The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) Project

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What is COMDEKS?

www.comdeksproject.com

The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the *Satoyama Initiative* Project

Goal ➲
To develop sound biodiversity management and sustainable livelihood activities to increase community resilience and to maintain, rebuild, and revitalize socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS)

Implementing Agency ➲ UNDP
Delivery mechanism ➲ UNDP-implemented GEF-SGP

Countries ➲
First Phase: Brazil, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Fiji, India, Malawi, Nepal, Slovakia, and Turkey
Second Phase: Bhutan, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, Mongolia, Namibia and Niger

Timeframe and Budget ➲
5-year partnership programme; Japan Biodiversity Fund contributing with 10 million USD (2011-2016, extended to 2017).

Status ➲
Over 200 projects funded and completed or nearing completion

Learning from the COMDEKS Community-Based Landscape Approach

COMMUNITIES IN ACTION FOR LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY
The COMDEKS Programme

SATOYAMA INITIATIVE
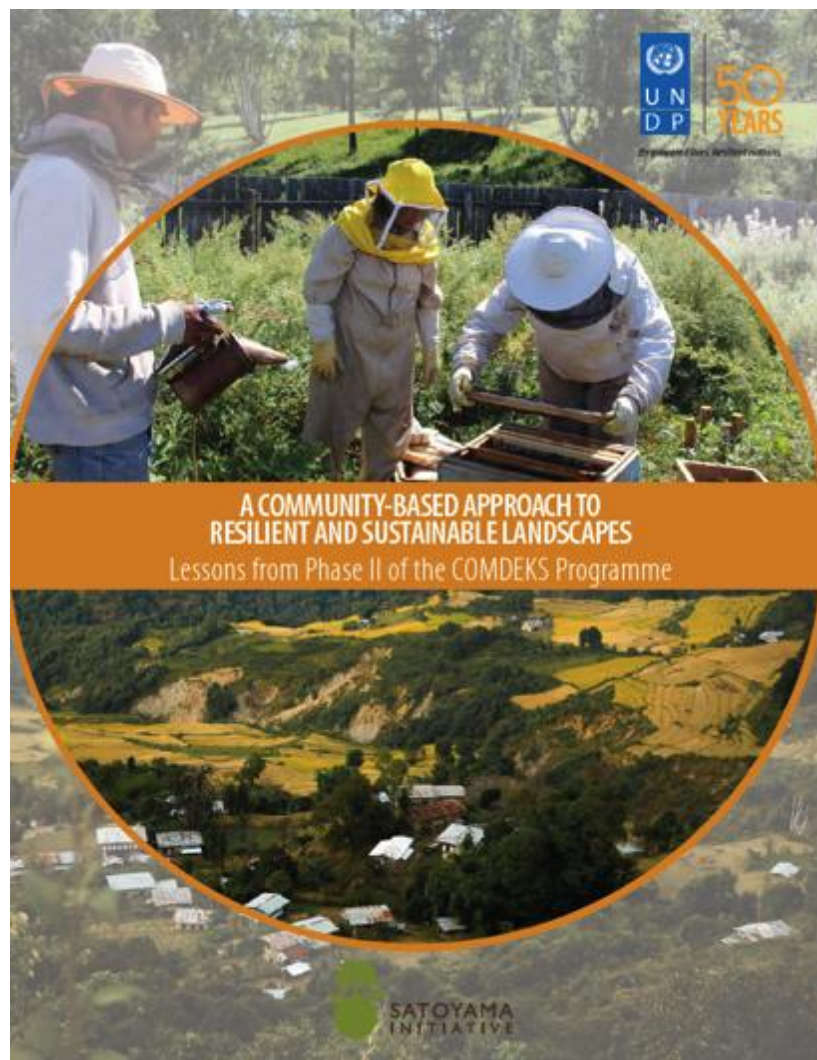
COMDEKS on the Ground:
Phase 1 Country Case Studies

✓**Brazil: Jequitinhonha Valley**

✓**Cambodia: Steung Siem Reap Watershed**

✓**Ethiopia: Gilbel Gibe Catchment**

✓**Fiji: Natewa-Tunuloa Peninsula**

✓**Ghana: The Weto Range**

✓**India: Himalayan State of Uttarakhan**

✓**Malawi: Takumbo-Kande Region**

✓**Nepal: Makawanpun District**

✓**Slovakia: Laborec-Uh Region**

✓**Turkey: Turkey - Datça -Bozburun Peninsula**

Learning from the COMDEKS Community-Based Landscape Approach

A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES
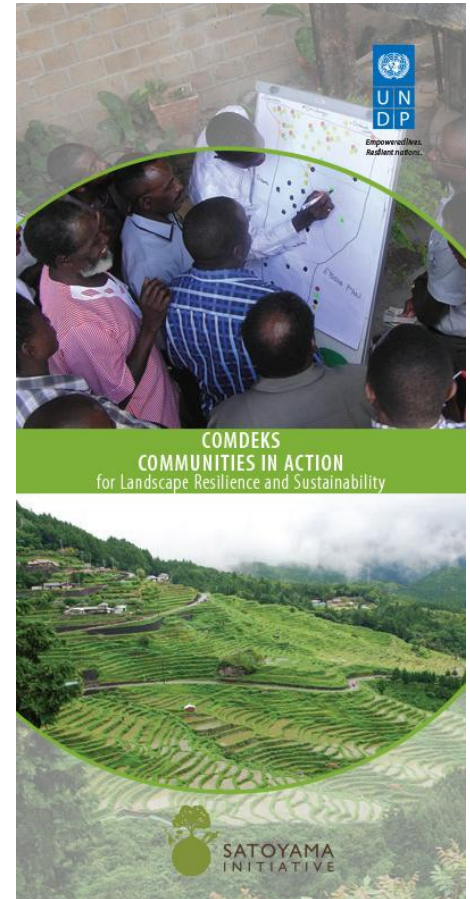Lessons from Phase II of the COMDEKS Programme

COMDEKS on the Ground: Phase 2 Country Case Studies

✓ **Bhutan: Gamri Watershed**

✓ **Cameroon: The Bogo Landscape**

✓ **Costa Rica: Jesús María River Basin**

✓ **Ecuador: Napo River Watershed, Amazon**

✓ **El Salvador: Jiquilisco Bay, Bajo Lempa, and Jaltepeque Estuary**

✓ **Indonesia: Semau Island**

✓ **Kyrgyzstan: Lake Issyk-Kul**

✓ **Mongolia: Central Selenge Region**

✓ **Namibia: Iipumbu-ya-Tshilongo Conservancy**

✓ **Niger: Lake Tabalak**

- **Participatory Landscape Planning and Collective Action**
  - ✓ **Participatory Landscape Planning develops social capital for collective action.**

- **Governance of Integrated Landscapes**
  - ✓ **The governance of integrated landscapes calls for new institutional models.**

- **Knowledge, Innovation and Scaling Up**
  - ✓ **Knowledge from community-led innovation is critical to adaptive management and scaling up the landscape approach.**

- **Long-term Engagement and Adaptive Management**
  - ✓ **Work at the landscape level requires time and long-term support, but frees communities and donors from the constraints of a single project focus.**

Example case:
Ipumbu-ya Shilongo Conservancy, Namibia

Ipumbu-ya Shilongo Conservancy, Namibia

- 154,800 ha. grassland, shrubland
- Primarily agricultural, farming and livestock

Assessment workshop

- Landscape visits

Assessment workshop

- Introduction by facilitators

Assessment workshop

- Mapping exercise

Assessment workshop

- Scoring

Assessment workshop

- Discussion

Assessment workshop

- Results

Assessment workshop

- Dancing! *(optional)*

Landscape strategy development

- Identified threats:
    - Climate change
    - Ecosystem services, esp. for livestock
    - Agricultural biodiversity
    - Ecosystem protection
    - Weak institutions for protection
    - Market access
    - Outward migration of labor

Landscape strategy development

- Identified opportunities:
  - Tourism
  - Sustainable salt harvesting
  - Official registration as a conservancy
  - Community-level organizational structures

Landscape Strategy

- Key issues to address:
  - Enhance food security with indigenous varieties
  - Land improvement
  - Deforestation
  - Tourism
  - Alternate livelihoods

Landscape Strategy

- Strategic directions:
  - Promote respect for biodiversity and human-nature balance
  - Address agricultural biodiversity decline
  - Tap niche areas for income generation
  - Create knowledge capture and sharing system
  - Strengthen cross-sectorial institutions

Landscape Strategy

- Expected outcomes:
  - Enhanced ecosystem service provision
  - Improved agricultural productivity
  - Alternative livelihoods
  - Strengthened systems
  - New model of landscape management as a best practice

Landscape Strategy

- Project selection criteria:
  - Intersectoral: environmental, social, economic
  - Innovative: includes revival of traditional methods
  - Sustainable
  - Replicable
  - Feasible within the project timeframe
  - Address more than one outcome

Landscape Strategy

- Implementation:
  - 7 projects selected, including:
  - Connecting landscape with main water source
  - Farmers trained in "conservation tillage"
  - Micro drip irrigation for garden projects
  - Awareness-raising on salt-pan conservation
  - Capacity building in implementation of donor-funded projects

Landscape Strategy

- Monitoring:
  - Project-level indicators and M&E
    - Field monitoring visits
    - Progress reports
    - Final evaluation report
  - Final indicators assessment workshop
- Knowledge management plan
  - Various activities: knowledge exchange b/w projects; experts database; "info-days"; others

Implementation progress

- Over 90% of funds allocated

- Delays from outbreak of foot and mouth disease, but

- Projected to finish by late 2016

o SGP Upgraded Country Programmes (UCPs) are adopting a community-based landscape approach as their core programming framework for the GEF Sixth Operational Phase (OP6)

  ✓ Building on the experience of UNDP's COMDEKS community-based landscape planning approach.

o A dynamic portfolio of 15 Country Programs developing strategies to build social and ecological resilience of SEPLS

  ✓ 9 SGP Country Programs were upgraded during the GEF OP5: Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan, and Philippines

  ✓ 6 are in the process of upgrading for the GEF OP6: Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Thailand

o UCPs have a premier stage on which to demonstrate the lessons they have internalized during the upgrading process of OP5

  ✓ They are repositories of experience and models of networking and local civil society capacity development.