

International Symposium

Sub-global Assessment of *Satoyama* and *Satoumi* in Japan: Launching the Cluster Findings towards CBD/COP-10

Date & Time: Sunday, 23 May 2010, 13:30 – 17:30 (Registration opens at 12:30 PM)
Venue: UNU Headquarters Building, Tokyo, Japan; U Thant International Conference Hall, 3F
(Map: <http://www.unu.edu/access/>)
Organised by: United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)
Co-organised by: Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Cooperated by: Global Environment Outreach Centre (GEOC)
Language: English and Japanese (simultaneous interpretation)
Registration: Registration is free and open to the public. Applications will be accepted through email. The deadline is **Tuesday, 18 May 2010**. Please write “Registration for the Japan SGA Symposium” in the title and include **your name, company/organization, email address, telephone number, and where you heard about this event** in the message body, and send your email to eventregistration@ias.unu.edu.

Agenda and Objectives

The interaction between humans and nature has been central to the creation and management of *satoyama* and *satoumi*. *Satoyama* commonly found in rural areas in Japan encompasses various ecosystems—secondary forests, farm lands, grasslands, and irrigation ponds—along with human settlements, and has been formed and maintained through prolonged interaction between humans and the ecosystems. This interactive concept has also extended to *satoumi*, which includes marine and coastal ecosystems and has similar functions and interactive mechanisms. Both *satoyama* and *satoumi* possess numerous significant values, providing material and non-material services such as food, water, climate regulation, water purification, and aesthetic and cultural benefits, which contribute to human well-being. Similar landscapes are also found throughout many parts of the world and are of international importance, though the issues might vary depending on the localities. However, a variety of factors including increased rural-urban migration, land-use conversion, abandonment of cultivation activities, trade, and advancement of science and technology are causing extensive degradation and loss of *satoyama* and *satoumi*. These changes to the ecosystems and their services are not peculiar to Japan, but a part of the global trends in the earth's ecosystems that have been reported by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA).

The Sub-global Assessment of *Satoyama* and *Satoumi* in Japan (Japan SGA) was launched in 2007 to assess the ecosystem services derived from *satoyama* and *satoumi* and to provide the scientific base for actions to be taken towards the conservation and sustainable management of the ecosystems. Following the MA approach, it represents a major multistakeholder effort with the participation of more than 170 authors and stakeholders in the assessment process and is being conducted based around policy relevant issues and users' needs. The SGA is the first of its kind in Japan, and its open process and bottom-up approach led to the selection of a variety of assessment sites that have been grouped into 5 major clusters across Japan. The assessment findings are expected to be used in local and national plans, strategies and policies, and also to contribute to the relevant international processes. In particular, it is intended to provide substantive inputs into *Satoyama* Initiative, which is an international effort to promote the concept of socio-ecological production landscapes—a part of which is *satoyama* and *satoumi* in Japan—for worldwide application to realize societies in harmony with nature building on positive human-nature relationships, and through which the Japan SGA will provide inputs into the Tenth Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP10) that will be held in Japan in October 2010.

The specific objectives of the international symposium are to:

- Present the findings of the Japan SGA with focus on the cluster assessments;
- Learn from a case of the SGA in Sweden on its use and impacts at its relevant scale and beyond;
- Discuss the robustness of the Japan SGA's cluster assessments and their relevance to the scale and stakeholders; and
- Explore communication and outreach strategies to disseminate the assessment findings at the CBD/COP10;

The symposium will convene as many as users/stakeholders from national and local governments, industries, research and academic institutions, NGOs, and local communities for their views on the assessment findings and the ongoing initiative for ensuring and promoting their use and impacts for the relevant stakeholders and at the CBD/COP10.

Programme (Tentative)

- 13:30 – 13:40 *Opening Remarks***
Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi — Vice Rector, UNU / Board Co-chair for Japan SGA

Mr. Tsunao Watanabe — Deputy Director General, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
- 13:40 – 14:20 *Keynote Lecture: Stockholm Urban Assessment and the Use and Impact on Its Scale and Beyond***
Prof. Thomas Elmqvist — Professor, Department of Systems Ecology, and Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University
- 14:20 – 14:40 *Overview of the Sub-global Assessment of Satoyama and Satoumi in Japan (Japan SGA)***
Prof. Koji Nakamura — Professor, Deputy President (Regional Collaboration), and Director of Institute of Nature and Environmental Technology, Kanazawa University / Science Assessment Panel Co-chair for Japan SGA
- 14:40 – 15:00 *Introduction to the Satoyama Initiative***
Ms. Fumiko Nakao — Fellow, United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)
- 15:00 – 15:20 *Coffee Break***
- 15:20 – 17:20 *Panel Discussion: Cluster Assessments – Process, Findings, and Opportunities for CBD/COP10***
Session Chair: Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi
 - Prof. Thomas Elmqvist
 - Prof. Koji Nakamura
 - Dr. Junko Morimoto (Lecturer, Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University)
 - Prof. Takaaki Koganezawa (Professor, Department of Education and Environmental Education Center, Miyagi University of Education)
 - Prof. Tatsuhiro Ohkubo (Professor, Department of Forest Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Utsunomiya University)
 - Prof. Yukihiro Morimoto (Professor, School of Global Environmental Studies and Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University / President, Japan Association for Landscape Ecology)
 - Prof. Osamu Matsuda (President, The Research Institute for the Seto Inland Sea / Professor Emeritus, Hiroshima University)
 - Mr. Masahiro Kawatei (General Manager, Environment Communications Department, Hakuhodo DY Media Partners Inc.)
- 17:20 – 17:30 *Closing***
Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi