



SEPLS

“Satoyama” is a Japanese word that indicates a mixed landscape where human habitation and production form a mosaic with uncultivated forests and grasslands. This type of landscape is known by various terminologies in different countries, so the term **“Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes”** or **SEPLS** has been coined to encompass all of them. SEPLS consist of, in many cases, croplands, settlements, forests and grasslands, as well as fisheries, and embody a great deal of traditional knowledge. The Satoyama Initiative is dedicated to the conservation and promotion of SEPLS around the world.



IPSI: The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative

<http://www.satoyama-initiative.org/>



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ABOUT IPSI

The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) was established on 19 October 2010, during the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10) in Nagoya, Japan, with 51 founding members. Since that time, the number of governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental, private sector, academic, and indigenous member organizations has more than tripled and continues to grow.



VISION, APPROACH, AND IMPACT

IPSI's overall vision is to realize societies in harmony with nature. From its inception, IPSI has taken a global approach by seeking to: consolidate wisdom on securing diverse ecosystem services and values; integrate traditional ecological knowledge and modern science to promote innovations; and explore new forms of co-management systems around the world.

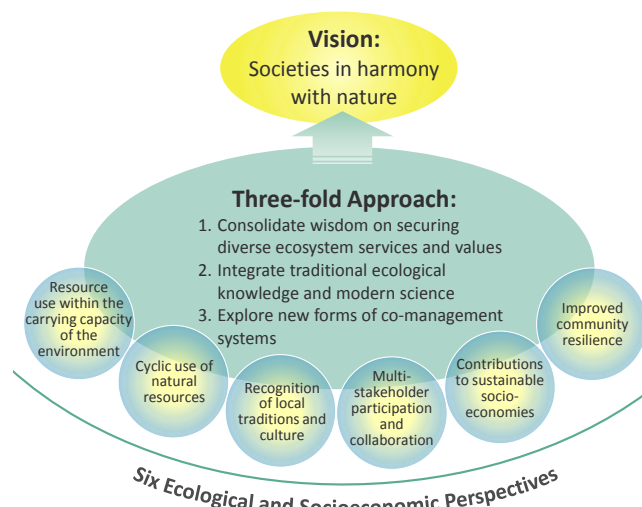
Five key perspectives have been identified as necessary to the promotion of SEPLS: resource capacity within the carrying capacity of the environment; cyclic use of natural resources; recognition of the value and importance of local traditions and cultures; multi-stakeholder participation and collaboration; and contributions to socio-economies.



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“We have finally arrived at the tools we need in sustainable use of biological diversity that will enable effective understanding of the resilience of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) for agro-biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and ecosystem services for human well-being.”

Professor Alfred Oteng-Yeboah
Chair, IPSI Steering Committee
Ghana National Biodiversity Committee



By rebuilding harmonious relationships between humans and nature, IPSI activities promote the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The partnership expects to make significant contributions to national policies for sustainable development and to the UN Millennium Development Goals, in addition to helping to combat desertification and mitigate climate change. Many activities also promote the sustainable use of natural resources through appraisal of traditional knowledge and cultures.



IPSI ACTIVITIES

IPSI promotes a wide variety of activities with the goals of enhancing understanding, raising awareness, and promoting maintenance and rebuilding of SEPLS. Activities under these goals include knowledge facilitation, policy research, indicators research, capacity building, and on-the-ground activities.

IPSI Global Conferences are held regularly, and consist of an Assembly and Public Forum. The partnership also provides a mechanism for creating collaborative activities among its member organizations, with over 20 collaborative activities having been endorsed to date.

MEMBERSHIP

IPSI members enjoy many benefits, such as information-sharing, networking, participation in collaborative activities, and chances to attend IPSI-sponsored events and conferences. To apply, prospective members first submit application documents for approval by the IPSI Steering Committee. Successful applicants are expected to submit a case study regarding their SEPLS-related activities within six months of their application's approval. For more information and application documents, please contact the IPSI Secretariat or visit our website.

For more information on IPSI, please visit: <http://satoyama-initiative.org/>

