and resilience of each particular natural environment. This will include the appraisal of local traditions and culture and their adaptation to modern-day conditions, as well as planning for the purpose of optimizing ecosystem services. To ensure its success, the Initiative must encourage participation of a wide range of stakeholders from local residents and scholars to NGOs and private sectors. Also essential is the consideration of the various contributions (social, economic, cultural etc.) to the well-being of local communities.

Satoyama International Partnership

The idea of creating a Satoyama International Partnership under the Initiative was discussed in the Expert Meeting on the Satoyama Initiative concept held in July 2009 in Tokyo, Japan. The components



of the Satoyama International Partnership are now under consideration; envisioned is a partnership comprised of participating national governments, local governments, civil societies, local communities, private sector entities, NPOs/NGOs, educational and research institutes and international organizations, which have stakes and interests in advancing the socio-ecological production systems where human-nature relationships are more sustainable.

The Satoyama International Partnership will be a mechanism for networking, communication and information-sharing for partners and for this purpose an internet-based portal site will be developed. Educational materials such as videos conveying information about the Initiative, lessons learnt, and the measures derived from case studies will be posted on the portal site.

Based on a shared global strategy to be developed, the Satoyama International Partnership will complement, support and strengthen on-going initiatives in the sustainable use and efficient management of land and natural resources. The Satoyama International Partnership will also function as an intermediary for cooperative actions, facilitating contact between communities and institutions, countries and agencies in view of joint activities and resource mobilization. Regular meetings will be organized to promote cooperation between all partners. A new assistance scheme to support the activities of the Satoyama International Partnership is now under consideration by the Japanese Government.

