

SATOYAMA Initiative International Workshop

Tokyo, Japan

March 6, 2009

Chair's Summary

1. Introduction

The *Satoyama* Initiative International Workshop was convened by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan with the participation of representatives from governments, international organizations, academia, NGOs and a wide range of other stakeholders. The Government of Japan announced the *Satoyama* Initiative at the G8 Environmental Ministers Meeting in Kobe, Japan in May 2008. *Satoyama* is an important mosaic that provides various ecosystem services and support human well-being. The *Satoyama* Initiative is intended to develop and propose a model of sustainable management of natural resources by collecting and analyzing knowledge and cases in Japan and other parts of the world concerning natural resource management and sustainable human well-being development in rural communities.

The Workshop was intended

- (i) to exchange information on conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological resources in *Satoyama* landscape (a Japanese term of secondary ecosystem¹) in each country,
- (ii) to identify needs of participating countries and international institutes for implementing the *Satoyama* Initiative,
- (iii) to examine common principles and outline for guidelines, and key elements to be reinforced therein, and
- (iv) to consider characteristics and functions of a voluntary international framework.

The Workshop was opened by Mr. Daizaburo Kuroda, Director-General of the Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ). Mr. Tsunao Watanabe, Director for the Biodiversity Policy Division, MOEJ introduced the objectives and outline of the Workshop. The Workshop was chaired by Dr. Kunio Iwatsuki of the Museum of Nature and Human Activities, Hyogo.

Participants delivered case study presentations. Mr. Watanabe presented a set of elements for developing common principles, a guideline of the *Satoyama* Initiative and a concept of

¹ A better term can be explored to signify what is called here by a term “secondary ecosystem.”

establishing an international framework for the *Satoyama* Initiative. Based on the presentations delivered in accordance with the Programme of the Workshop, the participants had intensive discussions on integrated ecosystem management including conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of biological resources. The participants broadly agreed upon the importance of promoting the *Satoyama* Initiative at various levels, and discussed further the ways for operationalizing the *Satoyama* Initiative.

This text is intended to reflect the thrust of discussions and shared views among the participants. The following are the key issues highlighted and shared in the discussions.

2. Key points raised in the discussions

(1) Scope of *Satoyama*

“*Satoyama*” in a Japanese term refers to secondary ecosystems. “*Satoyama* landscape” is the mixed landscapes that consist of agricultural lands, forests, grazing land, wetlands, water reservoirs and rural communities. *Satoyama* landscape pervades largely between cities and in-tact nature (primary or virgin nature). *Satoyama* landscape is significant in terms of biodiversity richness, ecological integrity including its linkages with primary nature, productive activities and social coherence. In *Satoyama* landscape, sustainable use of natural resources has been promoted in a manner harmonious with nature and biodiversity conservation. For these reasons, a concept of *Satoyama* landscape provides a model for sustainable management of natural resources.

(2) Significance of secondary ecosystem

The secondary ecosystems play a significant role in promoting productive activities in a large area such as agriculture, forestry and fishery. In addition, the secondary ecosystems have become an important habitat for wildlife. For these reasons, sustainable management and sustainable use of biological resources in the secondary ecosystems are important in the overall context of promoting sustainable development.

(3) Linkage with the Convention on Biological Diversity and other policy processes

The *Satoyama* Initiative addresses issues related to conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of biological resources and ecosystem services that are main objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The *Satoyama* Initiative will therefore provide impetus to further facilitate the implementation of CBD, and the tools developed under CBD, including the ecosystem approach and the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, can be further built upon for the implementation of the *Satoyama* Initiative.

The *Satoyama* Initiative is expected to greatly facilitate CBD implementation particularly in the post 2010 period as a follow-up to the 2010 Biodiversity Target. It is proposed that the progress made on the *Satoyama* Initiative be presented at the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to CBD at its 14th session, and at the 10th session of COP/CBD (COP10).

It is also important to link ecosystem management with climate change policy processes, namely climate change mitigation, green house gases emission reductions and adaptation. Reduced emission from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) also provides a framework that will be mutually supportive to integrated management of secondary ecosystems and sustainable human well-being development.

There are other international conventions that are relevant to the *Satoyama* Initiative such as the Ramsar Convention and other multilateral agreements for wildlife conservation.

(4) Integrated secondary ecosystem management and sustainable human well-being development in Asia

Integrated secondary ecosystem management and sustainable human well-being development similar to *Satoyama* landscape management are also common in many of Asian countries.

In Sri Lanka, secondary ecosystem management and sustainable human well-being development are promoted around water tanks or water reservoirs. In addition, home garden is another method to promote sustainable use of natural resources such as timber, crop/vegetable, medicinal and herbal plant cultivation. Home garden method provides ecosystem services essential to sustainable human well-being and plays a significant role in promoting biodiversity conservation, soil management, preventing sedimentation and maintaining water storage capacity.

In the Republic of Korea, Maeul, a Korean term that refers to secondary ecosystem, is promoted to address the nexus of rural landscape and biodiversity. The ecosystem referred to by Maeul often consists rice paddy land, forests, pond, stream and wind-break stone wall or forests. In some cases, fishery is also addressed. Maeul also provides a platform to undertake education for sustainable development. Green school farm, a programme promoted by a NGO is to enable school children of schools in urban areas to understand secondary ecosystem management in rural areas.

In Thailand, several methods are practiced to promote sustainable management of secondary ecosystem. Such methods include watershed forest management, zero-waste integrated organic

farming and community forests. These methods are important in promoting agriculture production through mixed cropping, water management, and education for sustainable development.

In the Philippines, *Muyong/Pinugo* is the term that refers to the traditionally inherited property of ecosystems and wildlife. In such areas, agroforestry is promoted as a method for secondary ecosystem management and sustainable human well-being development. Ifgao, a town in Borneo Island in the North of the Philippines is one of the areas where such agroforestry has been practiced. Local villagers promote crop and timber cultivation, flora and fauna and rice terrace landscape conservation as well as eco-tourism and education for sustainable development.

In China, secondary ecosystem management is widely practiced including wetland. 36 sites were designated as Ramsar sites including inland and coastal wetlands in the light of their ecological importance and established management mechanisms. Mai Po, an area in Shenzhen and adjacent to Hong Kong in the southern part of China is one of the coastal wetland registered under the Ramsar Convention. Mai Po wetland is managed through various conservation measures through drainage management. At the same time, it provides an important basis for human well-being of local people as Mai Po wetland is used for shrimp cultivation, recreation and education. Wetland conservation movements are expected to complement the *Satoyama* Initiative to the great extent.

In Cambodia, coastal ecosystem and mangrove area are an important basis for local people's human well-being. Mangrove was greatly reduced to meet the demand for shrimp cultivation and fuel wood. In the process of restoring impaired mangrove, community stakeholders were involved in mangrove seedling plantation and conservation. Through mangrove restoration activities, ecosystem services are also being regained to provide habitat for raising shrimps, fish and other sea water fish stock and animal as well as space for people's recreation.

In the Indonesia's diverse ecosystems, integrated secondary ecosystem management is practiced in a way particular to respective ecosystems and communities. Local people know best the way to live based on the natural endowment of various ecosystems. The people's practice is supported by embedded culture and philosophy. Bali is one of the region that promote integrated secondary ecosystem management and human well-being improvement through an integrated approach that combines ecosystems, human well-being, culture and philosophy.

(5) Key factors for promoting sustainable secondary ecosystem management and human well-being development

Valuation of ecosystem services

Ecosystem functions and services must be properly assessed and valued in order to ensure that appropriate support shall be given to ecosystem conservation activities.

Linking ecosystem management with human well-being improvement

To ensure long-term involvement of local people in secondary ecosystem management and sustainable use of biological resources, it is important to promote activities for ecosystem conservation and sustainable use of biological resources in an integrated manner that supports the development of sustainable human well-being for local people.

Awareness raising and education

Many of good practices demonstrate that the awareness raising and education of local stakeholders are a key foundation for successfully promoting sustainable ecosystem management and human well-being development.

Stakeholder participation

In addition, in many of the good practice, stakeholders are strategically involved in planning, implementing and monitoring activities for ecosystem conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Benefit sharing and incentive provision

To mobilize the local stakeholders' support, it is important to provide incentives for local stakeholders to change their practice and support activities for ecosystem conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Inter-agency collaboration

As ecosystem management and human well-being improvement involve not only environmental protection, but also agriculture, forestry and water management as well as finance and planning. For such a reason, increased collaboration among line ministries involved in natural resource management is required at the local and national levels.

Synergies with other policies and initiatives

CBD is one central international policy process where the *Satoyama* Initiative can find a common ground for synergistic policy implementation. Other policy processes where the Initiative may have a common ground include, UNFCCC, the Ramsar Convention and other multilateral agreements for wildlife conservation. Fair trade initiatives also provide incentives for local communities to promote sustainable natural resource management and human well-being improvement.

3. Key elements for the *Satoyama* Initiative

The participants shared the views on the importance in promoting sustainable management of secondary ecosystems that are the main focus of the *Satoyama* Initiative. In order to operationalize the *Satoyama* Initiative, the following aspects are deemed as important for future work.

Common principles and guideline

To establish common principles and guideline for the *Satoyama* Initiative, a number of elements were suggested as follows:

- (i) Refinement of the *Satoyama* concept for a wide range of stakeholders to easily understand and practice,
- (ii) Comprehensive approach to consider the integrity of ecosystems based on the continuum of secondary ecosystems, in-tact ecosystem and urban areas, and based on local level perspectives as well as global viewpoints,
- (iii) Ecosystem based land use planning,
- (iv) Mainstreaming of the assessment on ecosystem carrying capacity and resilience in the use of biological resources,
- (v) Dynamic and adaptive approach to transform ecosystem management based on the changing socio-economic requirements and conditions,
- (vi) Promotion of multi-stakeholder participation in decision-making,
- (vii) Establishment of optimal balance between human well-being development and ecosystem conservation,
- (viii) Respect, by global society, of nature, history and philosophy that are shared and inherited by local communities,
- (ix) Analysis of management and governance framework and structure for secondary ecosystems particularly commonly used landscape (“commons²”), and
- (x) Development and dissemination of key messages and lessons arising from good practice and past experiences for promoting effective secondary ecosystem management and developing sustainable human well-being development

Establishment of an international framework for the *Satoyama* Initiative

In order to undertake case studies and promote international cooperation in the context of implementing the *Satoyama* Initiative, the following approach is proposed:

- (i) To convene regional or international consultation meetings in Asia and other regions to further clarify and elaborate on the concept, objectives and proposed activities for the

²It is important to develop a new approach to the management of commons building upon the past work concerning the management of commons.

Satoyama Initiative. At such meetings, case studies should be shared on secondary ecosystem management. The United Nations University is proposed as one of the leading institutions in this process,

- (ii) To promote the participation of governments, experts, international organizations and NGOs in such consultation processes,
- (iii) To develop a good practice database on sustainable secondary ecosystem management and human well-being development,
- (iv) To establish an international network and/or forum to promote international cooperation for sustainable management of biological resources with an emphasis on secondary ecosystem and human well-being improvement.

4. Steps forward

The participants agreed that the Government of Japan will share the outcome of this *Satoyama* Initiative International Workshop widely and present it at the relevant regional and international fora.

It was also agreed that the dialogue shall be continued on integrated ecosystem management and human well-being development with an emphasis on secondary ecosystem in the context of the *Satoyama* Initiative.

It was also proposed to facilitate the *Satoyama* Initiative in a way to mutually support other relevant policies and processes such as CBD and post-2010 Biodiversity Target development. The CBD/COP10 in Nagoya in October 2010 will be a first milestone event in this respect and future work should be facilitated continuously in the process that will move from COP10 and lead to the COP11 and beyond.

Annex: Summary of speeches, presentations and discussions¹

Mr. Daizaburo Kuroda, Director General, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, gave the opening remarks, welcoming the participants and expressing his pleasure to be part of this international workshop on the *Satoyama* Initiative. He briefly outlined the initial steps of the *Satoyama* Initiative from its announcement at the CBD/COP9 in Bonn, following on to future perspectives, underlining the importance of addressing issues such as the post-2010 framework. The *Satoyama* Initiative aims to expand the model of the *Satoyama* landscape to other areas of the world, and Mr. Kuroda expects that the model can contribute highly towards achieving coexistence between Man and Nature. Finally, he ended his speech by calling for active debates and information exchange among participants on this occasion.

Introduction to the International Workshop

Mr. Tsunao Watanabe, Director, Biodiversity Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, introduced the concept of *Satoyama*, and *Satoyama* Landscape, which have been supporting the human well-beings of local people and conserving local biodiversity in Japan. Although with the expansion of urbanisation, this landscape has become progressively deteriorated, Mr. Watanabe expects that by enhancing this kind of management systems in various areas, it can contribute to curbing biodiversity loss across the world. In ending his speech, he expressed his hope for enhanced information sharing on best practices and joint efforts to expand the initiative.

Keynote Speech

Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo, introduced in his keynote speech some problems that could be observed in rural areas, namely, the destruction of natural areas through development activities, and the abandonment of *Satoyama* management practices with the shift in lifestyles. He highlighted that in order to revitalise the *Satoyama* Landscape as a model of sustainability, it would be useful to introduce the concept of a new commons, or community-based land-use management system, in addition to the private/public land system existing today. Dr. Takeuchi gave some views on the future potentials of a revitalised *Satoyama* Landscape, which could contribute highly not only to biodiversity conservation, but also to the bioresource provision of Japan. However, in order to achieve such progress, Dr. Takeuchi underlined that it would be necessary to engage the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries more deeply.

Special Speech 1

Dr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy, Principal Officer, Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters, The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), made the link between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the *Satoyama* Initiative. He claimed that the Initiative is definitely useful for the achievement of the 2010 target of the CBD, through its contribution towards maintaining a harmonious relationship between Man and Nature. He underlined that it would be necessary to review all the *Satoyama*-type landscapes and to extract the elements that allow the sustainable management of natural resources and then to develop them into some form of guideline. He also mentioned that the Initiative has the power to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals, as it emphasises sustainable use of nature by communities. He reminded that in the future, best practice case studies need to be collected in view of the assessment of the MDGs due in 2015.

Special Speech 2

Dr. Ranjith Mahindapala, Country Representative of Sri Lanka, The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), listed the various problems faced by the world today and linked them to the loss of biodiversity and threats on ecosystems. He gave examples of *Satoyama*-type landscapes which make use of traditional knowledge in Sri Lanka, such as the Ancient Hydraulic

¹ Speeches and presentations are summarized with the names of speakers when their texts were submitted to the Secretariat in advance. Otherwise, only the discussion points were reflected with the anonymity of speakers.

Civilisation which used environmentally friendly irrigation systems benefiting all sections of community equally, and the Kandyan Home Gardens which constitute a source of multiple products as well as a pleasant environment rich in species, and supporting nutrient recycling. To end his speech, Dr. Mahindapala expressed his hope for the enhancement of such types of beneficial landscapes in Asia and beyond.

Case Report 1

Dr. Sun-Kee Hong, Institute of Island Culture, Mokpo National University, Korea, provided a comparison of the *Satoyama* Landscape and the Maeul, a Korean landscape which shares the characteristics of the *Satoyama* Landscape. He explained the relationships between rural landscape and biodiversity in Korea, and listed the problems faced in conserving them.

The Maeul landscape has the same components as the *Satoyama* Landscape, and is experiencing the same issues entailed from changes in people's lifestyles and traditional practices. Dr. Hong described the Korean government fund that designates eco-excellent Maeul, which receive support for continued maintenance and management. Dr. Hong highlighted the role of NGOs by describing some of the initiatives undertaken in order to enhance forest and rural landscape conservation and management.

Case Report 2

Dr. Sasanee Choowaew, Faculty of Environment Resources Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand, reported on sustainable natural resource use practices in Thailand, giving a number of best practices in natural resource use such as organic farming and community forestry. Dr. Choowaew gave an example of a small scale mountain water supply system development in Thailand at low cost and low environmental impact compared to the conventional dams leading to maximum benefit. These systems contribute to the communities especially in the severe dry season. It supports agriculture and home gardens where indigenous species are cultivated, and contribute to food security and reduce the reliance of people on other natural resources.

Case Report 3

Ms. Marilou D. Bayagen, Senior Ecosystems Management Specialist, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Philippines, reported the case of the Ifugao agro-ecosystem, which is composed of woodlands, rice terraces, and water reservoirs forming a *Satoyama*-like landscape. The woodlands comprise highly diverse fauna and flora, which can contribute to biodiversity conservation if managed sustainably. Ms. Bayagen explained the functionality of the *Satoyama* landscape in the Ifugao case and described the traditional practices. She introduced some of the factors that are currently contributing to the destruction of the agro-ecosystem of Ifugao, namely, tourism, education and Christianity, and population growth, and also listed some of the response mechanisms, including cultural modification, modernisation, and awareness-raising.

Case Report 4

Prof. Chen Ke Lin, Wetlands International-China, gave a presentation on wetlands management in China, taking the case study of the Mai Po Nature Reserve. He described the past evolution of wetlands in China, which have been progressively lost to agriculture. Today 95% of wetlands in China are threatened due to population growth and economic growth. This has the principal consequences of low water supply, sand storms, and water pollution. Mai Po constitutes a good demonstration area for China, which has been designated as a Ramsar Site. The aims of this reserve are to serve as an education, training and research site at the same time as conservation. Prof. Ke Lin described the management processes of the reserve, which require water level regulation, digging, and weed control. It is now an important habitat for waterbirds, and continuous management is being undertaken, just like the *Satoyama* Landscape.

Case Report 5

Ms. Somaly Chan, Director, International Convention and Biodiversity, Ministry of the Environment, Cambodia, gave the case study of the Peam Krosap Wildlife Sanctuary, where various levels of use by communities are organised. This area has undergone human disturbance, but the government has come up with the new approach to encourage local community to participate in sustainable use of natural resources. To undertake this approach, the zoning of the

site was necessary. Ms. Chan explained through her presentation the processes followed in order to implement the plan, which actively engaged the local communities in mangrove restoration.

Case Report 6

Dr. Tonny Soehartono, Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation, Director of Biodiversity Conservation, Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia, gave some examples of traditional practices from the rural areas of Indonesia, describing the components of the landscapes formed and the various degrees of community dependence on natural areas. He took the example of Bali to illustrate the philosophy of harmonious coexistence with nature that has traditionally existed in the Balinese culture, concluding that perhaps the whole of Bali can be qualified as one big *Satoyama*, and that the *Satoyama* concept can lead to sustainable development.

Mr. Tsunao Watanabe, Director, Biodiversity Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, presented the future perspectives for the *Satoyama* Initiative in the aim to realise a sustainable rural society living in harmony with nature. He proposed to extract the central principles from the case studies available, and to develop them into concrete guidelines. He mentioned that a land use plan would need to be developed in maintaining complex ecosystems, and to maximise synergy and minimise friction between ecosystem conservation and human uses. He underscored that consensus-making with multi-stakeholder participation would be essential, and concluded that the *Satoyama* Initiative shall endeavour to achieve the balance between development and conservation in order to establish a sustainable society.

Discussions

Ms. Yoko Watanabe, Program Manager, GEF Secretariat, presented the initiatives undertaken by the Global Environment Fund (GEF) that have many elements in common with the *Satoyama* Initiative. She described the programmes on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Landscape, and Sustainable Land and Forest Management, making linkages with the *Satoyama* Initiative. She also suggested to further clarify the concept of *Satoyama* and to develop common elements through knowledge sharing.

Mr. Hiroto Mitsugi, Director, Forestry/Nature Conservation Division, Global Environment Department, JICA, presented past activities for sustainable resource management in Lao. The project focus was on achieving stabilisation of the shifting cultivation practices where the shifting intervals were becoming shorter and shorter due to population increase and expansion of commercial concessions of biofuel plantations and other crops. Mr. Mitsugi highlighted the importance of respecting people's rights of access to resources and land tenure in order to secure sustainable human well-beings.

Mr. Hiroshi Nishimiya, Deputy Programme Managing Director, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), introduced in his presentation, the focus of IGES and APFED on promoting the visions for sustainable society proposed by the government of Japan. He focused on the innovativeness of the emphasis on synergies between resource use and resource conservation, and expressed his hopes for its success in leading to coexistence between human and nature.

Mr. Yasushi Hibi, Director, Conservation International Japan Programme (CI-J), emphasised the importance of holistic approaches in facing the global challenges of today, including biodiversity conservation and the promotion of the *Satoyama* Initiative. He also pointed out the importance of fair and equitable cost sharing, which can be achieved through collaboration between communities and the private sector, as well as the crucial role that would be played by capacity-building.

Dr. Naobi Okayasu, Director, Conservation, WWF Japan, introduced case studies of the *Satoyama* concept that is important for managing protected areas in Central Africa. She emphasised that in Africa, issues often arise from the lack of knowledge of nature or the lack of motivation for people to take part in using their resources sustainably, and therefore it is essential to revitalise the

intuitive sense of Wise Use in pursuing the goal of sustainable development.

Other points of discussions

- Coverage: It was pointed out that it would be important to take into account the linkages of secondary ecosystems with urban areas in terms of overall ecological footprint and resource management.
- Concept refinement: Concept of *Satoyama* needs to be further clarified and refined,
- Conceptual evolution: Integrated ecosystem and human well-being development have been evolving over the time and differ from a country to a country. Such variations need to be noted for future discussions.
- “Commons”: Analysis on conventional practice of use of “commons” continue to deserve attention, and needs to be built upon for exploring effective modalities to promote sustainable ecosystem management and human well-being development.
- Perspectives on ecosystem functions: ecosystems need to be viewed not from further ecological functions, but also from perspectives on their productivity and social aspects (ex. Ecological, productive and social ecosystems)
- The objectives of the *Satoyama* Initiative need to be further clarified with a viewpoint to facilitating the implementation of on-going international policy processes and achieving related policy objectives,
- One of the key feature of the *Satoyama* Initiative should be to promote information exchange including good practice for sustainable ecosystem management and human well-being development._
- To advance the work on the *Satoyama* Initiative, an international network should be established and facilitated.