

**MEMORANDUM FOR COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN
AND
THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY SECRETARIAT
FOR
COOPERATION ON THE SATOYAMA INITIATIVE**

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) and the Global Environment Facility Secretariat (GEFSEC) (hereinafter referred to “the participants”) recognize that integrating conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes, including forests and agricultural lands, is an important measure to sustain and enhance biodiversity. These landscapes, and the sustainable practices and knowledge which have shaped them, are increasingly threatened in many parts of the world due to urbanization, industrialization, and changing patterns of local population. In addition to improving the sustainability of protected area systems, measures are required to promote and strengthen the conservation of globally significant biodiversity in landscapes, including through a broader global recognition of their value.

The GEF Biodiversity focal area has been providing substantial investment in protected areas management and other conservation and sustainable use initiatives. The participants recognize that the GEF’s investment on mainstreaming of biodiversity in production landscapes is a key objective within the GEF Biodiversity focal area. The GEF-5 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy, together with other ongoing partnership programs, including the GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), continue to focus on mainstreaming biodiversity in the production landscape/seascape and its related sectors.

Given its long-standing financial track record with projects promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity in production landscapes, the MOEJ recognizes the GEF as one of the vital financial mechanisms vis a vis the *Satoyama* Initiative and its activities.

The participants recognize that the GEF possesses a comprehensive package of financial options that can further the goals of the *Satoyama* Initiative. The GEF will facilitate, subject to country needs and priority, the use of its grant modalities, including the enabling activities, GEF-SGP, CEPF, and medium and full size projects, as leveraged opportunities for activities related to the *Satoyama* Initiative in close cooperation with implementing agencies, provided those activities are eligible under the GEF-5 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy.

The participants determined to further explore opportunity for collaboration for implementing the *Satoyama* Initiative and carry out related activities.

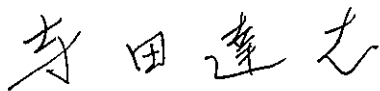
The participants also confirmed that the GEF should be adequately recognized and provided necessary visibility as one of key financial mechanisms to advance the *Satoyama* Initiative.

This Memorandum will not be deemed or construed to create, or have been intended to create, legally binding obligations between the participants.

The participants recognize that no matter of this Memorandum will be construed so as to interfere, in any way, with the participants' respective decision-making process with regard to their own respective affairs and operations.

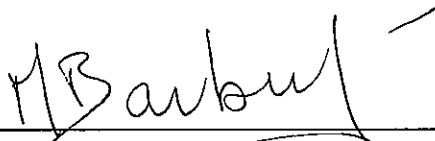
17 December, 2011

For
Ministry of the Environment, Japan



Tatsushi Terada
Vice-minister for Global Environmental Affairs
On behalf of
Goshi Hosono
Minister

For
Global Environment Facility (GEF)



Monique Barbut
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson