

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study			
India: Homegardens in South India and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)			
Other contributing organization(s) <i>(IPSI members and/or non-members)</i>			
Japan Wildlife Research Center (JWRC)			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
Japan Wildlife Research Center (JWRC); Kaoru Ichikawa (UNU-IAS), ed.			
Format of case study <i>(manuscript or audiovisual)</i>	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords			
Homegardens, paddy rice cultivation			
Date of submission <i>(or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)</i>		March 2012	
Web link <i>(of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)</i>	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:5448/SEPL_in_Asia_report_2nd_Printing.web.pdf		

Geographical Information

Country <i>(where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even “global”)</i>									
India									
Location(s) <i>(within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)</i>									
Kerala State, Tamil Nadu State, Karunataka State and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands									
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link <i>(if location is identified)</i>									
https://www.google.com/maps/@11.580861,84.9387153,6.75z									
Ecosystem(s)									
Forest		Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water		Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban	x	Other <i>(Please specify)</i>			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area									
The economy in India has been on the rise since India moved to a market-based system. Its agricultural land has an area of about 55% of the total country. The majority of the agricultural population practices small-scale subsistence agriculture.									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area									
One of the representative forms of subsistence agricultural systems in India is the homegarden. It is a system composed of a combination of the cultivation of crops, trees and shrubs, the raising of livestock and poultry, as well as fish culture.									

Contents

Status (<i>"ongoing" or "completed"</i>)	Completed	Period (<i>MM/YY to MM/YY</i>)	03/2012
Rationale (<i>why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed</i>)			
This study was commissioned to be included in the publication "Socio-ecological Production Landscapes in Asia".			
Objectives (<i>goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study</i>)			
This chapter provides an overview of homegardening in southern India and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.			
Activities and/or practices employed			
Literature review, field observation.			
Results			
Homegardening has been a way of life for centuries and is still critical to the local subsistence economies and food security. It is well known that these traditional land-use systems are influenced to a great extent by the biophysical and sociocultural characteristics of the locales where they are practiced.			
Lessons learned (<i>factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities</i>)			
In south India, the crops cultivated and harvested in homegardens are used by the farmers for their own consumption and are traded in the local market only as a source of cash income. Homegardens require a relatively even amount of labor inputs at any time of the year in their operation and maintenance, leading to the generation of employment opportunities.			
Key messages			
Homegardens provide various benefits as mentioned above, but the market value of the products from them is relatively low, hence the cash income of the farmers is small. As such, the sustainability of the traditional, biologically diverse and ecologically sustainable homegarden itself is presently under threat. The declining biodiversity and landscape diversity due to the replacement of traditional land use systems will lead to threats to food security/diversity.			
Relationship to other IPSI activities (<i>if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.</i>)			
This case study originally appeared in the publication "Socio-ecological Production Landscapes in Asia". *This Summary Sheet was produced by UNU-IAS alone.			
Funding (<i>any relevant information about funding of activities or projects described in the case study</i>)			
This study was commissioned by UNU-IAS.			

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). ● and ■ 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					
●			■			■			
Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
■		■					■	■	

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

	■							
	■	■			■			