

“GEF-Satoyama Project” Launched

Starting with a Call for Proposals in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot

(Tokyo, October 1, 2015) The “GEF-Satoyama Project” is a global project proposed by Conservation International Japan (CI Japan), the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), which has just been approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) (Annex 1). The Memorandum of Understanding for the “Executive Team” consisting of CI Japan, UNU-IAS and IGES was signed and the project was formally launched on September 1, 2015. As the first major activity, the project opens the call for proposal for site-based projects in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot from 1 October until 18 November, 2015. The project is seeking innovative proposals that run up to three years and provide a maximum of USD100,000 to each. These projects are expected to make larger global impacts through leveraging additional resources, replication and knowledge sharing under the GEF-Satoyama Project.

The Executive Team is seeking proposals that aim to achieve conservation, restoration or creation of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes that incorporate traditional knowledge and engaging diverse stakeholders with concrete actions to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. The goal is to concretely demonstrate a society in harmony with nature, which will contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the newly established United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The details of the call for proposals can be obtained from the URL below:
<http://www.conservation.org/global/japan/Pages/GEFSatoyama2015.aspx>

The GEF-Satoyama Project encourages institutions and organizations from the national and local NGOs and communities to apply.

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Messages

Ms. Yoko Watanabe, Asia Regional Coordinator & Senior Biodiversity Specialist of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) says: “The GEF welcomes and is pleased to support this initiative to further the innovation in mainstreaming biodiversity at the landscapes and seascapes level with stakeholders that are engaged in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and other production sectors to ensure environment and social sustainability. Building on the works of related GEF projects and the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative, we hope that this project will contribute in addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss at key biodiversity areas in a gender and socially inclusive manner. It is also expected that it will further enhance collaboration and knowledge sharing among the wider stakeholders globally, including both public and private sectors.”

Mr. Yasushi Hibi, the Managing Director of CI Japan, also represent the Executive Team of the GEF-Satoyama Project says: “I am honored to be part of the first executing team by Japanese organizations for a GEF biodiversity project at this scale. Satoyama is important in realizing a healthy sustainable society that CI envisions. As the Indo-Burma region has a long tradition, especially in co-existing with freshwater ecosystems, I look forward to receiving proposals that can showcase the Satoyama concept.”

Dr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, Director, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) says: “Since 2010, when the Satoyama Initiative was formally recognized by the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10), UNU-IAS has undertaken a number of efforts to realize its vision of “societies in harmony with nature”. Among these has been serving as the Secretariat of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), which has included fostering networking among the partnership’s members, collecting and disseminating case studies from around the world, and others. The new GEF-Satoyama Project is a major outcome of these efforts, and an excellent opportunity to upscale IPSI activities. We at UNU-IAS look forward to working closely with Conservation International Japan and IGES to further promote the Satoyama Initiative around the world.”

Mr. Keiji Nakajima, the Director of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) Tokyo Office says: "Amongst IGES's contributions to IPSI and its collaborative activities, IGES has been supporting the Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) since 2013 in collaboration with UNU-IAS and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, which provides seed funding to IPSI member organizations in several countries to promote their on-the-ground activities. Having seen the third year since its inauguration, SDM has started demonstrating good results and generating important knowledge that will further promote the Satoyama Initiative. We welcome the inception of the new global GEF-Satoyama Project firmly based upon the achievements of IPSI and its collaborative activities including SDM, and will further commit to the success of the new Project."

Ms. Fumiko Nakao, Director, Global Biodiversity Strategy Office, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan says: "The Ministry of the Environment of Japan, together with UNU-IAS, has been promoting the conservation and sustainable use of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes through the Satoyama Initiative since the CBD COP10 in 2010. Protecting biodiversity entails not only preserving pristine environments, such as wilderness, but also conserving human-influenced natural environments, such as farmlands and secondary forests, that people have developed and maintained sustainably over a long time. Satoyama initiative is promoting the sustainable use of natural resources in human-influenced natural environment (socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes: SEPLS), which are formed by the interaction of human and nature. We congratulate the launch of the GEF-Satoyama Project, and look forward to its contribution to the scaling up of site-based activities of the Satoyama Initiative and to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

About the Institutions

Global Environment Facility (GEF):

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is an international partnership of 183 countries, international institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector to address global environmental issues. Serving as financial mechanism for several international environmental conventions, since 1991, the GEF has provided \$14.6 billion in grants and leveraged \$74.3 billion in co-financing for more than 4,000 projects in more than 165 developing countries. (www.thegef.org)

Conservation International Japan (CI Japan):

CI Japan is a Japanese entity and part of an international NGO, Conservation International, working for realizing sustainable society. Based on a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstrations, CI Japan works closely with the network spreading in 31 countries with a total staff of 1000 conservationists. Under the slogan of “People need nature to thrive,” it engages in policy work, field project implementation and outreach.

United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS):

UNU-IAS is a leading research and teaching institute based in Tokyo, Japan. Its mission is to advance efforts towards a more sustainable future, through policy-relevant research and capacity development focused on sustainability and its social, economic and environmental dimensions. UNU-IAS serves the international community, making valuable and innovative contributions to high-level policymaking and debates within the UN system. The activities of the institute are in three thematic areas: sustainable societies, natural capital and biodiversity, and global change and resilience. (ias.unu.edu)

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

IGES is a non-profit, research institute headquartered in Hayama, Japan with offices in Kansai, Kitakyushu and Tokyo, as well as in Bangkok, Thailand and Beijing, China. Information on IGES research, networks and events are available on the IGES website: www.iges.or.jp/en/

The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI):

The Satoyama Initiative is a global effort, first proposed jointly by the United Nations University and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ), to realize “societies in harmony with nature” and contribute to biodiversity conservation through the revitalization and sustainable management of “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS). The United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) serves as the Secretariat of IPSI, an international partnership of organizations working to realize the vision of the Satoyama Initiative. GEF, CI Japan, IGES and MOEJ are among the most active of IPSI’s 172 member organizations.

(satoyama-initiative.org/)

Project Summary:
**Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management in
 Priority Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes**

Shorthand name:	GEF-Satoyama Project
Project Duration:	September 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019 (46 months)
GEF Project Agency:	Conservation International
Executing Agencies:	Conservation International Japan (CI Japan; lead), with United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Funding:	GEF: USD1,909,000 / Co-financing: USD6,350,000

I. Project Vision

Society in harmony with nature, with sustainable primary production sector based on traditional and modern wisdom, and making significant contributions to global targets for conservation of biological diversity.

II. Project Objective

To mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while improving human well-being in production landscapes and seascapes.

III. Project Components

The Project is consisted of the following interrelated, mutually-informing components.

Component 1: “On-the-ground demonstration”. Enhancing livelihood, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services through investing in demonstration projects (Lead: CI Japan)

Outcome 1.1: Effective conservation management in selected priority production landscapes and seascapes achieved.

Outcome 1.2: Site-level conservation status of globally threatened species improved.

Outcome 1.3: Traditional knowledge benefiting and being protected in conservation measures.

Component 2: “Knowledge generation”. Improving knowledge generation to increase understanding, raise awareness and promote mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes (Lead: IGES)

Outcome 2.1: Global knowledge on “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS) for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into primary production landscapes and seascapes enhanced.

Component 3: “Capacity-building workshops and trainings”. Improving inter-sectoral collaboration and capacities for maintaining, restoring and revitalizing social and ecological values in priority SEPLS (Lead: UNU-IAS)

Outcome 3.1: Capacity of multi-sectoral stakeholders, including national and international decision-makers, practitioners and under-represented groups, to collaborate and mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable management increased.

IV. Compliance, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Project will remain compliant with CI-GEF Project Agency’s Environmental and Social Management Framework, including the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan, and follow the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.