

The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative

CHARTER

Preamble

Whereas socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) are dynamic mosaics of habitats and land and sea uses where the harmonious interaction between people and nature maintains biodiversity while providing humans with the goods and services needed for their livelihoods, survival and well-being in a sustainable manner, and are found in many places in the world under different names and are deeply linked to local culture and knowledge;

Whereas the Satoyama Initiative was developed with the aim of enhancing understanding and raising awareness of the importance of SEPLS for the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) – being the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding – and other international agreements, and for people’s livelihoods, *inter alia* through the Paris Declaration on the “Satoyama Initiative”;

Whereas the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) was established on 19 October 2010, in conjunction with the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10), to carry out the activities identified in the Paris Declaration on the “Satoyama Initiative”;

Whereas Decision X/32 of CBD COP 10 recognized the Satoyama Initiative as “a potentially useful tool to better understand and support human-influenced natural environments for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being” and invited “Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to participate in the partnership to further advance the Initiative”;

Whereas Decision XI/25 of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 11) recognized “the contribution that the Satoyama Initiative is working to make in creating synergies among the various existing regional and global initiatives on human-influenced natural environments”;

Therefore, the following specific provisions are established for the operations of IPSI:

Article 1 – Name and Purpose

- 1.1 The partnership shall be known as “The International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative” (hereinafter referred to as “IPSI”).
- 1.2 The vision of IPSI shall be to realize societies in harmony with nature, and its mission shall be as stipulated in the IPSI Strategy.
- 1.3 IPSI shall be a partnership to carry out the activities identified through its strategic planning with the purpose of achieving its vision and mission.

Article 2 – Membership

- 2.1 IPSI shall be open to all organizations¹ committed to promote and support socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes² for the benefit of biodiversity and human well-being.

Article 3 – Principles of Engagement

- 3.1 Members shall aspire to uphold and promote the vision of IPSI as described in Article 1.2.
- 3.2 Members shall assent to the three-fold approach of the Satoyama Initiative, namely to:
 - a. Consolidate wisdom on securing diverse ecosystem services and values;
 - b. Integrate traditional ecological knowledge and modern science to promote innovations;
 - c. Explore new forms of co-management systems or evolving frameworks of “commons”³ while respecting traditional communal land tenure.
- 3.3 Members shall also assent to the following six ecological and socioeconomic perspectives, including gender and the rights of the disadvantaged in society, according to the approach described under Article 3.2:
 - a. Resource use within the carrying capacity and resilience of the environment;
 - b. Cyclic use of natural resources;
 - c. Recognition of the value and importance of local and indigenous traditions and culture;
 - d. Multi-stakeholder participation and collaboration in sustainable and multi-functional management of natural resources and ecosystem services;
 - e. Contributions to sustainable socio-economies including poverty reduction, food security, sustainable livelihood and local community empowerment;
 - f. Improved community resilience to achieve multiple benefits, including ecological, social, cultural, spiritual and economic benefits, *inter alia* through ecosystem-based approaches for climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.
- 3.4 Members shall actively participate in all or part of the activities of IPSI, including attending meetings of IPSI.

¹The organizations referred to here include (1) national or local governmental organizations, (2) non-governmental or civil society organizations, (3) indigenous or local community organizations, (4) academic, educational and/or research institutes, (5) Industry or private sector organizations, (6) United Nations or other international organizations, and (7) others.

²The term “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” refers to dynamic mosaics of habitats and land and sea uses that have been shaped over the years by the interactions between people and nature in ways that maintain biodiversity and provide humans with goods and services needed for their well-being. The term is selected to describe the targeted areas of the *Satoyama* Initiative based on the discussions of the Japan Satoyama Satoumi Assessment.

³“Commons” referred to here excludes international/global commons

Article 4 – Governance and Management

- 4.1 There shall be an IPSI General Assembly comprising of representatives of all member institutions. The IPSI General Assembly shall review overall activities, take decisions on institutional matters, and elect member organizations to be represented in the IPSI Steering Committee.
- 4.2 The Steering Committee shall serve as the executive body acting on behalf of IPSI. Governance and management functions shall be vested upon the Steering Committee.
- 4.3 The IPSI Secretariat shall serve the IPSI General Assembly and its Steering Committee.

Article 5 –Acceptance, Entry into force, Amendment and Interpretation

- 5.1 The present Charter shall take effect on 4 October 2014.
- 5.2 Amendments to the present Charter may be made by the IPSI General Assembly after consideration by the Steering Committee.
- 5.3 The IPSI Operational Guidelines translate the relevant provisions of the present Charter into actionable terms and conditions.
- 5.4 Interpretation of any provision of the present Charter shall be a matter for the Steering Committee and the Secretariat on behalf of the IPSI General Assembly.