

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

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| Title of case study | Facilitating the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI), 2014-2017 | | |
| Submitting IPSI member organizations | Forest Bureau, Council of Agriculture, Chinese Taipei National Dong-Hwa University, Chinese Taipei | | |
| Other contributing organizations | None | | |
| Authors, affiliations and profiles | | | |
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| Format of case study | Text | Language | English |
| Keywords | Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI), multi-stakeholder partnership, national network, strategic planning, capacity building | | |
| Date of submission | 1 February 2018 | | |
| Web link | Website of the Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture, https://www.forest.gov.tw/EN News (15/9/2017) about the 'Satoyama Initiative workshop envisions national green eco-network' https://www.forest.gov.tw/EN/forest-news/0061321 News (25/11/2016) about the 'As they become members of IPSI, Forestry Bureau and Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation receive international recognition' https://www.forest.gov.tw/EN/forest-news/0060005 News (23/9/2016) about the 'Ecological Rice Fair: Protecting farmland ecosystem, increasing farmers' incomes' https://www.forest.gov.tw/EN/forest-news/0059742 | | |

Case Study Site

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| Country | Chinese Taipei | Location | Whole Taiwan | | | | | | |
| Google Maps link | https://goo.gl/p178Vh | | | | | | | | |
| Ecosystem category (please put an "✓" next to all appropriate) | | | | | | | | | |
| Forest | ✓ | Grassland | ✓ | Agricultural | ✓ | In-land water | ✓ | Coastal | ✓ |
| Dryland | | Mountain | | Urban/peri-urban | | Other (Please specify) | | | |
| Brief description of ecological characteristics | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Measuring about 400 kilometers from north to south and around 145 kilometers from east to west at its widest, Taiwan is blessed with a wide range of landforms and contrasting climatic zones. Mostly forested, the major mountain ranges in the island's central region include more than 200 peaks rising higher than 3,000 meters above sea level, making for some of Taiwan's most dramatic scenery. Taiwan's mean temperature in a typical year ranges from about 18 degrees Celsius in winter to 28 degrees Celsius in summer. Low temperatures can drop below 10 degrees Celsius in winter, and high temperatures can surpass 35 degrees Celsius in summer. Taiwan has a relatively long summer and a short, mild winter. On the whole, its northern and central regions are subtropical; its south is tropical; and its mountainous regions are temperate. Along with large forests, Taiwan's wide variety of climatic zones, which range from temperate to tropical, give it an extraordinary profusion of flora and fauna. In all, Taiwan is home to approximately 57,600 different species, of which around 30 percent are endemic (Yearbook of Taiwan, 2016).</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| Brief description of socioeconomic characteristics | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Being small with a large population, Taiwan experiences great pressure in land development. The middle and lower reaches of Taiwan island are mainly occupied with rural and urban areas. 80% of population is concentrated in urban areas which covers only 13% of Taiwan's total land, while nature and rural areas cover 58% and 29% respectively. In the past in rural areas, livelihoods of local and indigenous communities depended on environmentally friendly agriculture, forestry, fishery and livestock farming. Impacted by urbanization, conventional farming and climate change in recent decades; however, rural</p> | | | | | | | | | |

areas have been suffering from problems including aging, production landscape deterioration, economic depression, and traditional ethics and culture disappearance.

Brief description of human interactions with nature

The negative impact on biodiversity of reduced human intervention in nature has become a problem in Taiwan. Due to changes in resource use such as the decline in the use of wood as a fuel and the decreasing and aging population of people managing forests and farmlands, the agricultural production landscape complex is no longer being maintained as it once was. Consequently, species that live specifically in this secondary natural environment that has been maintained by human intervention are now in danger of extinction. In contrast, the populations of wild deer, boar and monkeys have been expanding rapidly and are having an adverse effect on ecosystems and are causing severe damage to the agriculture and forestry industries and to livelihood of rural communities.

The integrity and connection among forests, rivers, human settlements and seas in natural and rural areas of Taiwan thus are in need of integrated approaches to conservation, revitalization and sustainability. There is an urgent need to reposition the roles and functions of rural areas in Taiwan. Through conservation and revitalization of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes, it is likely to enhance the reciprocal exchange between rural and urban areas as well as restore the key role of rural areas linking natural and urban areas in Taiwan.

Activity Summary

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| Status of Activity | Ongoing | Project period | 2014-2017 and onwards |
| Rationale | | | |
| <p>Ever since Satoyama Initiative was introduced to Taiwan in the late 2010, it has received great popularity from the government and the general public. Practices engaging in conservation and revitalization of socio-ecological-production landscapes (SEPLs) in compliance with the goal of Satoyama Initiative are on the rise. Notably, the Forestry Bureau of Council of Agriculture had been working with universities, NPOs and local communities on ecological restoration of rice terraces and wetlands in the name of the Satoyama Initiative since 2011. However, there were at least four challenges ahead concerning the promotion of the Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan (Lee, 2014; Sia et al., 2015) including a lack of a national policy and strategic framework, a lack of an indicator system for monitoring SEPLs, a need for relevant research for adapting the Satoyama Initiative into national and local contexts, a lack of a capacity-building mechanism for farmers and a need for on-the-ground and collaborative activities in different regions of Taiwan. Therefore, it called for a more integrated approach to setting up a national strategic framework for promoting Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan. Learning from the experiences of the International Partnership for Satoyama Initiative (IPSI), from 2014, the Forest Bureau has been working with National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU) on the development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI).</p> | | | |
| Objectives | | | |
| <p>TPSI is to build up a national multi-stakeholder partnership network in which stakeholders pool their complementary strengths, resources, assets and knowledge for solving problems in a holistic and synergistic manner. The objective of TPSI is to work with IPSI on implementation of activities under the Satoyama Initiative around the whole islands, Taiwan.</p> | | | |
| Activities | | | |
| <p>In 2014-2015, the National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU) was commissioned by the Taiwan Forestry Bureau to conduct the first two-year Pilot Project for the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI). In 2016 and 2017, the Forestry Bureau continuously commissioned and worked with NDHU on conducting the second two-year Extension Project for the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI). The main tasks of TPSI involve 5 aspects of activities including enhancing international participation and exchange, working on policy research and strategic framework, facilitating knowledge of indicators for monitoring, enhancing capacity building and knowledge exchange through networking regional on-the-ground activities.</p> <p>Key stakeholders involved in the TPSI project, 2014-2017 include project supporter, project conductor/coordinator, IPSI members and IPSI non-members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project supporter: Forestry Bureau of the Council of Agriculture is the key project supporter as well as the key policy-making authority responsible for promoting Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan ● Project conductor/coordinator: National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU) as the project conductor and coordinator ● IPSI members: Nine IPSI members in Taiwan as key partners including: National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU), Society for Wildlife and Nature (SWAN) International, Taiwan Ecological Engineering Development Foundation, Environmental Ethics Foundation of Taiwan, Hualien District Agricultural Research and Extension Station, Forestry Bureau of Council of Agriculture, Tse-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation, Soil and Water Conservation Bureau, and Observer Ecological Consultant Co., Ltd. | | | |

- IPSI non-members: other organizations of local practitioners in north, middle, south and east parts of Taiwan were invited to participate in the conferences and workshops and share their experiences of on-the-ground activities.

Results

From 2014, the Forest Bureau has been working with NDHU on the pilot works. A first draft of a National Strategic Framework for Promoting Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan, including 5 aspects of activities including enhancing international participation and exchange, working on policy research and strategic framework, facilitating knowledge of indicators for monitoring, enhancing capacity building and knowledge exchange through networking regional on-the-ground activities, was proposed by NDHU in 2014 and adopted by the Forest Bureau in 2015. In 2014-2015, the National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU) was commissioned by the Taiwan Forestry Bureau to conduct the first two-year Pilot Project for the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI). In 2016 and 2017, the Forestry Bureau continuously commissioned and worked with NDHU on conducting the second two-year Extension Project for the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI).

Among IPSI members of the world, it is apparently rare to have a national network set up for promoting the Satoyama Initiative. The TPSI project has continued its program in an experimental way for four years. The numbers and diversity of participants are all increasing. In **2016**, four regional (north, west, south, east) TPSI 2016 activities totally involved **61** participants from **26** different governmental institutions, NGOs/NPOs, academics, community organizations. In **2017**, four regional (north, west, south, east) TPSI 2017 activities totally involved **134** participants from **57** different governmental institutions, NGOs/NPOs, academics, community organizations. The numbers and diversity of participants have increased a lot since 2016.

Lessons learned

A national partnership network for the Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan cannot be successful without first, continuous supports from the Forest Bureau of the Council of Agriculture; second, National Dong-Hwa University (NDHU) as the project conductor and coordinator; third, supports and participation from 7 other IPSI members and non-IPSI members of Taiwan. In Taiwan, we have just learnt to regard the Satoyama Initiative as not only individual initiatives but also concepts and approaches to reconnecting natural-rural-urban areas of Taiwan. In the past, lots of efforts of biodiversity conservation in Taiwan have been made to set up a national protected area system especially for conservation of upper-stream high mountain natural areas and individual wetlands. Now we have learnt that we need to enhance the symbiotic relationship between rural areas and urban areas, and therefore we can conserve the natural areas more effectively. We have started to incorporate concepts of Satoyama Initiative into wider landscape and seascape management through reconnecting upstream and downstream, and 森-川-里-海 (forest-stream-village-sea) of natural, rural and urban areas.

Key Messages

Promotion of the Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan has become a new policy announced by the new Minister of Council of Agriculture in May 2016 and by the new Director General of the Forest Bureau in July 2016. The Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan therefore has gained the political momentum from central governmental institutions since 2016.

In 2016 and 2017, Forestry Bureau, NDHU and other IPSI and TPSI members have worked closely on promoting TPSI's 5 clusters of activities. From 2018, Forestry Bureau will continue the TPSI projects and work with NDHU and other IPSI and TPSI members on promoting above TPSI's clusters of activities. In the near future, the goal of TPSI is to help revitalize and conserve the socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes in rural Taiwan. We believe that a revitalized rural area can help build up a national 'Green Network' beyond the upstream national forests and protected areas, as well as reconnect nature area conservation, rural development and urban partnership for moving towards a society living in harmony with nature.

IPSI collaborative activities are one of the key instruments for enhancing mutual learning and cooperation among IPSI members. Among the existing 40 collaborative projects, TPSI is unique since it adopts a national scale and focuses on partnership among IPSI and non-IPSI members in Taiwan. For design of TPSI, we learned a lot from IPSI's operational guidelines, strategy and action plans. We are currently working on review and analysis of TPSI activities. In the near future we hope that we can share our knowledge and experience of developing a national partnership for the Satoyama Initiative to international IPSI members and other societies.

Relationship to other IPSI activities

The TPSI project focuses on setting up a national framework for promoting Satoyama Initiative in Taiwan as well as enhancing and networking partnership among governmental institutions, academics, NPOs, on-the-ground practitioners and experts. Therefore, the TPSI project closely related to the IPSI Strategy Objective 'four' as well as its priority actions 'a,' 'b,' 'c,' 'd' and 'e' for the IPSI Plan of Action.

The case study is related to IPSI collaborative activity no. 34 'Facilitating the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI)' submitted by National Dong Hwa University; as well as to the SDM 2016 project 'Facilitating

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| the Development of a Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (TPSI)' awarded to National Dong Hwa University. | |
| Funding | The funding for conducting the four-year project was from Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture, Taiwan as well as from SDM 2016 project supported by IGES. |

Relevance to Global Agendas

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

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (<https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>)

| Strategic Goal A | | | | Strategic Goal B | | | | | |
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| | | | ● | | ● | ● | | | |
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| Strategic Goal C | | | Strategic Goal D | | | Strategic Goal E | | | |
| ● | | ● | ● | | | | ● | ● | |
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UN Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

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