

IPSI Collaborative Activity Proposal Form

The following form is for use when submitting proposed IPSI Collaborative Activities for consideration by the IPSI Steering Committee. See the Collaborative Activity Guidelines on p. 3 for more information.

Please return the completed form to the IPSI Secretariat (isi@unu.edu).

IPSI Collaborative Activities are the activities that shall be undertaken by more than one IPSI member and constitute an important part of IPSI activities with the purpose of fostering collaboration within the IPSI membership and implementing the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action. The IPSI Collaborative Activities shall be developed and implemented with the endorsement of the Steering Committee in accordance with the Collaborative Activity Guidelines. Resource mobilization for IPSI collaborative activities shall be the responsibility of the implementing members in principle. – IPSI Operational Guidelines, Chapter 5.4

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| Date of Application: | |
| Project title: | |
| Integrating Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) for effective and equitable area-based conservation, aligning with 30x30: A Joint International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) Initiative (Phase one) | |
| Collaborating organizations (IPSI members): <i>(*Please underline the leading organization)</i> | |
| International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) | |
| Other contributing organization(s) (including IPSI non-members): | |
| In collaboration with other IPSI members, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) when applicable. | |
| Expected term (e.g. 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025): | |
| January 2025 – March 2026 TBD | |
| IPSI strategic objective(s) addressed (tick all that apply; see p. 3 for more details): | |
| x | 1. Knowledge Co-Production, Management, and Uptake for SEPLS |
| x | 2. Institutional Frameworks and Capacity Development for SEPLS |
| x | 3. Area-Based Conservation Measures for SEPLS |
| (x) | 4. Ecosystem Restoration for SEPLS |
| (x) | 5. Sustainable Value Chain Development for SEPLS |

Continued on next page.

Description of the activity:

Please provide as much information as possible on:

- Background
- Activities (including site locations if applicable)
- Expected outcomes
- Actors and task sharing
- How the activity relates to the *IPSI Strategy* and *IPSI Plan of Action*
- Resources, funding
- Monitoring and reporting

Background

The Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was adopted during the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to guide a pathway to reach the global vision of a world living in harmony with nature by 2050. Among the 23 Targets to be achieved by 2030, Target 3 was set to ensure and enable the effective conservation and management of at least 30% of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas through systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) with the recognition of Indigenous and traditional territories as the pathways to achieve this Target.

IUCN was invited by CBD Parties to provide a definition and criterion which was adopted in 2018. An OECM is defined as “a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values” (CBD, 2018). Under this definition, OECMs offer a significant opportunity to recognise effective long-term conservation that takes place outside currently designated protected areas under a variety of governance types, including state actors and non-state actors, such as private landowners, and Indigenous peoples and local communities. OECMs, once reported, are considered equally effective to protected areas and together form part of the complementary and comprehensive systems to conserve biodiversity. The IUCN’s programme of work on Protected and Conserved Areas, has a mission to advance the recognition and reporting of OECMs as part of their overall global strategy.

In parallel, Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS), which have been promoted by the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), are defined by UNU-IAS and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as “areas where production activities help to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem services in various forms while sustainably supporting the livelihoods and well-being of local communities (UNU-IAS and IGES eds. 2015).” This concept could be considered as largely equivalent to other concepts such as the social-ecological systems approach, man and biosphere initiative, ecosystem approach that consider human-nature interconnections as a coupled system. These areas are among the areas that have great potential to be qualified and recognised as OECMs, and therefore further analysis and guidance are required. Many of these areas may well meet the definition and criterion of OECMs, and some others may instead be better placed under the adjacent relevant targets on sustainable use and harvest.

In particular, the Ninth IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-9) convened in July 2023, adopted a new Strategy and Plan of Action of IPSI for 2023-2030 (the IPSI PoA). This plan outlines five strategic objectives that will guide the work of IPSI in the coming years. For the effective implementation of the IPSI PoA, the IPSI Steering Committee (SC) endorsed the implementation structure of setting lead organisations in each strategic objective at its 21st meeting. IUCN, a member of IPSI, was appointed to the lead organisation of one of strategic objectives, “Area-Based Conservation Measures”.

In this context, this project aims to examine the potential of SEPLS to be recognised and reported as OECMs, through a capacity development and shared learning approach, to contribute to the effective implementation of the IPSI PoA.

Activities (including site locations if applicable)

1. Desktop review and analysis of frameworks and cases

- 1) Compare and analyse the definition and criteria of OECMs with those of SEPLS
- 2) Collate SEPLS case studies to identify good practices of area-based conservation and potential OECMs

2. Development of OECMs learning materials for IPSI members and beyond

- 1) Examine and adapt the Resilience Indicators for identification, recognition and monitoring of OECMs.
- 2) Link the adapted Resilience Indicators to the OECMs Screening Tool and IUCN Land Health monitoring tool.
- 3) Develop OECMs learning materials for IPSI members and beyond

3. Policy Engagement

- 1) Organise exchange and learning meetings with IUCN experts, commissions, IPSI members, and partners.
- 2) Conduct outreach activities

4. Coordination and Consultation with IPSI members

- 1) In the process of activities 1. to 3., coordinate and consult with IPSI members and SC as appropriate
- 2) Consolidate examples of actions under this objective to be described in the Actionable Implementation Plan

Expected outcomes

- Promoted recognition of qualified SEPLS as PAs and OECMs through increased awareness of their benefits
- Promoted peer learning and capacity development activities to consider the relationships between OECMs and SEPLS and the potential for production landscapes and seascapes to be recognized as OECMs
- Promoted the use of the Indicators of Resilience in SEPLS and other related tools to ensure the effective management of PAs and OECMs
- Identified the particular challenges related to area-based conservation in volumetric seascapes
- Shared lessons and best practices on the management of SEPLS, including watershed, integrated coastal, and ridge to reef management

Actors and task sharing

IUCN, in collaboration with UNU-IAS/IPSI Secretariat, will conduct the activities, under consultation with UNU-IAS/IPSI Secretariat and coordination with SC and IPSI members if applicable.

How the activity relates to the IPSI Strategy and IPSI Plan of Action

Area-Based Conservation Measures is one of the five strategic objectives of the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action for 2023-2030, and this project is to directly contribute to its implementation.

Resources, funding

Based on a contract between IUCN and UNU-IAS

Monitoring and reporting

The project will be conducted under consultation with UNU-IAS/IPSI Secretariat and coordination with SC and IPSI members if applicable, reflecting their feedback. Summary reports of the activities will be produced and submitted to UNU-IAS by IUCN.

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

IPSI Secretariat use only

