



# GEF-SATOYAMA PROJECT IMPACT REPORT

## 2015-2019

# **The GEF-Satoyama Project (2015-2019) Impact Report**

## **Authors**

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## **Acknowledgements**

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## Messages

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The Conservation International GEF Agency was fortunate to have the GEF-Satoyama project as one of our first in our portfolio as a newly accredited GEF Project Agency. We recognize the many accomplishments of this project and we want to especially recognize the results achieved by the 10 subgrantees. The subgrantee projects, located in the Tropical Andes, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspots have contributed to improving the habitat of threatened species and improving landscapes and seascapes through conservation management. As this GEF project concludes, we encourage the subgrantees to continue engaging in the GEF processes in their respective countries and to seek further opportunities to implement GEF projects in the future.

Finally, we are grateful to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as the donor of the project, the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), Institute for Global Environment Strategies (IGES), and Conservation International Japan.

**Ms. Orissa Samaroo**

Senior director, GEF Policy and Portfolio Management, GEF Agency, Conservation International



It was a definitely a privilege but also a challenge for Conservation International Japan to be the Executing Agency of the GEF-Satoyama project, as it was not only one of the first projects of the CI-GEF Project Agency but also, to my knowledge, the first GEF biodiversity project to be executed by a Japanese entity.

The project aimed at demonstrating the ideas coming out of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative, which looks at mainstreaming the values that a sustainably managed socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes bring to society, but it became a true asset bringing like-minded organizations and people, such as the grantees from 10 different countries, together to address common challenges on the ground.

This publication features the achievements and findings derived from the project, which I hope to be of useful reference for those who face similar challenges of land/sea-use.

Last but not least, I am grateful to the CI-GEF Project Agency, United Nations University and Institute of Global Environmental Strategies, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and members of my team for the successful project.

**Mr. Yasushi Hibi**

Managing Director, Conservation International Japan (Representative of the Executive Team of the GEF-Satoyama Project); Vice President for Asia Policy, Conservation International

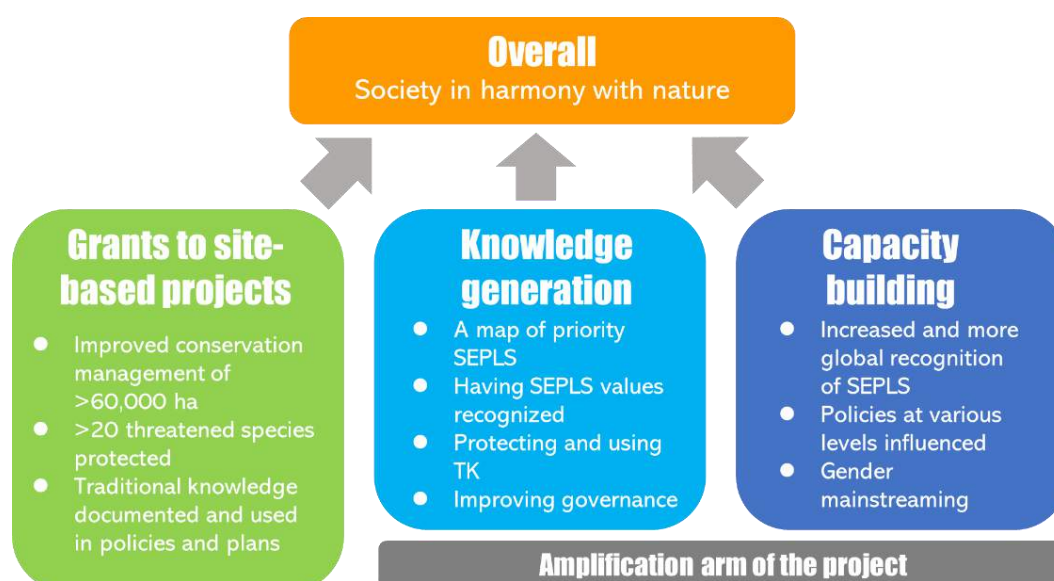
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# Executive summary

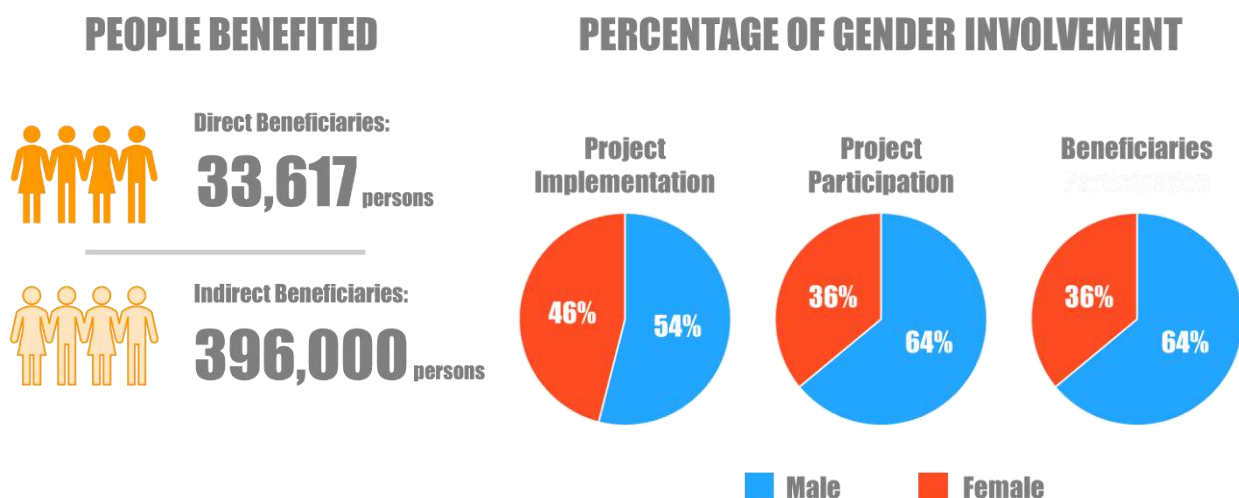
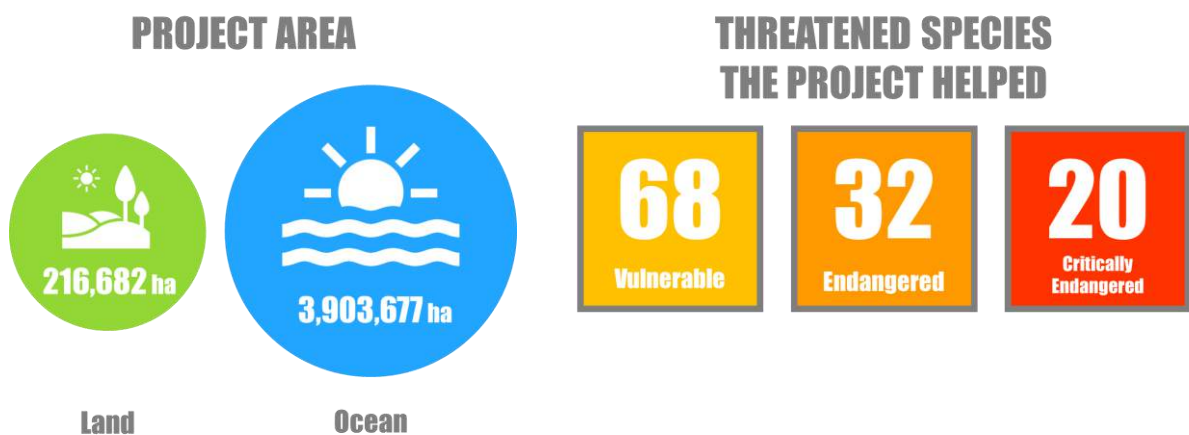
The objective of the GEF-Satoyama Project was to mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while simultaneously improving human well-being, in production landscapes and seascapes. Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) are production landscapes and seascapes that integrate the values of biodiversity and social aspects harmoniously with production activities, such that production activities support biodiversity and vice versa. SEPLS have been created throughout the world often as results of long interactions between people and nature, but they are under threat. This project sought to address the barriers that SEPLS face globally, such as insufficient recognition of their values, disappearing traditional knowledge, and weak governance, and to contribute to the achievement of multiple Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To achieve this goal, the project comprised of three components: 1) "On-the-ground demonstration", 2) "Knowledge generation", and 3) "Capacity Building."



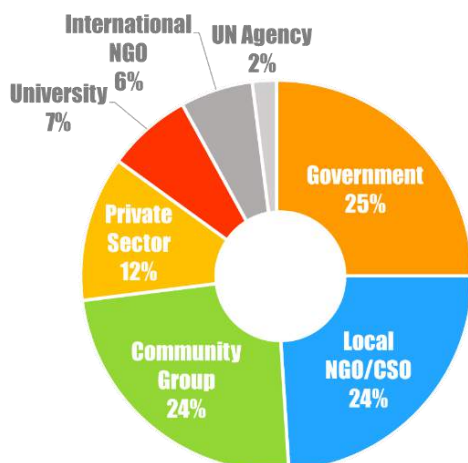
## Key Achievements

- **Component 1:** Ten subgrant projects (Colombia, Comoros, Ecuador, India, Madagascar, Mauritius, Myanmar, Peru, Seychelles, Thailand), selected through calls for proposals in three biodiversity hotspots (Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Tropical Andes), have brought conservation benefits to over 4 million ha of land and sea and improved habitats for 120 globally threatened species of plants and animals.
- **Component 2:** Research addressed three questions: how can we get the values of SEPLS recognized by those inside and outside the landscapes or seascapes in question? 2) how can we protect and make use of traditional knowledge in SEPLS? and 3) how can we improve governance of SEPLS?
- **Component 3:** Four workshops held on the use of the Indicators of Resilience and two trainings held on gender mainstreaming. Participation in several international meetings and the production of videos and documents that collectively led to the increased awareness of stakeholder for mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in SEPLS. Information shared at these international meetings benefited in part from the Consolidation Workshop held in Mauritius where all grantees were brought together to share lessons learned and to address the challenges affecting SEPLS and how they can be overcome.

# IMPACT IN NUMBERS



## COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS



## WORKSHOPS

Total of 228 Attendees	Indo-Burma Resilience	60
	Consolidation	41
	Tropical Andes Resilience	39
	Indian Ocean Islands Resilience	37
	WCC Hawaii Resilience	31
	Tokyo Gender Mainstreaming	20
		# of Attendees

## THREATENED SPECIES THE PROJECT HELPED

Species are threatened for extinction for various reasons. IUCN Red List describes such threats for each species. Activities under the project addressed the threats for survival of 120 species, and thus left them in a better status than before the project.

### Summary by the IUCN Red List category

Proponent (country)	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable	Total
AMPA (Peru)	2	6	23	31
Dahari (Comoros)	3	3		6
EPCO (Mauritius)	6	3	1	10
FFI (Myanmar)	2	3	10	15
FIDES (Ecuador)	1			1
GIF (Seychelles)		5	14	19
IMPECT (Thailand)	1	3	1	5
TERI (India)	1	2	13	16
UIS (Colombia)	2	4	5	11
WCS (Madagascar)	3	4	2	9
<b>Total*</b>	20	32	68	120

\*Three species occur in two projects.

### Threats faced by the species

The most common threat faced by the threatened species occurring in the project sites was habitat losses, including deforestation. Hunting and overexploitation, whether legal or illegal, which directly affect the populations of the species followed as threats to species survival. Competition with exotic species were affecting some species. The lack of regulations or their enforcement were inducing unfavorable activities.

### Project response

The project addressed these threats by conducting the following activities as appropriate to the respective site conditions:

- Forest restoration
- Traditional agriculture
- Enhanced agriculture without degrading nature
- Fisheries co-management
- Education and awareness raising
- Community Conserved Area establishment
- Species inventory
- Traditional practices documentation and transmission to youth
- Private sector partnership



## Intellectual asset

The GEF-Satoyama Project emphasized the protection of traditional knowledge as live intellectual property as in the two examples from Thailand and Madagascar in the boxes below.

Technology is also mobilized. In India, The Energy and Resources Institute used WhatsApp as an information platform, on which trained youth members upload photos of species they find for experts to identify. This serves multiple purposes simultaneously: 1) for youth to maintain photography skills and motivation for photo documentation; 2) for the team to build biodiversity database to aid eco-tourism.

Beside the creation of knowledge platform on site, the GEF-Satoyama Project expanded the knowledge base by more than 70 publications from articles in peer-reviewed journals and academic thesis to videos, teaching manuals, issue briefs, and books.

The issue brief based on the lessons learned by all ten subgrant projects was launched at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in November 2019 to disseminate recommendations from the project for overcoming the barriers that SEPLS face globally.



### THAILAND



Photo: Mutual learning between elders and youth

In Thailand, several Karen communities decided that the preservation of their cultural heritage required institutional learning coupled with informal opportunities to facilitate inter-generational exchange. They worked with Karen school teachers to develop a curriculum that uses indigenous poems, stories, practices and proverbs in the Karen language. On the other hand, the youth groups organized camps during which elders taught the young people about traditional agriculture and cooking methods. Based on the learning, the youth groups produced value-added products for online promotion.

### MADAGASCAR



Photo: A nursery of medicinal plants by the open classroom

In Madagascar, the knowledge on medicinal plants was disappearing. At open classroom, youth gain the knowledge of these plants in a fun environment. Participants created and maintained nurseries of these important plants and took the seedlings home to plant on family farms. This youth-led initiative has generated a renewed interest in important plant species and a revitalization of producing herbal medicines.



## GEF Safeguards

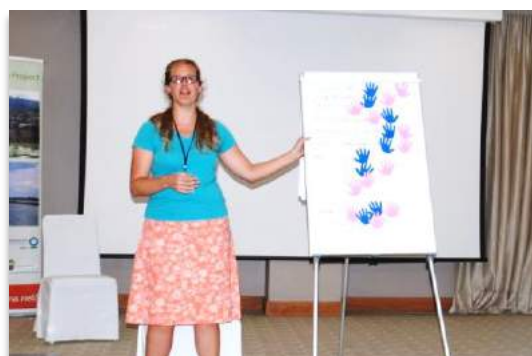
The Environmental and Social Management Framework is intended to ensure that adverse environmental and social impacts are avoided or, when unavoidable, minimized and appropriately mitigated and/or offset. At the beginning of the project, all Executing Team organizations were sensitized to the safeguards, as stipulated by the CI-GEF Project Agency's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) during the Inception Workshop. The Project operationalized relevant safeguard measures; most important of which were those regarding involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, accountability and grievance, gender mainstreaming, and stakeholder engagement.



Subgrant projects that included voluntary restrictions related to hunting, fishing and deforestation regulations provided various means of compensation such as community grants, development of alternative livelihoods and capacity building/training in improved agricultural techniques, tourism and apiculture. Those involving indigenous peoples followed steps of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). Accountability and Grievance mechanisms were developed, approved and disseminated among all stakeholders. Regional inception meetings explained the ESMF to the subgrant project proponents and their partners, so that they know to take appropriate actions.

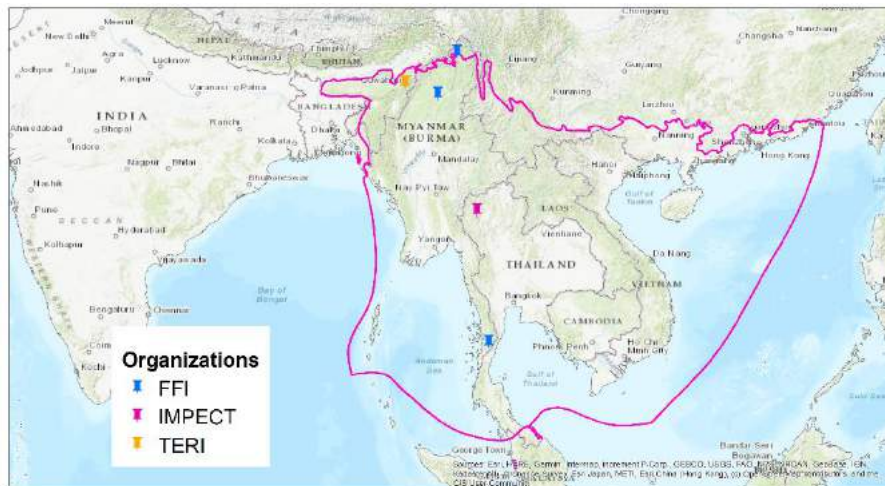


Recognizing that gender mainstreaming was a challenge for most of the players involved in the project, the Project offered capacity building opportunities. On September 6-7, 2017 a gender mainstreaming workshop was held in Tokyo for the members of the Executive Team and beyond. Topics included an introduction to gender, gender and natural resource management, responding to gender differences, and developing gender action plans. Material from this workshop was shared with subgrantees and this was followed up with a mini gender mainstreaming training conducted during the Consolidation Workshop held in Mauritius on August 23, 2018.



The project had robust stakeholder engagements at the local, national and international level. At the local level, subgrant projects benefited from the government, private sector, local communities, academic institutions and NGOs.

# Indo-Burma Region



## Quick Stats

### PROJECT AREA



**10,699 ha**

### BENEFICIARIES



**4,521 persons**

### THREATENED SPECIES



**36 species**



A training on the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) was held in the Khun Tae Village in Chiang Mai, Thailand during July 25 – 27, 2016, through classroom training and field practical exercises. The training aimed to build capacity of GEF-Satoyama Project subgrantees and others in the region on using the “Resilience Indicators in SEPLS” during the project management cycle.

### TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) created the network of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) with villages in Nagaland where wildlife hunting is an important part of their cultural identity. TERI supported villagers in alternative livelihood means, including ecotourism, and trained youths in biodiversity monitoring. (Project area: 3,751 ha of land)

### FFI

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) promoted the conservation and sustainable use of freshwater ecosystems by establishing fish conservation zones (FCZs) with local communities. FFI also supported alternative livelihood initiatives in these communities to reduce the dependency on the freshwater ecosystems (Project area: 891 ha of land)

### IMPECT

Inter-Mountain Peoples' Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT) demonstrated Karen communities to be models of sustainable development by building on their traditional knowledge and natural resource management systems. IMPECT also worked for a broad recognition of Karen culture. (Project area: 6,057 ha of land)

# Mainstreaming Community-Conserved Areas for Biodiversity Conservation [Nagaland, India]

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

<http://www.teriin.org/>

## Quick Stats

### PROJECT AREA



**3,751 ha**

### BENEFICIARIES



**1,185 persons**

### THREATENED SPECIES



**16 species**



The revival of traditional conservation practices through the creation of Community-Conserved Areas (CCAs) offers hope for conservation, as communities set aside parcels of forests within productive, jhum (shifting cultivation) landscapes. Ensuring the future of Nagaland's CCAs (and thereby its biodiversity) requires a multi-pronged approach, including alternative livelihood opportunities such as the development of wildlife tourism, legal recognition, ecological restoration, and long-term ecological monitoring. Moreover, many existing CCAs are isolated forest fragments (average size is 500 ha) and only a handful form part of a larger network of community forests. The project supported community-based conservation to a) mobilize support for the formation of CCAs including larger networks of contiguous forest patches, b) revive traditional conservation practices (e.g. hunting bans during the breeding season), c) carry out ecological assessments of these CCAs including the status of threatened species, d) develop community-based ecotourism initiatives, and e) Formalize and mainstream a network of CCAs.

## Project Achievements

- Formation of the Tizu Valley Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Network.
- Community tourism development.



This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):





## Conservation and sustainable use of freshwater ecosystems [Kachin State and Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar]

Fauna & Flora International (FFI)

<http://www.fauna-flora.org>

### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



891 ha

#### BENEFICIARIES



1,200 persons

#### THREATENED SPECIES



15 species

Outside Protected Areas, the Myanmar fisheries law allows the designation of fisheries management and conservation areas, but very few were designated and effectively managed. Freshwater fish are threatened by unsustainable fishing practices, open access, illegal gold mining, introduced species and hydropower development plans. The project built local capacity on fish taxonomy while undertaking comprehensive surveys in the Upper Irrawaddy and Tanintharyi/Lenya watersheds to identify key biodiversity areas for fish conservation. In several sites with outstanding fish diversity, researchers found numerous species new to science.



The objectives of this project were to: 1) complete the assessment of freshwater KBAs in the Upper Irrawaddy and Tanintharyi/Lenya watersheds, 2) pilot locally managed fisheries areas including fish conservation zones (FCZ) for the protection of freshwater KBAs, and 3) integrate community-managed fisheries areas and fish conservation zones (FCZs) into protected area zonation and management plans and facilitate legal recognition.

The project integrated traditional ecological knowledge and modern science for the identification of key fish biodiversity areas and replaced open access with recognized locally managed fisheries areas. In Myanmar this constitutes a major shift in the conservation paradigm from 'fence and fine' policies to a community-based conservation approach.



### Project Achievements

- Establishment of 19 FCZs.
- Finding 20 species new to science.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):





# Promoting and Enhancing the Karen Indigenous Sustainable Socio-ecological Production System [Chiang Mai, Thailand]

## Inter Mountain Peoples' Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT)

<http://www.impect.org>

### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**6,057 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**2,136 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**5 species**



The project supported three Karen communities to become a model of community-based sustainable development by building on their traditional knowledge and natural resource management systems and combining it with innovative and technologically advanced community-controlled mapping, monitoring and information systems and with increased economic productivity both for human wellbeing and for biodiversity. It also addressed threats to

endangered species, developed recovery plans and addressed invasive alien species. The project raised public awareness in society at large about the role of the evolving Karen management systems in relation to sustainable development and biodiversity. It sought to feed into the development and implementation of local and national



policies and laws that enable and support community-based sustainable governance and management of biodiversity.

This was achieved through close collaboration with, and the highest possible level of participation of community members, including women and youth. Activities centered around the documentation, appreciation and revitalization of traditional knowledge with the use of modern mapping technology.

### Project Achievements

- Recognition of the site as a Special Cultural Zone due to the practice of traditional rotational farming.
- Development of curriculum and incorporation of Karen traditional knowledge in the school environmental program.
- Development of branded value-added products from rotational farming through collaborations

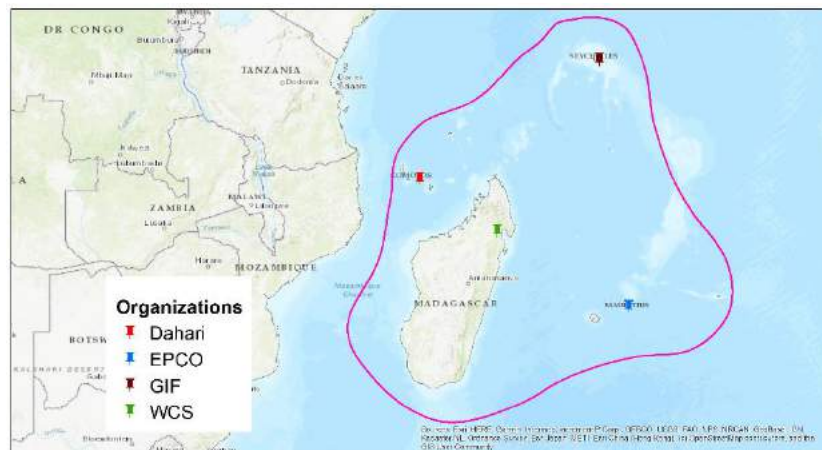
This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



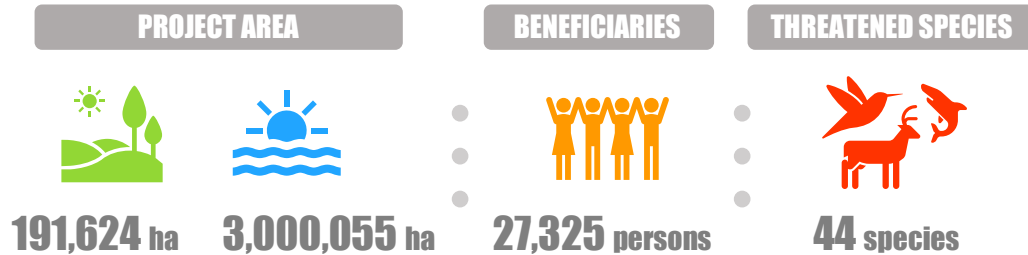
This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):



# Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Region



## Quick Stats



A training on the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) was held in Moramanga, Madagascar, during August 25 – 27, 2016, through classroom training and field practical exercises. The training aimed to build capacity of GEF-Satoyama Project subgrantees and others in the region on using the “Resilience Indicators in SEPLS” during the project management cycle. The region included both terrestrial and marine environments.

## TERI

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) capacitated farmers in the Makira Nature Park with higher yielding agricultural techniques to provide more food to people without encroaching into the park's core area. WCS also restored critical ecological corridors and conducted patrols. (Project area: 190,622 ha of land)

## EPCO

Environmental Protection & Conservation Organisation (EPCO) restored traditional mariculture fields, called barachois, and mangroves with a local community. Ecotourism and environmental education was also part of the project. (Project area: 55 ha of sea)

## GIF

Green Island Foundation (GIF) aimed to establish a co-management plan with fishermen on a sound basis of intensive fish data collection, which will become part of the law, to reduce the impact of artisanal fishing on threatened species in the Mahe Plateau. (Project area: 3,900,000 ha of sea)

## DAHARI

Dahari helped local farmers manage their land better with agricultural extension activities and protected the habitats of the Livingstone's fruit bat through agreements with landowners in Moya Forest in the island of Anjouan. (Project area: 1,002 ha of land)

## A landscape management model for conserving biodiversity in the Comoro Islands [Anjouan, Comoros]

### Dahari

<http://www.daharicomores.org>

#### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**1,002 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**1,300 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**6 species**



Comoros, combining forest and biodiversity protection with agricultural and agroforestry development in 10 villages surrounding the Moya forest KBA in Anjouan.



The project mapped traditional knowledge regarding the advantages and disadvantages of different trees for different purposes, and combined this with scientific understanding to propose improved agroforestry regimes. At the same time at least 400 hectares of forest conserving key ecosystem services was put under management by communities supported by local authorities, and at least 40 hectares conserving biodiversity hotspots.



#### Project Achievements

- Agreements with four landowners to protect the roost sites of the Livingstone's Fruit Bat.
- Capacity building in improved agricultural practices and the distribution of seeds and seedlings.
- Reforestation of water catchment areas.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):





## Integrated adaptive management to protect ecological integrity in the Socio-Ecological Production Landscape (SEPL) of the south-east watershed of Makira Natural Park [Analanjirofo, Madagascar]

**Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)**

<http://www.wcs.org/>

### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**190,622 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**25,000 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**9 species**



The project maintained the ecological integrity of the Makira Natural Park and optimized the use of natural resources to underpin livelihoods in the fragile socio-ecological production landscape (SEPL) of the southeast watershed of the Makira Natural Park that suffers from high levels of anthropogenic threats.

Three activities were implemented to achieve this goal: (i) the reinforcement of the ecological integrity of the south-east watershed of Makira and reduction of the pressures and threats to ecological functions and biodiversity through participatory patrols and ecological monitoring and restoration of the two fragile forest corridors of Vohitaly and Lokaitra; (ii) the diversification and

increased resilience of local communities' livelihoods through improved agro-ecological production techniques for FairTrade cloves and the promotion of an improved rice growing intensification system; and (iii) the promotion of good governance and environmental-friendly practices amongst communities to promote the involvement of all stakeholders, and particularly women and young people in natural resources governance and decision-making. The project reinforced community ownership and positive attitudes towards conservation actions by ensuring a strong and effective involvement of communities in conservation actions coupled with interventions to support improved livelihoods and economic development based on the traditional and sustainable use of natural resources.



### Project Achievements

- More than 500 ha of forest restored with a seedling survival rate of 97%.
- Patrols conducted in collaboration with local communities.
- Capacity building in improved clove production and intensive rice system.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):





## Mainstreaming the Contribution of coastal wetlands biodiversity for Sustainable Economic & Livelihood Development at Cité La Chaux ‘Barachois’:

A demonstration project for upgrading ‘Barachois’ in Mauritius [Mahebourg, Mauritius]

**Environmental Protection & Conservation Organisation (EPCO)**

<http://www.epcoweb.org>

### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**55 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**50 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**10 species**



The project established a sustainable and collaborative development model for the restoration, conservation and management of degraded natural resources, ecological processes and biodiversity of a marine coastal wetland. The conservation and restoration of the mangrove forests consisted of intensive cleanup and maintenance, removal and control of pests and invasive alien species, and seedling planting. Moreover, by reinstating ecosystem services and embellishing the area through renovation and maintenance of existing structures such as footpaths, the project facilitated the development of recreational and touristic facilities, based on the community vision.

The Project emphasized awareness raising, sensitization and information dissemination to all stakeholders through various communication tools such as brochures, press releases, information panels, environmental education programs, and community-based events. For the adaptive management of the project, traditional knowledge and information from the on-going fisheries, biophysical, socio-economic and governance monitoring was collected and analyzed to monitor the effectiveness of the project activities. The project promoted the development of local alternative livelihoods opportunities, sustainable local tourism, small community businesses, thus alleviating poverty and enhancing quality of life.



### Project Achievements

- Restoration of Barachois through clean-up activities, removal of alien invasive species and the planting of indigenous species in the area.
- Capacity building and better awareness among community members in community tourism.
- Establishment of a Cooperative to build on the interventions of the Project.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



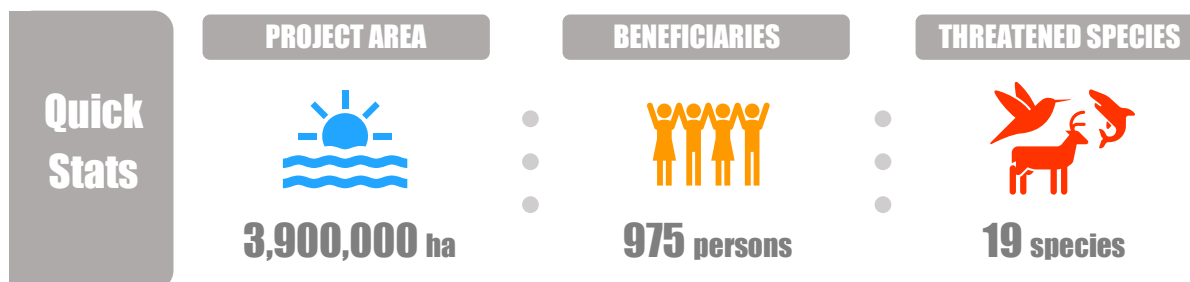
This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):



**The development of a co-management plan, designed by fishers, to minimize the impact of the Seychelles artisanal fishery on threatened species [Mahé Plateau, Seychelles]**

**Green Islands Foundation (GIF)**

<http://greenislandsfoundation.blogspot.com/>



The objective of this project was to reduce the impact of Seychelles artisanal fishery on globally threatened species. The project developed a baseline of threatened species occurrence in the artisanal fishery through fisher interviews and consultation, literature review and an intensive 12-month survey of artisanal catch. The project supported fishers in the identification and development of pragmatic management measures to reduce artisanal fishing pressure on threatened species. These measures were developed into the project's primary output of an artisanal fishery management plan for threatened species, regulated as a co-management plan under the 2014 Fisheries Act. The project also produced a threatened species database and baseline of occurrence in artisanal fishery catch, a

threatened species identification guide and related technical and education materials, and a protocol and format for threatened species catch monitoring with trained fishery technicians and researchers. The project provided a pragmatic, stakeholder-led and regulated basis to minimize fishery impact upon threatened species, train technicians to monitor future threatened species catch and thereby enable its adaptive management. This in turn will result in improved site-level conservation status of various threatened species and contribute to a more diverse, resilient and productive marine ecosystem on the Mahé plateau.



**Project Achievements**

- A signed agreement among fishers to adhere to self-governing regulations in support of sustainable artisanal fishing.
- An artisanal fishery co-management plan recognized by the government due to be incorporated into existing legislations.
- Scientific records on fish species and fish catch.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



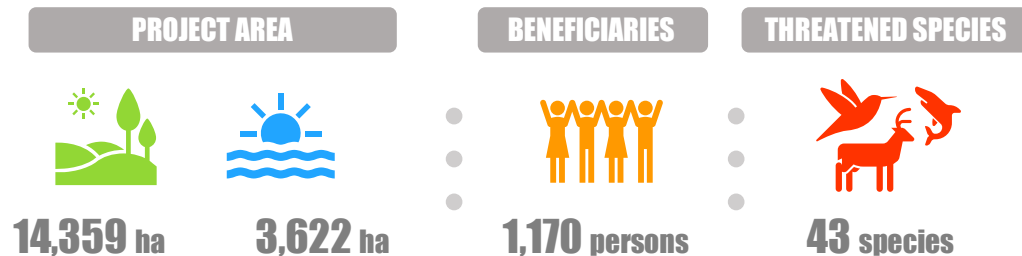
This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):



# Tropical Andes Region



## Quick Stats



A training on the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) was held at the Victor Hugo Hotel in Puerto López, Ecuador, during October 7 – 9, 2016, through classroom training and field practical exercises. The training aimed to build capacity of GEF-Satoyama Project subgrantees and others in the region on using the “Resilience Indicators in SEPLS” during the project management cycle.

### AMPA

Asociación Amazónicas por la Amazonía (AMPA) facilitated the participatory management of the Alto Huayabamba Conservation Concession (AHCC) as a production landscape that avoids deforestation. AMPA also supported the communities in the organic farming of grains, apiculture, primate monitoring and marketing. (Project area: 6,711 ha of land)

### FIDES

Fundación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Social (FIDES) restored and conserved dry forests and mangroves in Manabí province while improving the livelihoods of communities depending on these natural resources. FIDES also supported communities in capacity building, education, sensitization and marketing. (Project area: 7,498 ha of land and 3,622 ha of sea)

### UIS

Universidad Industrial de Santander (UIS) identified management strategies in post conflict zones of the Colombian Andes through participatory reconstruction of history. UIS documented and corroborated tacit knowledge for conversion into expert knowledge, as well as created marketing strategies for agro-products. (Project area: 150 ha of land)

## Reconciling biodiversity conservation and agricultural production in agroforestry cultivation systems in the Colombian Andes: a model for Colombia's post conflict era [San Vicente de Chucurí, Colombia]

**Universidad Industrial de Santander (UIS)**

<http://www.uis.edu.co/webUIS/es/index.jsp>

### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**150 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**80 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**11 species**



In the Colombian Andes diversified agroforestry systems with cacao and coffee exist within a matrix of cattle pastures and well preserved forest fragments which harbor a biodiversity of fauna and flora that provide essential ecosystem services, but are threatened by agricultural intensification, post-conflict rural development and global market pressures. The project was carried out in the buffer zone of the Yariguíes National Park, a nationally important production landscape that with a high level of biodiversity and endemism.

The region was relatively recently colonized and remained largely isolated due to the internal armed conflict. Against this background, the project contributed to the conservation of these biologically diverse production landscapes by identifying existing management strategies, reconciling biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service provisioning with agricultural production. To do so, an assessment of the biodiversity and ecosystem services was done across three different management strategies: (i) intensified cacao and/or coffee production without shade trees, (ii) designed agroforestry systems with planted shade trees, and (iii) close to natural polycultures. Researchers assessed plant, invertebrate and vertebrate biodiversity indicators and ecosystem services (water provisioning, soil protection and pest control). The project converted the autochthonous tacit knowledge about managing these diversified agro-ecosystems into explicit expert knowledge using a participatory approach. Thus, empowering local communities to conserve their knowledge for future challenges and inspire the emerging population of Colombian post-conflict farmers



### Project Achievements

- Creation of the FiNCO initiative promoting farms as a source of knowledge.
- Establishment of the Agri-eco-touristic project in La Germania.
- Production of inventories of ants, birds and mammals in San Vicente de Chucurí.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):

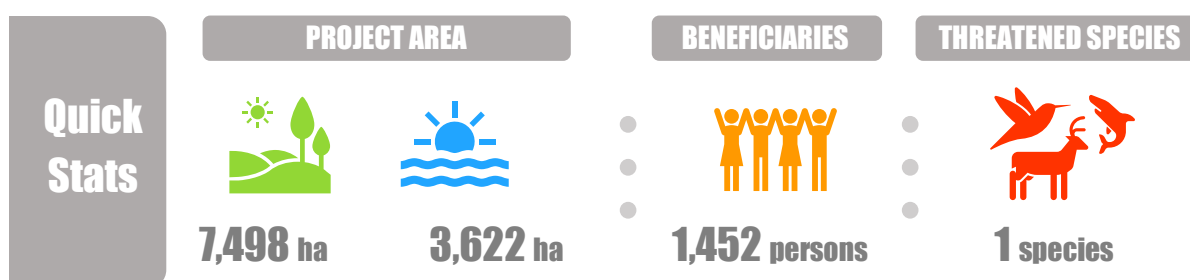




**Improvement of the livelihoods of the communities through the sustainable management of productive landscapes and biodiversity conservation in mangrove (Estuaries Chone and Portoviejo), the dry forest (Cordillera del Balsamo) and rainforest (Commune Playa de Oro) [Manabí and Esmeraldas, Ecuador]**

**Fundación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Social (FIDES)**

<http://fundacion-fides.weebly.com>



The project restored and conserved biodiversity in mangrove ecosystems and dry forests to sustain the livelihoods of local communities, through the strengthening of local capacities in community organizations and coordinated work with public, private and community actors. The project addressed issues of conservation and restoration of three ecosystems (mangroves, rainforest and dry forest) while improving productive activities. It improved the income of families

dedicated to the production of artisanal salt, strengthening of agro-ecological farms (based on cocoa) and community tourism.

The project trained and sensitized more than 1,500 children of 15 schools on mangrove ecosystems. Further, some 50 new youth leaders were prepared to take the lead in community development. More than 300 hectares of mangroves were restored, repopulated with black shell (*Anadara tuberculosa*, *Anadara similis*) and initiatives put in place to engage various public, private and community actors for the integrated management of the SEPLS.



### Project Achievements

- Creation of the Intercommunity Committee of Portoviejo River Estuary to manage the area.
- Establishment of a mangrove nursery for reforestation of mangrove forests.
- Revitalization and improvement salt and cocoa production facilities.
- Generation of new markets for salt and cocoa products.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):



## Consolidation of the participatory management of the Alto Huayabamba Conservation Concession – AHCC as a production landscape, and strengthening of partnerships for conservation, production and research in the Peruvian Amazon [Bolívar, Perú]

### Amazónicos por la Amazonía (AMPA)

<http://ampaperu.info/>

#### Quick Stats

#### PROJECT AREA



**6,711 ha**

#### BENEFICIARIES



**238 persons**

#### THREATENED SPECIES



**6 species**



This project had as its objective to guarantee the conservation of the priority areas of Peruvian Yungas and Paramos. The goal was to contribute to improve the quality of life of the people that settled in the AHCC and its buffer zone through the consolidation of wild honey and organic quinoa in sustainable productive chains. It developed capacities of local young people in the research and monitoring of the yellow-tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) and reduced deforestation and degradation caused by migrant farmers.

The stakeholders of the AHCC included members of associations that signed conservation agreements, which state their commitment to stop deforestation and expressed a willingness to support the recovery of logged areas. Through community management, a decrease in deforestation rates was achieved, according to a study conducted in 2015. Wild honey had a higher efficiency than the traditional crops such as coffee, in the role of creating more carbon storage and increasing family income. These initiatives were consolidated, and the communities empowered to be involved in the conservation of critical endangered and endemic species and the management of the production landscapes. The project had four components: a) development of sustainable productive activities; b) organizational and business reinforcement for associations; c) promoting sustainable management of ecosystems; and d) participatory monitoring with young people.



#### Project Achievements

- The Association of Organic Producers of the Province of Bolivar was formed.
- Project site obtained organic certification.
- Primate monitoring was conducted by community members.
- For the first time, community women joined the primate monitoring group.

This project has contributed to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



This project has contributed to the following Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs):



# Lessons Learned

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## Key Messages

- People recognize the values of SEPLS in many different ways through different ways of interaction with them in their own perspectives. To appreciate the totality of the value set, multi-stakeholder platforms are important.
- Traditional knowledge is an integral part of SEPLS, enabling people to sustainably use and manage various resources, but is in decline. Effective measures to address this decline include creating community schools to facilitate mutual learning between elders and youths, reinforcing traditional ecological production, and integrating traditional knowledge into science and policies.
- Governance in SEPLS is strengthened through effective collaborative management schemes, involving local communities in the decision-making process regarding SEPLS management, based on effective communication between all the stakeholders, financial support and policies that promote local governance systems.
- It is key for the sustainability of SEPLS to develop public policies that are coherent among the different sectors and levels of government, and to integrate the local values, traditional and local knowledge, customary rights and community institutions with the management of SEPLS.

Biodiversity conservation and livelihood can co-exist. SEPLS is a system people have created through long interactions with their surrounding environment that provide a model for solutions. In many SEPLS there is no single entities or a set of well-defined entities that manage them. This is because SEPLS are not designed to be what they are, but rather they have emerged to be what they are as a result of synergies and trade-offs among multiple interests and objectives. Good governance based on meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders and productive interaction between these is particularly important in SEPLS. Landscape management is a multi-stakeholder undertaking. In many countries the institutional framework to manage the natural resources in the SEPLS has been designed to work in a sectorial vision (agriculture, forests, mining, conservation, etc), or in silos, without an integrated landscape management approach, which generates contradicting policies, plans and investments. The types of actors, forms of interaction and networking vary from site to site, but there is a common need for collaborative forms of ecosystem management in the SEPLS as building blocks of participatory and effective governance systems at the landscape or seascape level. Given these factors, a multi-stakeholder platform is needed to facilitate effective governance.



## Lessons Learned

A strong link between values, knowledge and governance can potentially enhance biodiversity and production in SEPLS. The recognition of many terrestrial ecosystem services (and values) by local communities is typically linked with extensive traditional knowledge held by communities, not only on their geo-ecological features (e.g. lemur ecology in the case of the Makira Forest, Madagascar), but also on their management and use, and their role in traditional beliefs (such as worship of the ancestral spirits of lemur species). These values are recognized and often integrated into governance schemes with specific roles in co-management schemes (e.g. joint patrols with rangers such as in the case of Makira Forest). However, there are cases where the knowledge held by local communities is not sufficiently recognized and exchanged with government agencies. This results in less capacity building for community organizations, and protected areas where locals are largely excluded from.



### In any landscapes or seascapes, values, knowledge and governance are inter-related

The values of coastal ecosystems for local communities, is closely linked to the knowledge held by local communities of the habitats and artisanal fishery practices. The values for and knowledge held by local communities as key stakeholder should be reflected in the governance system, as in the case of the co-management of Seychelles, where the near shore sea is managed by various entities and overseen by the central government, and the fishing regulation is being developed as part of a bottom-up process. It is obvious from the demonstration projects that local champions play a crucial role in mobilizing the communities, being the window of communication to and from the communities, and sustaining the initiatives after the project terms.



## Executive Team organizations

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### Conservation International Japan (CI Japan)

[www.conservation.or.jp](http://www.conservation.or.jp)

CI Japan is a Japanese entity and part of an international NGO, Conservation International, working for realizing sustainable society. Based on a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstrations, CI Japan works closely with the network spreading in 31 countries with a total staff of 1000 conservationists. Under the slogan of "People need nature to thrive," it engages in policy work, field project implementation and outreach.



### United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

[ias.unu.edu](http://ias.unu.edu)

UNU-IAS is a leading research and teaching institute based in Tokyo, Japan. Its mission is to advance efforts towards a more sustainable future, through policy-relevant research and capacity development focused on sustainability and its social, economic and environmental dimensions. UNU-IAS serves the international community, making valuable and innovative contributions to high-level policymaking and debates within the UN system. The activities of the institute are in three thematic areas: sustainable societies, natural capital and biodiversity, and global change and resilience.



### Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

[www.iges.or.jp/en/](http://www.iges.or.jp/en/)

IGES is a non-profit, research institute headquartered in Hayama, Japan with offices in Kansai, Kitakyushu and Tokyo, as well as in Bangkok, Thailand and Beijing, China. Information on IGES research, networks and events are available on the IGES website: [www.iges.or.jp/en/](http://www.iges.or.jp/en/).

## Donor and network

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### **Global Environment Facility (GEF)**

[www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established in 1994 as an independent financial mechanism for providing grants and concessional funding to cover the incremental or additional costs of measures to assist in the protection of the global environment and to promote environmental sustainable development and a global partnership of 183 countries, international institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector. The GEF has provided \$18.1 billion in grants and leveraged \$94.2 billion in co-financing for more than 4,500 projects in more than 170 developing countries.



### **The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI)**

[satoyama-initiative.org/](http://satoyama-initiative.org/)

The Satoyama Initiative is a global effort, first proposed jointly by the United Nations University and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, to realize “societies in harmony with nature” and contribute to biodiversity conservation through the revitalization and sustainable management of “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS). The United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) serves as the Secretariat of IPSI, an international partnership of organizations working to realize the vision of the Satoyama Initiative.



The logo of the GEF-Satoyama Project symbolically depicts the major elements of the SEPLS, with landscape and seascape elements. Cultivated field with a bird indicates the presence of people in harmony with nature. The rising sun indicates the aspiration that this project starts a new movement of conservation, one that is at the heart of sustainable development.



This was printed on bamboo pulp paper. This use of bamboo for pulp is contributing to a SEPLS in southern Japan.