

SUMMARYREPORT

Tenth Global Conference of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI-10)



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Date: 3– 5 March 2026

Venue: Escuela Superior Politécnica de Chimborazo (ESPOCH), Riobamba, Ecuador and Online

Organizers: Secretariat of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative; United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS); ESPOCH; University of Georgia (UGA) and Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan (MOEJ).

Host: ESPOCH



Overview

The Tenth Global Conference of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI-10) brought together over 200 participants, including representatives of IPSI member organizations, partners and other stakeholders. For the first time, the conference was held in a hybrid format, allowing IPSI members to gather in person and online.

As with previous IPSI Global Conferences, IPSI-10 consisted of a meeting of the IPSI General Assembly, a Public Forum and the Twenty-seventh Meeting of the IPSI Steering Committee (SC-27). Participants were also engaged in breakout sessions, a presentations session, exhibitions and study tours to the Chimborazo mountain or the neighbouring Guano village.

The IPSI General Assembly, held on 3 March, was attended by approximately 60 in-person representatives of IPSI member organizations. Around 100 participants joined online throughout the three conference days. The General Assembly addressed key operational and strategic matters of IPSI, including reports from the Steering Committee and the IPSI Secretariat, updates on IPSI activities and projects and discussions on the *Actionable Implementation Plan (AIP)* for the *IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action 2023–2030 (PoA)*.

A central outcome of IPSI-10 was the adoption of the AIP, which outlines concrete actions across five strategic objectives, including strengthening knowledge generation and sharing, enhancing institutional frameworks and capacity development, promoting conservation through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), advancing ecosystem restoration and supporting sustainable value chains. These actions include promoting knowledge exchange through case studies, supporting Indigenous and local knowledge systems and fostering community-based restoration and sustainable production practices. Collectively, they also contribute to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity

Framework (GBF) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The theme of the IPSI-10 Public Forum was Conservation in Mountain Landscapes and Sustainable Ecotourism. The event was held on 4 March and was co-organized by UNU-IAS, IPSI Secretariat, UGA, ESPOCH and MOEJ, and brought together more than 180 participants from IPSI members and the broader public, both in person and online. Presentations and panel discussions addressed key topics including conservation efforts in mountain landscapes, raising awareness and engaging stakeholders, and the role of sustainable ecotourism as a driver for conservation and local development. The forum also highlighted the importance of Indigenous and local knowledge, biocultural heritage and community-based approaches in achieving sustainable outcomes.

Following the Public Forum, participants took part in study tours organized by ESPOCH to the Chimborazo Wildlife Reserve and Guano City, providing opportunities to engage directly with local landscapes and communities.

Exhibitions were held throughout the conference, providing a space for IPSI members to showcase their activities and share knowledge through posters and materials, and facilitating engagement among participants and the broader public.

On 5 March, participants engaged in breakout sessions focused on the implementation of the AIP across Strategic Objectives 3, 4 and 5, followed by a presentations session in which IPSI members shared their activities and projects. The conference concluded with a closing plenary, which included reports from the Public Forum and breakout sessions, an outlook for IPSI activities and closing remarks.

The IPSI-10 programme is available on the [IPSI website](#).

General Assembly

The General Assembly of IPSI-10 was held on 3 March 2026 and was chaired by Kazuhiko Takeuchi (President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES); Visiting Professor, UNU-IAS).



From left. Tsunao Watanabe (IPSI Secretariat), Paul Tito (CWPR), Shinobu Yamaguchi (UNU-IAS), Byron Ernesto Vaca (ESPOCH), Fumiko Nakao (SCBD) and Fausto Sarmiento (UGA). Photo: UNU-IAS.

The session opened with remarks by Shinobu Yume Yamaguchi (Director, UNU-IAS), who welcomed participants and highlighted the continued growth and diversification of IPSI over the past 20 years, emphasizing its role in advancing socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) as an integrated approach to addressing biodiversity loss, climate change and sustainable development. Yamaguchi also underscored IPSI's contribution to translating global biodiversity commitments into action and encouraged participants to strengthen collaboration and knowledge

exchange across regions.

Byron Ernesto Vaca Barahona (Rector, ESPOCH) welcomed participants to Riobamba and highlighted the significance of holding IPSI-10 in Ecuador, noting the country's rich biodiversity, cultural heritage and pluricultural context. Barahona emphasized the role of academic institutions in advancing global sustainability efforts through research and collaboration.

Paul Tito (Administrator, Chimborazo Wildlife Production Reserve; CWPR) emphasized that Ecuador is one of the world's megadiverse countries and outlined national conservation efforts, including the protection of more than 20 million hectares of terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems and the presence of three protected areas in the Chimborazo province.

Fumiko Nakao (Principal Coordination Officer, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; SCBD) highlighted the SCBD's long-standing support for the Satoyama Initiative and emphasized the importance of landscape approaches in advancing the implementation of the GBF. She encouraged IPSI to consider submitting its AIP as a non-state actor commitment to further demonstrate alignment with global biodiversity goals.

Fausto Sarmiento (Professor, UGA) emphasized the importance of mountain landscapes as foundational to scientific understanding of human–nature relationships and



Photo: ESPOCH.

highlighted the need for transdisciplinary approaches that integrate diverse knowledge systems, including Indigenous and local perspectives. Sarmiento underscored the concept of SEPLS as an expression of harmony between culture and nature and called for a shift in scientific narratives towards more holistic and inclusive approaches to understanding and managing socio-ecological systems.

Following the opening remarks, the Chair introduced the provisional agenda under Agenda Item 1, which was adopted by the General Assembly without objection.

Agenda Item 2: Report from the Chair of the IPSI Steering Committee

A report from the Chair of the IPSI Steering Committee (SC) was delivered by Maurizio Ferrari (Senior Policy Advisor, Forest Peoples Programme) on behalf of Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, Chair of the SC.



Maurizio Ferrari (Forest Peoples Programme). Photo: UNU-IAS.

The report outlined developments since IPSI-9, including continued growth in IPSI membership and collaborative activities. Between 2023 and 2025, IPSI welcomed 43 new member organizations, bringing total membership to 348 (see Annex I for a list of new members). This growth reflects increasing engagement from a diverse range of stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, academic and research institutions, governments, international organizations and the private sector.

The report highlighted IPSI’s broad geographic representation, with members across all regions and particularly strong participation from the Asia-Pacific region, followed by Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Since IPSI-9, 15 new collaborative activities have been endorsed, bringing the total to 75 projects under IPSI, see Annex II. These activities address a range of priority topics, including landscape approaches for the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs),

ecosystem restoration, sustainable livelihoods and capacity development.

The report also outlined key governance and operational developments of the SC. Following the adoption of the IPSI PoA at IPSI-9, the SC endorsed the selection of lead organizations for each Strategic Objective (SO) and supported the establishment of Thematic Working Groups. These groups have worked closely with the SC to develop the IPSI AIP, which was presented for adoption at IPSI-10.

In addition, the SC approved the modality for future IPSI Global Conferences. While previous conferences were generally held annually, future conferences will be organized with greater flexibility, taking into consideration host country circumstances and alignment with the broader international policy calendar, including processes under the CBD.

The SC also confirmed the City of Yokohama, Japan, as the host of the Eleventh IPSI Global Conference (IPSI-11), with further details on dates to be announced by the IPSI Secretariat.

Finally, it was noted that the Twenty-seventh Meeting of the IPSI Steering Committee would take place on 5 March 2026, during which members would discuss next steps for implementing the AIP, informed by the outcomes of the breakout sessions, as well as the rotation of SC membership.

Agenda Item 3: Report from the IPSI Secretariat and Partners on IPSI Projects

The IPSI Secretariat and partners provided updates on IPSI activities and projects since IPSI-9, including publications, capacity development initiatives and collaborative programmes such as the Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) and the Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) programme.



Photo:UNU-IAS.

Ichiro Hama (Deputy Director, IPSI Secretariat) reported on IPSI’s progress since IPSI 9, noting activities that contributed to the five Strategic Objectives (SO) of the PoA. In particular, activities under SO3–SO5 were implemented

in collaboration with their respective lead organizations, including International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for SO3, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for SO4 and Conservation International for SO5. The Secretariat also continued outreach at major international meetings under the

Rio Conventions, strengthened knowledge sharing through events and workshops and enhanced the IPSI information platform through regular updates. These efforts aim to reinforce partnerships and improve access to IPSI’s collective knowledge.

Suneetha M. Subramanian (Research Fellow, IPSI Secretariat) presented strong progress on research activities since IPSI-9, including the publication of Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review (SITR) volumes, a policy report on subsidies and incentives and their implications for SEPLS and the revised SEPLS Indicators toolkit. She also highlighted the growing uptake and follow-up activities related to these research outputs.



Presenter Koji Miwa (IGES). Photo: UNU-IAS.

Koji Miwa (Research Manager, IGES; SDM Secretariat) presented progress under the SDM, including 73 projects supported to date. Noting its continued success as a form of seed funding, he reiterated calls for applications from IPSI members for innovative initiatives.

Rissa Edo (Partnership Specialist, UNDP Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP)) presented updates on COMDEKS Phase Four, including selected sites and implementation progress across locations. Phase Four is funded by MOEJ and the Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation and is implemented in partnership with SCBD and UNU-IAS.

Presentation materials related to this agenda item are available on the [IPSI website](#).

Agenda Item 4: Report on the Actionable Implementation Plan for the IPSI Plan of Action 2023 -2030 and Adoption

A key agenda item was the presentation and adoption of the AIP for the IPSI 2023–2030 PoA.

The session began with an overview of the AIP, including Strategic Objective 1: Knowledge Co-Production, Management and Update (SO1) and Strategic Objective 2: Institutional

Frameworks and Capacity Development (SO2), presented by the IPSI Secretariat.

This was followed by presentations from lead organizations supporting the implementation of Strategic Objective 3: Area-Based Conservation Measures (SO3), Strategic Objective 4: Ecosystem Restoration (SO4) and Strategic Objective 5: Sustainable Value Chain Development (SO5). SO3 was presented by Ulrika Åberg (IUCN), SO4 by Isao Endo (ADB) and SO5 by Yoji Natori (Conservation International). These presentations outlined key actions, priorities and opportunities for collaboration under each objective.

The AIP provides a framework for implementing the PoA and includes actions across five SOs related to knowledge generation, implementation, capacity development, policy engagement and partnerships. These actions are intended to support coordinated efforts by IPSI members and contribute to the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

A discussion session provided participants with the opportunity to exchange views and inputs on the proposed actions. Following the discussion, the AIP was adopted by consensus.

Presentation materials related to this agenda item are available on the [IPSI website](#).

Agenda Item 5: Rotation of IPSI Steering Committee Membership

The rotation of the IPSI SC was conducted in line with the IPSI Operational Guidelines, which encourage periodic rotation to ensure balanced representation and effective governance. A transparent and member-focused process was implemented, inviting current SC members to indicate their interest in continuing and calling for expressions of interest from IPSI members.



Members of the Steering Committee. Photo: UNU-IAS.

Based on established criteria, including contributions to IPSI priorities, regional and organizational balance and capacity to support IPSI activities, the Secretariat developed a rotation proposal in consultation with the SC Chair. The proposal was presented to the General Assembly and received broad support from IPSI members.

A renewed Steering Committee comprising 19 IPSI member organizations was endorsed for the next term, which will run until IPSI-12. The rotation included five new members and four outgoing members, reflecting continued engagement and confidence in the SC composition.

Members rotating in:

- Comunità dei Grani Antichi Montespertoli (Ancient Grains Association)
- VICAM: Vícuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente
- National Dong Hwa University
- Social Policy Ecology Research Institute (SPERI)
- Tribhuvan University, Amrit Campus, Institute of Science & Technology

Members rotating out:

- Conservation International Japan
- Kathmandu Forestry College (KAFCOL)
- Nature and Livelihoods
- Ministry of Environment, Cambodia

Endorsed IPSI Steering Committee members (19):

1. Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
2. United Nations University (UNU)
3. Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
4. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
5. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat
6. Ghana National Biodiversity Board
7. Conservation Solutions Afrika
8. Marine Ecosystems Protected Areas (MEPA) Trust
9. University of Georgia, Neotropical Montology Collaboratory
10. Sabah Biodiversity Centre, Natural Resources Office Sabah, Malaysia
11. Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research (PAR)
12. Asociación Pro Desarrollo Agroindustrial de Camaná (APAIC)
13. University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Science
14. Forest Peoples Programme (FPP)
15. Comunità dei Grani Antichi Montespertoli (Ancient Grains Association)
16. VICAM: Vícuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente
17. National Dong Hwa University
18. Social Policy Ecology Research Institute (SPERI)
19. Tribhuvan University, Amrit Campus, Institute of Science & Technology

Public Forum

Report on IPSI-10 Public Forum by Fausto Sarmiento¹ and Alden Yépez²

¹Neotropical Montology Collaboratory, University of Georgia (UGA)

²Archeology of Water and Glaciers Lab, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador (PUCE)

On 4 March 2026, the Public Forum of IPSI-10 was held under the theme [Conservation in Mountain Landscapes and Sustainable Ecotourism](#).

The forum brought together a broad audience, in person and online, including local experts, ESPOCH faculty and students and citizens of Riobamba. Opening presentations by Fausto Sarmiento (Professor, UGA) and Suneetha Subramanian (Research Fellow, UNU-IAS/IPSI Secretariat) provided the conceptual framing, introducing Montology, biocultural heritage and regenerative development to strengthen SDGs in SEPLS.

Across three plenary sessions, 21 delivered brief exposés followed by discussions with the audience. The diversity of perspectives reflected a strong commitment to transdisciplinary dialogues, further enriched by a parallel poster session showcasing IPSI members' activities.

Ana María Varea (former UNDP Ecuador) delivered a speech that was warmly applauded and raised concerns over illegal mining and the institutional merger of the Ministry of Environment with the Ministry of Energy and Mines. Carlos Jara (Dean, Faculty of Natural Resources, ESPOCH) presented on environmental degradation in Lake Yambo and the limited efforts to recover its waters. Through Alejandro Aguayo (Chimborazo Wildlife Production Reserve; RPFCH), we sadly learned that Chimborazo Reserve would be proposed as a natural heritage site for UNESCO's Indicative List without recognition of its ancestral sociocultural legacies.



Photo: UNU-IAS.



Photo: UNU-IAS.

Luis Suárez (Former Director, Conservation International Ecuador) recalled the usefulness of past co-financed forest conservation programmes in Ecuador and questioned the current lack of incentives. Chadley Hollas (Ecotourism and Precarity Researcher, UGA) examined the potential of ecotourism to mitigate rural precarity in mountainscapes. Jaime López (Professor, University San Francisco de Quito) outlined challenges in transitioning the Galapagos to a SEPLS framework, while Patricio Mena (Andean Researcher, ECOCIENCIA NGO) noted ongoing environmental education on páramos conservation. Alejandra Razo (Research Coordinator, Sumak Kawsay Research Center In Situ) emphasized biodiversity conservation on Andean flanks, and Mordecai Ogada (Executive Director, Conservation Solutions Afrika) shared related experiences from Africa.

Grounded in action and cultural continuity, several presentations. Renato Chávez (Professor, ESPOCH) showed medicinal plant collections along the Qhapak Ñan (Andean Road System), while Olmedo Cayambe (Indigenous Community Representative, RPFCH) shared successes in strengthening Indigenous communities in the Chimborazo mountain. Alden Yépez (Professor, PUCE) noted that the delineation of zones under cryospheric influence remains a viable methodological strategy for anticipating and countering extractive pressures generated by accelerating glacial retreat. Juan Manuel Carrión (Scientific Illustrator, Charles Darwin Foundation) emphasized that art is intuition that leads us to science and consciousness. César Cotacachi (Indigenous environmental leader, Imbakucha Sacred Landscape and Imbabura Global GeoPark) described the cultural gradient of Mount Imbabura and the ancestral spirituality of its inhabitants.

Conservation actions in pursuit of sustainability were presented by Jack Rodríguez (Executive Director, Ecosustainable Ecuadorian Amazon Foundation) on livestock



Photo: UNU-IAS.

farming to reduce pressure on ecosystems, by Sidney Eigeman (Researcher, UGA) on hydrology investigations in Zuñac town, and by Chimborazo ecotourism projects by Alex Gavilanez (Professor, ESPOCH) and Danny Castillo (Professor, ESPOCH).

Nathaly Pilamunga (Puruwa Women for Environmental Communication), of the Kichwa-Puruwa nation, evoked the words of Dolores Cacuango: “We are like the straw of the páramo that is pulled up and grows back... and with the straw of the páramo we will sow the world”. This message of resilience was echoed by both Chen-Fa Wu (Professor, National Chung Hsing University) and Engin Yilmaz (Executive Director, Yolda Initiative), who showed how persistence can place sustainability on international agendas.

After the forum, IPSI members visited either the Mount Chimborazo Reserve or the cultural village of Guano. Upon returning from the excursion, we felt that we had planted a seed at the base of Chimborazo, a memory that perpetuates the cognitive legacies of montology and this successful South American meeting for the Satoyama Initiative.



Photo: UNU-IAS.

Study Tours

As part of IPSI-10, participants took part in study tours organized by ESPOCH, with the option to visit Chimborazo mountain or the Guano village. These excursions provided opportunities to experience socio-ecological production landscapes in practice, highlighting the interconnectedness of biodiversity, cultural heritage and local livelihoods in the Andean region.

Chimborazo Mountain

Standing at 6,310 metres and located in the Cordillera Occidental of the Andes, Chimborazo is an inactive volcano recognized as the point on Earth farthest from the planet's centre (or closest to the Sun) due to the equatorial bulge. Participants visited the Chimborazo Wildlife Reserve, which protects the volcano and the surrounding páramo (Andean alpine tundra) and puna (high-altitude Andean grassland) ecosystems.



Photo:UNU-IAS.

Participants travelled to the Hermanos Carrel Refuge at approximately 5,000 metres above sea level, where they undertook a short hike in the surrounding area.

During the visit, participants were introduced to the cultural significance of Chimborazo for Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The mountain is revered as “Taita Chimborazo” (Father Chimborazo), reflecting its spiritual and cultural importance. Participants also observed traditional practices associated with high-altitude travel and mountain climbing, including the use of coca leaves as part of customary offerings and the consumption of coca tea, which is commonly used to help alleviate altitude-related symptoms.

A commemorative plaque marking IPSI-10 was unveiled during the visit, highlighting the significance of Chimborazo as a socio-ecological production landscape within the framework of the Satoyama Initiative and IPSI. The plaque also pays



Photo: UNU-IAS.

tribute to Alexander von Humboldt and his 1802 expedition to Chimborazo, recognizing his contributions to the development of mountain geoecology (or “montology”). It further situates the site within broader international recognition of mountain ecosystems, referencing milestones such as the outcomes of the Earth Summit and the UN General Assembly’s designation of 2002 as the International Year of the Mountains.

Guanao Village

A lively tour to the village of Guanao provided participants with insights into the cultural heritage and local livelihoods that shape the surrounding landscape. Students from ESPOCH's Tourism Department supported the visit as part of their field training, guiding participants through the city.

Participants were welcomed by representatives of the municipal council and visited the local museum, which houses historical artefacts, including a naturally preserved mummy, offering perspectives on the area’s history and identity.



Photo: UNU-IAS.

The visit also included demonstrations of traditional practices, such as the preparation of Cholas bread by a local artisanal bakery and wool carpet weaving by a family-run workshop. These activities illustrated how traditional knowledge and skills are maintained and adapted, contributing to local economies and the continuity of cultural practices.

Participants also visited sites such as the La Asunción ruins and Plaza El Rosario, gaining further appreciation of the city’s historical and cultural landscape.

Breakout Sessions

The breakout sessions were facilitated by lead organizations and IPSI members engaged in the Thematic Working Groups for SOs 3, 4 and 5. The sessions focused on approaches to implementing the AIP, including mechanisms and methodologies to support effective implementation across the strategic objectives.

Discussions emphasized the prioritization of actions, the establishment of working groups and the identification of organizational commitments. Key points from the discussions



Photo: UNU-IAS

were documented through notes and digital tools, and summaries were presented by facilitators during a wrap-up session at the closing plenary.

SO3:Area-Based Conservation Measures

For SO3, participants agreed on a focused set of core priorities to advance OECMs in SEPLS. These included strengthening knowledge on biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people (ecosystem services), improving recognition and management effectiveness, enhancing monitoring and learning and reinforcing institutional cooperation.

Key enablers highlighted during the discussions included the need for clear guidance, capacity development, FPIC-based and participatory approaches, sustainable financing and strong multi-stakeholder governance.

Implementation priorities included exploring the potential for OECM recognition within SEPLS, guidance on applying structured recognition processes, scaling up lessons learned and strengthening ecological connectivity through context-specific and collaborative approaches. These discussions drew on a range of global case studies.

A complete discussion note is available on the [IPSI website](#).

SO4: Ecosystem Restoration

Discussions under SO4 highlighted people-centred and SEPLS-based ecosystem restoration approaches rooted in local action. Examples included community seed banks, restoration using native species and the protection of culturally significant landscapes. Participants emphasized the importance of linking ecological outcomes to livelihoods, food security, water security and overall well-being.

Participants stressed the importance of youth engagement, intergenerational knowledge transfer and inclusive

approaches. Key challenges identified included land tenure issues, monitoring limitations and trade-offs between conservation and livelihoods.

Priorities moving forward included strengthening education and capacity development, developing repositories of practical case studies, facilitating peer-to-peer learning and promoting coordinated research. Participants also highlighted the need to scale successful practices through policy engagement, IPSI collaboration and alignment with global frameworks.

A complete discussion note is available on the [IPSI website](#).

SO5: Sustainable Value Chain Development

The SO5 breakout session focused on implementing the AIP by establishing three interrelated working groups on funding access, value chain shortening and stocktaking.

Discussions highlighted key considerations under each area, including resource mobilization strategies aligned with global agendas, opportunities and challenges in applying value chain shortening approaches across different commodities and landscapes, and the need to systematically analyze existing and new case studies to assess the effectiveness of the five approaches and compile lessons learned.

Participants also noted the interconnections among the three working groups, their relevance to other strategic objectives and the importance of clearly defined roles for coordination, scheduling and cross-cutting collaboration.

A complete discussion note is available on the [IPSI website](#).

Presentations Session

On 5 March, a presentation session was held in which nine IPSI members shared their activities and experiences related to SEPLS. The session provided an opportunity for members to present ongoing initiatives, exchange knowledge and highlight practical approaches from different regional contexts. A brief summary of each presentation is provided below.

Tomoyuki Sugano (Fumiharuru Forest Foundation)

Presented forest management approaches in Hokkaido, Japan, demonstrating how mosaic landscape management and OECM-certified sites can enhance biodiversity while supporting sustainable timber production. The presentation highlighted how dispersed clear-cutting, reforestation and long-term planning can create structurally diverse habitats and maintain ecological connectivity.



Presenter Bibiana Vila (VICAM). Photo: UNU-IAS.

Della Grace Bacaltos, presenting on behalf of Anthony C. Sales (Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy (HELP) Davao Network, online)

Presented a river basin governance approach in the Philippines that applies SEPLS principles through multi-stakeholder coordination, knowledge co-production and science-based decision-making tools to address water security and climate-related challenges. The presentation emphasized the role of integrated water resources management, capacity development and policy engagement in strengthening adaptive governance at the basin scale.

Guido Gualandi (Ancient Grains Association), presenting on behalf of William Olupot (Nature and Livelihoods)

Presented initiatives in Uganda and Italy focused on developing sustainable value chains from underutilized wild fruits, highlighting their potential to support livelihoods while contributing to landscape restoration and conservation. The presentation also outlined stages of product development, from research and pilot production to commercialization, and the challenges associated with scaling these initiatives.

Mangal Man Shakya (Wildlife Watch Group, video)

Presented community-based conservation efforts, highlighting approaches to biodiversity protection and the role of local communities in sustaining SEPLS. The presentation underscored the importance of local stewardship, awareness-raising and participatory approaches in addressing conservation challenges.

Paule Gros (BiodivEarth)

Presented work on building resilience in high biodiversity areas through communities of practice, applied tools and knowledge-sharing platforms that support the long-term sustainability of SEPLS. The presentation highlighted key outputs including diagnostic tools, solution catalogues and data dashboards designed to strengthen monitoring and adaptive management.

Peter Stronach (Landcare Tasmania Inc.)

Presented the Landcare model in Australia, emphasizing the role of community networks and “meso-level” social infrastructure in enabling local action, strengthening governance and scaling landscape-based initiatives. The presentation also highlighted challenges faced by community groups and the importance of sustained institutional support, funding mechanisms and coordination platforms.

Diana G. López-Alzina (Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research (PAR) – The Raffaella Foundation)

Presented the Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR), a decision-support tool linking agrobiodiversity data with community-led interventions and policy-relevant planning. The presentation demonstrated how the tool integrates ecological, socio-economic and market data to support resilient landscape management and align with global biodiversity targets.

Alice Hsu (Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation (TOAF))

Presented the Green Conservation Label initiative, demonstrating how market-based incentives and knowledge co-production can support biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture and resilient value chains. The presentation highlighted a case study of long-term collaboration with Indigenous communities, linking conservation outcomes with economic opportunities and policy support mechanisms.

Bibiana Vila (VICAM: Vicuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente)

Presented initiatives in the Andean region focused on camelid-based livelihoods, highlighting the integration of traditional knowledge, capacity development and biodiversity conservation in high-altitude SEPLS. The presentation described community-led activities, including education, cultural practices and sustainable management of vicuñas and other camelids, contributing to both livelihoods and ecosystem stewardship.

Some of the presentations’ materials are available on the [IPSI website](#).

Closing Plenary

The closing plenary of IPSI-10 brought together key outcomes from the conference, including reports from the Public Forum and breakout sessions, and outlined next steps for IPSI activities and collaboration. The session highlighted progress made during IPSI-10 and reinforced the importance of continued engagement among IPSI members in implementing the PoA and its AIP.

Next Steps and Future Activities

The IPSI Secretariat presented an overview of future activities based on the PoA 2023–2030 and its AIP, highlighting ongoing implementation and upcoming milestones.

The SC approved a more flexible modality for future IPSI Global Conferences and confirmed the City of Yokohama, Japan, as the host of IPSI-11. IPSI-12 is tentatively planned for 2029, with the timing to be determined. A mid-term report on the implementation of the PoA, covering the period 2023–2026, is expected to be presented at IPSI-11, along with consideration of a possible revision of the PoA and its AIP. A final report covering the full implementation period from 2023 to 2030 is also planned.

The Secretariat noted that Rio Convention COPs will take place in 2026 and indicated plans to actively share IPSI progress and SEPLS-related messages through these events. IPSI members were encouraged to coordinate with the Secretariat when planning related activities.

Madoka Suzuki (Manager for Strategic Planning Division, Green Environment Bureau, City of Yokohama) delivered a presentation introducing Yokohama as the host city for IPSI-11. The presentation highlighted Yokohama’s approach to integrating urban development with the conservation and sustainable use of satoyama landscapes, including initiatives to protect green spaces, promote community-based management and strengthen connections between people and nature. It also introduced preparations for GREEN×EXPO 2027, an international horticultural exhibition that will showcase efforts related to biodiversity conservation, circular economy approaches and sustainable urban development, including a dedicated “SATOYAMA Village” to promote harmony between people and nature.



Presenter Madoka Suzuki (City of Yokohama). Photo: UNU-IAS.

Closing Remarks



Yutaka Matsuzawa (MOEJ). Photo: UNU-IAS.

Yutaka Matsuzawa (Senior Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of the Environment, Japan) congratulated IPSI members on the adoption of the AIP. Matsuzawa highlighted the relevance of IPSI's work to multilateral environmental agreements and expressed confidence in IPSI's role in addressing interconnected challenges such as water resource management, food security and disaster risk reduction, while encouraging greater visibility through international outreach.

Carlos Jara (Dean, Faculty of Natural Resources, ESPOCH) conveyed ESPOCH's gratitude for the opportunity to host IPSI-10 and indicated interest in strengthening future collaboration between the university and IPSI members to support local communities. Jara noted that such collaboration could contribute to advancing sustainable development through the conservation-oriented use of natural resources.



Carlos Jara (ESPOCH). Photo: UNU-IAS.



Tsunao Watanabe (IPSI Secretariat) Photo: UNU-IAS.

Tsunao Watanabe (Director, IPSI Secretariat) underscored the significance of the adoption of the AIP as a key milestone for IPSI, emphasizing its role in guiding concrete action and encouraging members to strengthen collaboration and move from dialogue to implementation.

Exhibitions

An exhibition area was set up at ESPOCH throughout the conference to provide IPSI members with an opportunity to showcase their activities through posters and promotional materials. Thirty-two IPSI members participated, presenting a diverse range of initiatives related to SEPLS.

The exhibition was open to participants and the public, including students from ESPOCH, providing an opportunity to learn about IPSI's work and engage with participating organizations. The exhibition also supported knowledge exchange and dialogue among participants, highlighting practical experiences and approaches from different regions.



Photos: UNU-IAS.



Photos: UNU-IAS.

Annex I: IPSI Members Accepted Between IPSI-9 and IPSI-10

Academic, Educational and Research Institutions

- California Polytechnic State University, Department of Natural Resource Management and Environmental Science
- Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts
- Escuela Superior Politécnica de Chimborazo (ESPOCH)
- Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA)
- Rakuno Gakuen University Department of Environmental Sciences
- Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Departamento de Ciências Ambientais
- Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ)
- University of Oregon, Global Studies Institute (GSI)

Governmental Organizations

- Local Governmental Organizations
- City of Yokohama
- Kerala State Biodiversity Board
- Owase City
- Pingtung County Government
- Tram Tau Protection Forest Management Board
- National Governmental Organizations
- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan

Other Government-Affiliated Organizations

- Taiwan Biodiversity Research Institute (TBRI)

Indigenous or Local Community Organizations

- Imagine and Build the Congo of Tomorrow (ICCOD-ONG)
- Manuae Enea Conservation Trust

NGOs and Civil Society Organizations

- Agroecology and Sustainability Training Center (Centro de Formación en Agroecología y Sustentabilidad AC (CEFAS))
- Benin Environment and Education Society
- BiodivEarth
- Conservation Partners Ghana
- Foundation for Research and Sustainable Development (FUNINDES)
- Fumiharu Forest Foundation
- Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa de Menorca (GOB Menorca)
- Institute of Environment and Eco Development
- Integrated Development Organization (IDO)
- International Society for Science, Art and Innovation
- Landcare Tasmania
- Miaoli County Mingde Community Beekeeping Revitalization Center Association

- NPO VERSTA
- Our Heritage Foundation
- People Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRFC)
- Public Association Kolsai
- Resource Conservation Initiative (RESCONI)
- Team Organizing Local Institution (TOLI)
- The Club of Rome
- Woman, Development, Future Public Union

Other Organizations

- Keidanren Nature Conservation Council (KNCC)

Private Sector / Industry Organizations

- General Incorporated Association Tanemaki
- NatureMind-ED
- Nippon Television Network Corporation
- Seed Coleus Greenhouse
- Tainan New Agricultural Biotechnology Production Cooperative
- The Celestial Earth
- Watch Nature Ecological Consultant Co., Ltd (WNECC)

Annex II: Endorsed Collaborative Activities Between IPSI-9 and IPSI-10

For details on each activity, go to the [IPSI website](#).

61. Taiwan IPSI Members Annual Exchange events – fostering an effective implementation of the 2023-2030 IPSI Plan of Action in Taiwan

Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency (FANCA, former Forestry Bureau); National Dong Hwa University (NDHU); National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST); Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts (DILA); and Taiwan Biodiversity Research Institute (TBRI)

62. Implement the Satoyama Initiative to promote sustainable development within the Saisiyat tribe community (completed)

Miaoli County Saisiyat Indigenous People Forestry and Worker Limited Liability Cooperative; Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency (FANCA); Taiwan Indigenous Ecological Agriculture Association; Nanzhuang Township Office, Miaoli County; and Penglai Elementary School, Nanzhuang Township, Miaoli County

63. Mangrove restoration to improve Socioecological production landscapes and seascapes for fisheries recovery at Lake Malombe Site

Grains of Hope Mobilisation (GOHMO); Initiative for Community Health (INCH); and Kafucheche Cooperative Group

64. COMDEKS Phase 4: The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative Programme

UNDP; MOEJ; SCBD; UNU-IAS; Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF); and KNCC

65. Back to Nature Agroforestry Lab

Back to Nature; Kathmandu Forestry College (KAFCOL); Forest Research and Training center (FRTC); and Government of Nepal

66. 2025 IPSI and ARDSWC Collaborative Activities

Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation (ARDSWC - formerly Soil and Water Conservation Bureau); Taiwan Landscape Environment Association (TLEA); and National Chung Hsing University (NCHU)

67. Strengthening the Restoration and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests in RAMSAR Sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin

Cercle pour la Sauvegarde des Ressources Naturelles (CE.SA.RE.N - ONG); Amis de l'Afrique Francophone- Bénin (AMAF-BENIN); and Nature Tropicale

68. Satoyama Mace Initiative: Regional Revitalization of SEPLS in Carbon Credit

Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation; Seed Coleus Greenhouse; Research Center for Applied Sciences, Academia Sinica (RCAS); National Cheng Kung University, National Taiwan University; and Tainan New Agricultural Biotechnology Production Cooperative

69. 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)

IUCN and UNU-IAS

70. Implementation of the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action's Strategic objective 4 on Ecosystem restoration: Stocktaking and gap analysis to promote effective restoration activities

Asian Development Bank (ADB); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

71. Collective action plans to build a sustainable value chain for SEPLS

Conservation International; UNU-IAS; and Akita International University (AIU)

72. Youth-Led Sustainable Pastoralism and Ecosystem Restoration in SEPLS Programme

Pastoralist Economic and Social Advancement (PESA); and Small Actions for Enterprises (SAFE)

73. Symposium on the Satoyama Initiative and Presentation of IPLCs Community Achievements (completed)

Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency (FANCA); National Pingtung University of Science and Technology; National Dong-Hwa University; and Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts

74. International Conference on Carbon Credits and SEPLS for Combating Climate Change

SEPLS Carbon Credit Regional Revitalization Center; Tainan New Agricultural Biotechnology Production Cooperative; International Society for Science, Art and Innovation; Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation; Research Center for Applied Sciences, Academia Sinica (RCAS); National Cheng Kung University, National Taiwan University; and NCKU Research & Development Foundation

75. System-of-Systems Solution in Monitoring, Reporting, Validation, and Verification on GHGs/Carbon Cycle in Biodiversity Ecosystem for SEPLS to Strengthen Sustainable Frameworks Development

SEPLS Carbon Credit Regional Revitalization Center (Seed Coleus Greenhouse); Taiwan Space Agency (TASA); Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation; Northwestern University; University of Toronto; Research Center for Applied Sciences, Academia Sinica (RCAS); National Cheng Kung University; National Taiwan University; and NCKU Research & Development Foundation