

Sub-global Assessment of *Satoyama* and *Satoumi* in Japan and Its Contributions to *Satoyama* Initiative



Introduction to Sub-global Assessment of Satoyama and Satoumi in Japan

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Background: What are *Satoyama* and *Satoumi*?

▶ ***Satoyama***

- ▶ Comprises **human settlements and several types of ecosystems**
- ▶ Formed/developed and managed through **prolonged interaction between humans and ecosystems**
- ▶ More than **40 per cent of Japan's total landmass**

▶ ***Satoumi***

- ▶ **extended concept of interaction in *satoyama***
- ▶ includes **marine and coastal ecosystems**
- ▶ similar to *satoyama* in terms of its **functions, use and prolonged interactive mechanisms**

▶ **Conceptual Issues**

- ▶ **Use of various similar terminologies**
- ▶ **Different definitions,**
- ▶ **No appropriate English translation**

Crises of *Satoyama* and *Satoumi*

▶ **Declining and disappearing - multiple causes**

- ▶ Ageing, Depopulation and Rural-Urban migration
- ▶ Declining economic value of agri & forestry products, and Global trade
- ▶ Shifting trends in energy consumption
- ▶ Urbanization, construction and development
- ▶ Invasive Alien Species
- ▶ Unclear property rights
- ▶ Abandonment

▶ **Function, use and value diminish with the decline and disappearance - consequences**

- ▶ Impact on national / local economy.
- ▶ Loss of biodiversity.
- ▶ Erosion of cultural heritage: traditional knowledge, diet culture, festivals
- ▶ Disasters (attacks by bears, destruction to crops by monkeys).
- ▶ Increasing the gap between rural and urban areas.
- ▶ Hindering the achievement of UN MDGs.
- ▶ These changes will have an impact on human well-being.

Why a SGA of *Satoyama* and *Satoumi* in Japan?

▶ **Initiatives and Activities Exist**

- ▶ National and local governments:
 - ▶ Pilot projects by National Gov, Ordinances Satoyama centers by local governments, etc.
- ▶ Local groups and networks:
 - ▶ Over 1,000 groups formed in Japan to work on the issues
- ▶ Research and academic institutions and scholars
 - ▶ Research, Satoyama nature schools
- ▶ Business and Industries
 - ▶ CSR activities, Eco-tourism, etc..
- ▶ Need for **building synergies and streamlining existing initiatives and adding value to the information for various users.**
- ▶ This is where an assessment plays a crucial role. - **addressing the existing gaps, but building on existing initiatives**

Goals and Objectives

▶ Goals:

- **Meet the needs of stakeholders**, particularly decision makers, for scientific information
- **Enhance the capacity** of stakeholders to undertake assessments and to act on their findings

▶ Specific Objectives:

- Provide the **scientific basis for action**
- **Build awareness** at local, regional, and national levels and beyond
- **Consolidate action** by numerous stakeholders and **mobilize scarce resources** for effective and integrated ecosystem management
- Make the **international commitments** of Japan and support implementation of the national strategies
 - Provide inputs into **the CBD COP-10 in 2010** (Nagoya, Japan)
 - Inform the **next MA-type assessment**

Scope of the Assessment

▶ Area to be examined:

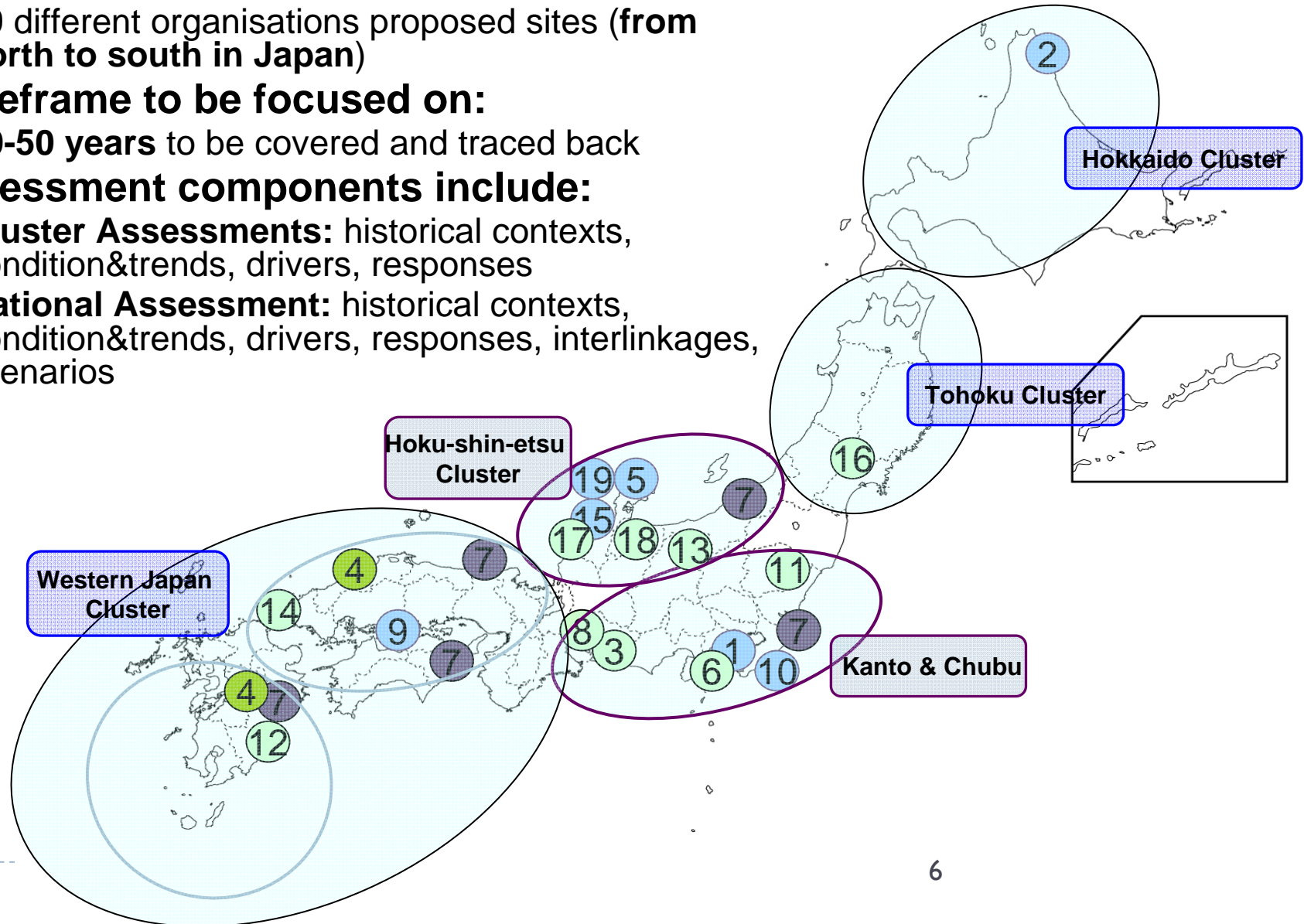
- Conducted “**Call for Sites**” in Aug-Sep 2007
- 19 different organisations proposed sites (from north to south in Japan)

▶ Timeframe to be focused on:

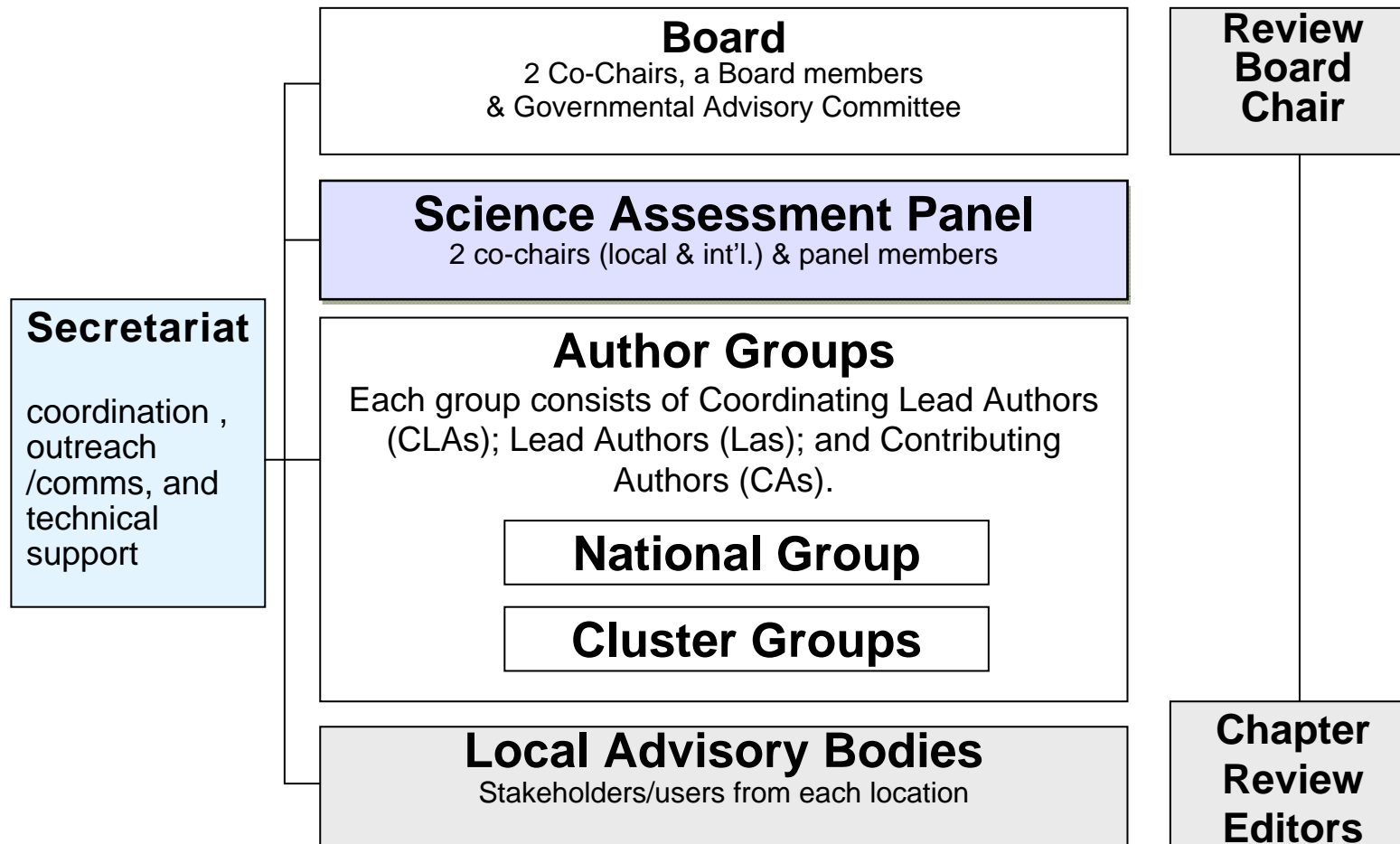
- **40-50 years** to be covered and traced back

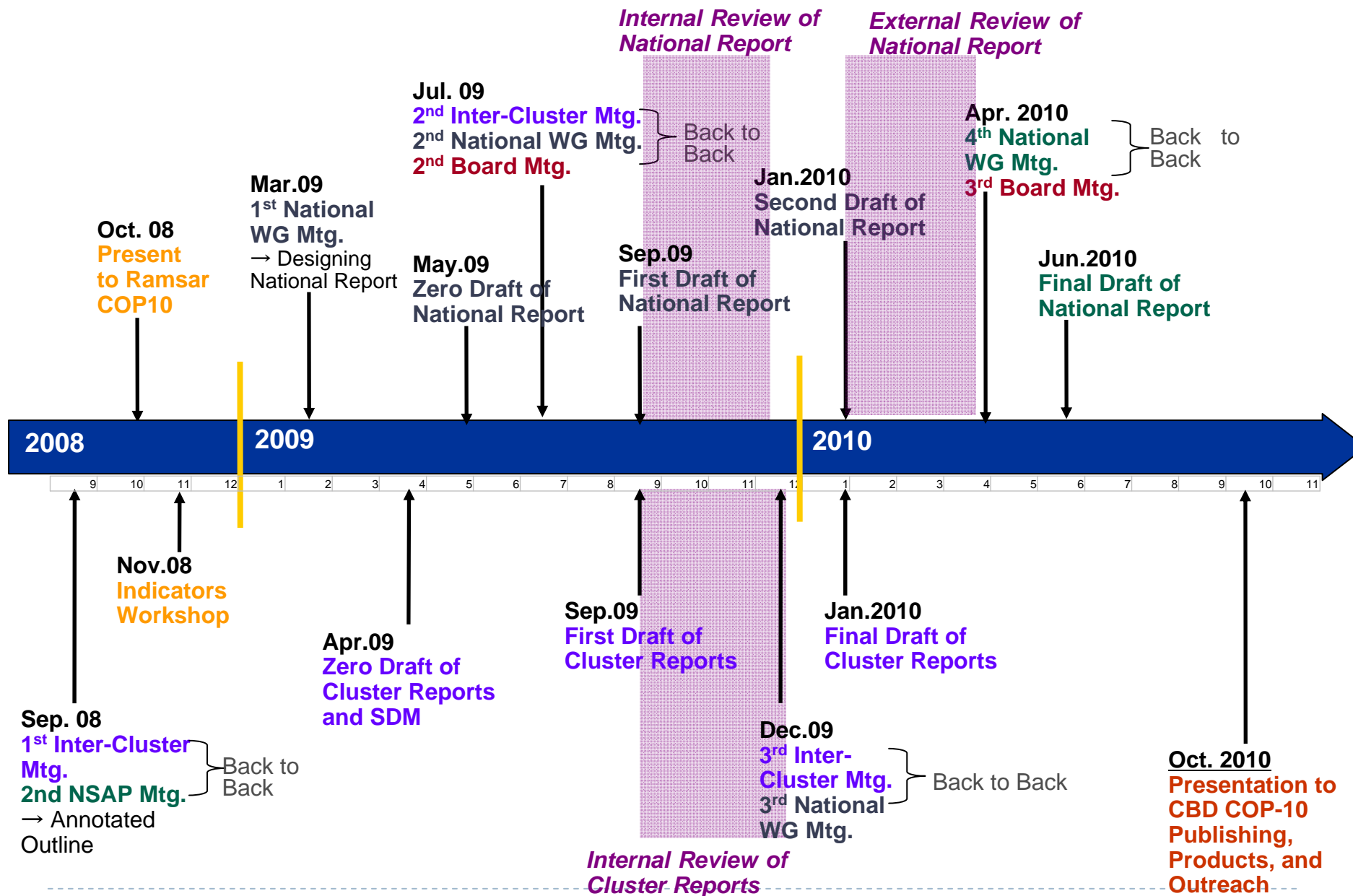
▶ Assessment components include:

- **Cluster Assessments:** historical contexts, condition&trends, drivers, responses
- **National Assessment:** historical contexts, condition&trends, drivers, responses, interlinkages, scenarios



Governance Structure:





Features of the SGA on *satoyama* & *satoumi* in Japan – Following the MA SGAs

- ▶ Integrated Assessment
 - ▶ ecological, social, cultural, economic aspects of *satoyama* & *satoumi*
- ▶ Multidisciplinary
 - ▶ social sciences and natural sciences
- ▶ Multi-stakeholder
 - ▶ National and local governments, businesses, research and academic institutions, NGOs, local communities and international organizations
 - ▶ To be owned and lead by the users/stakeholders.



Senmaida Rice Terrace in the Noto Peninsula of Ishikawa Prefecture stretching down to the coastline of the Sea of Japan.