# **IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet**

## **Basic Information**

Title of case study (should be concise and within approximately 25 words)

Community agrobiodiversity management: an effective tool for sustainable food and agricultural production from SEPLS

Submitting IPSI member organization(s)

M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Community Agrobiodiversity Centre

Other contributing organization(s) (IPSI members and/or non-members)

Author(s) and affiliation(s)

Nadesapanicker Anil Kumar and Parameswaran Prajeesh, M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Community Agrobiodiversity Centre

Format of case study (manuscript or audiovisual) Manuscript Language English

Keywords (3-5 key concepts included in the case study)

Community agrobiodiversity management; Genome saviours; SEPLS; Western Ghats; 4C approach

Date of submission (or update, if this is an update of an existing case study) 1 November 2016

Web link (of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)

## Geographical Information

Country (where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even "global")	Country	(where site(s) or activities	s described in the case study	are located – can be multiple,	or even "global")
---	---------	------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------

India

Location(s) (within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)

Wayanad, Kerala

Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link (if location is identified)

https://www.google.com/maps/@11.7142265,75.9691001,11z?hl=en

Ecosystem(s) (please place an "x" in all appropriate boxes)

Forest	X	Grassland	Agricultural	X	In-land water	Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain	Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)		

Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area (within 50 words)

Wayanad is a hilly terrain in southern Western Ghats and lies at an average altitude of 750 metres above sea level. The district of 2,136 square kilometres is unique for its rich wealth of flora and fauna and for the diverse cultures that inhabit the land. Wayanad is a high range agro-ecological zone having moderately distributed monsoons.

Description of human-nature interactions in the area (land-use, traditional resource management practices etc. – within 50 words)

The contribution to the state's foreign exchange earnings through cash crops (pepper, cardamom, coffee, tea, ginger, turmeric, rubber and areca nut) is significant. The genetic diversity in paddies is also notable with over 20 landraces cultivated that have peculiarities in response to flood, drought, pests and diseases.

#### Contents

Status ("ongoing" or "completed") Ongoing Period (MM/YY to MM/YY) 1998 -

Rationale (why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed – within 50 words)

Paddy fields are being converted extensively for other purposes across the state. It is in this context that the interventions in community agrobiodiversity management of the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) over nearly two decades need to be synthesised and analysed for replication and up-scaling.

Objectives (goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study – within 50 words)

The "4C" approach pays concurrent attention to the Conservation, Cultivation, Consumption and Commerce of components of agrobiodiversity. This case study synthesises four complementary field action research programmes which have together contributed in mainstreaming the concepts of SEPLS in the policy and developmental planning of local self-governments.

Activities and/or practices employed (within 50 words)

The four separate cases followed different methodologies and actions. All of these cases intended to generate transforming knowledge towards sustainable use of agrobiodiversity and SEPLs through a multi-lateral approach of action research and policy advocacy in a partnership mode.

Results (within 50 words)

Based on these pilot efforts, MSSRF along with its grassroots institutions has fuelled a number of programmes in the district envisioning the knowledge sharing and conservation of agrobiodiversity by ensuring its sustainable and equitable use.

Lessons learned (factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities – within 40 words)

Our efforts suggest that different strategies are required for the on-farm management of agrobiodiversity and SEPLS that go beyond a conservationist approach. It is necessary to actively integrate agrobiodiversity into the overall issue of sustainable development, giving equal consideration to the three dimensions of it-economic, ecological and social sustainability.

Key messages (within 40 words)

Conservation issues, cultivation knowledge, consumption awareness and commercial aspects all need to be integrated into one overarching policy strategy. There is a need for hand-holding of local institutions like community agrobiodiversity centres with democratically elected and empowered local self-governments to integrate the notion of SEPLS in real-life and livelihood actions and to mainstream its concepts.

Relationship to other IPSI activities (if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.)

This case study originally appeared in the Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review v. 2.

Funding (any relevant information about funding of activities or projects described in the case study)

## Contributions to Global Agendas

### CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s).  $\bullet$  and  $\blacksquare$  indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B						
						•				
		<b>.</b> "	<b>(3</b> )	=5  -7	<b>U</b>	7	h.	5.		
Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D				Strategic Goal E			
		•						•		
11	12	33	14	15	<b>%</b> 16	17	18	19	20	

## UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs</a>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s).  $\bullet$  and  $\blacksquare$  indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

