

Hokusetsu SATOYAMA Declaration

We, the participants of today's successful International SATOYAMA Symposium, hereby declare as follows:

- In Kurokawa area of Kawanishi city in the Hokusetsu region (north of Hanshin region in Hyogo Prefecture), one can still enjoy landscapes that have been preserved by the traditional use of mountains and their forests. These precious landscapes, or SATOYAMA as we call them, are also rich in historical and cultural heritage as well as diversity in flora and fauna. It is also a region where many local citizens are actively investigating possible ways of sustainably revitalising this beautiful landscape — they want to pass the legacy of SATOYAMA down to their future generations.
- SATOYAMA has been considered as a symbol of the harmonious coexistence of people and nature. Although this harmony is disappearing in many regions, it is still alive in our Hokusetsu region. Such a lifestyle of coexistence deserves to be protected as a key wisdom for sustaining our Blue Planet.
- We shall continuously make efforts to realise this “lifestyle of harmonious coexistence with nature” in Hokusetsu region and, by sympathising with the ideas of the International Partnership for the SATOYAMA Initiative, work towards our Hokusetsu SATOYAMA that will become the world's SATOYAMA.

30th November 2014