

IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Please submit this form along with your case study. We ask that you keep your responses here as concise as possible. This information will be posted on the IPSI website unless otherwise requested. Please inform the IPSI Secretariat if there are any responses you would not like made public.

Basic Information

Title of case study (should be concise and within approximately 25 words)			
Fostering a new human-nature relationship in an area devastated by Great East Japan Earthquake in Ishinomaki, Japan			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
AEON Environmental Foundation			
Other contributing organization(s) (IPSI members and/or non-members)			
AEON TOHOKU Co., Ltd. Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
Hideyuki Kubo, IGES Shigenobu Suzuki, AEON TOHOKU Co., Ltd.			
Format of case study (manuscript or audiovisual)	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords (3-5 key concepts included in the case study)			
Great East Japan Earthquake; A forest of requiem; Volunteers; A continually nurtured forest			
Date of submission (or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)	11 January, 2023		
Web link (of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)			

Geographical Information

Country (where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even “global”)							
Japan							
Location(s) (within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)							
Minamihama district, Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture							
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link (if location is identified)							
https://www.google.co.jp/maps/place/%E7%9F%B3%E5%B7%BB%E5%8D%97%E6%B5%9C%E6%B4%A5%E6%B3%A2%E5%BE%A9%E8%88%88%E7%A5%88%E5%BF%B5%E5%85%AC%E5%9C%92/@38.4181403,141.3037823,1078m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m5!3m4!1s0x5f89a3b843dbe2b3:0xf449184ad5940172!8m2!3d38.4180689!4d141.30316?hl=ja							
Ecosystem(s) (please place an “x” in all appropriate boxes)							
Forest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grassland		Agricultural		In-land water	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)	
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area (within 50 words)							
Surrounded by the sea, Ishinomaki was blessed with abundant marine resources, and people have lived a rich life in the area since ancient times. However, the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami caused the Minamihama district to sink, and parts of the area have become marshland.							
Description of human-nature interactions in the area (land-use, traditional resource management practices etc. – within 50 words)							
Through collaboration among a diverse range of stakeholders, local civic groups have led the process of realizing the concept that a forest is nurtured by life, and that it is necessary to care for and support the growth of the forest over time in the Minamihama district.							

Contents

<p><i>Note: The following fields are used for information about activities described in the case study or the production of the case study itself, and contents may vary depending on the nature of the case study. For example, a case study about on-the-ground activities may include the rationale, objectives etc. for the activities; a case study about a SEPLS-related policy may describe the policymaking process; or a case study describing a SEPLS may address particular practices used there. Please make an effort to fill as many fields as possible.</i></p>			
Status ("ongoing" or "completed")	Ongoing	Period (MM/YY to MM/YY)	From March 2011
<p>Rationale (<i>why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed – within 50 words</i>)</p>			
<p>For the earthquake and tsunami survivors, there is no other starting point for the path to recovery than to remember and honor the many lives that were lost. Accordingly, people aim record the disaster for eternity, including through the creation of memorial forests and monuments.</p>			
<p>Objectives (<i>goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study – within 50 words</i>)</p>			
<p>Realizing the concept that a forest is nurtured by life, and that it is necessary to care for and support the growth of the forest over time in the Minamihama district. It is an on-going process without any specific end-points or goals.</p>			
<p>Activities and/or practices employed (<i>within 50 words</i>)</p>			
<p>Initially, creating a forest in the Minamihama district consisted of one single volunteer watering seedlings by hand. Later, a council was established with citizens' groups, and then tree planting festivals were held, where volunteers actually began to plant the trees.</p>			
<p>Results (<i>within 50 words</i>)</p>			
<p>The initial phase of forestation is almost complete. In order to build a new relationship between people and nature that will support the growth of the forest over time, those involved in creating the forest have begun working to develop a sustainable system.</p>			
<p>Lessons learned (<i>factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities – within 40 words</i>)</p>			
<p>One of the key factors for the success would be that while the government provides the budget, civic groups have consistently taken the initiative in creating the forest in cooperation with a range of diverse stakeholders in Japan and abroad.</p>			
<p>Key messages (<i>within 40 words</i>)</p>			
<p>In the Minamihama district, local civic groups are creating a forest that continuously evolves with the support of people in Japan and abroad in order to remember and honor the many lives that were lost by the disaster.</p>			
<p>Relationship to other IPSI activities (<i>if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.</i>)</p>			
<p> </p>			
<p>Funding (<i>any relevant information about funding of activities or projects described in the case study</i>)</p>			
<p>(Partly by AEON Environmental Foundation)</p>			

Contributions to Global Agendas

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

Please place an "x" in the "direct" or "indirect" boxes next to any of the CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets to which the work described in this case study contributes as appropriate. Note: please mark only those that the case actually has made or is making a contribution, not those to which it could make a potential contribution in the future.

Target	Description	Direct	Indirect
 1	By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	X	
 2	By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.		X
 3	By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.		X
 4	By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.		X
 5	By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.		X
 6	By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.		X
 7	By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	X	
 8	By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.		X
 9	By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	X	
 10	By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.		X

 11	By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	X	
 12	By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.		X
 13	By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	X	
 14	By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.		
 15	By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	X	
 16	By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.		X
 17	By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.		X
 18	By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	X	
 19	By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.	X	
 20	By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.		X

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)

Please place an "x" in the "direct" or "indirect" boxes next to any of the UN Sustainable Development Goals to which the work described in this case study contributes as appropriate. Note: please mark only those that the case actually has made or is making a contribution, not those to which it could make a potential contribution in the future.

SDG	Description	Direct	Indirect
 1 NO POVERTY	End poverty in all its forms everywhere		
 2 ZERO HUNGER	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture		
 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	X	
 4 QUALITY EDUCATION	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	X	
 5 GENDER EQUALITY	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls		
 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all		
 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all		
 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all		
 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation		
 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	Reduce inequality within and among countries		
 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable		X
 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns		
 13 CLIMATE ACTION	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts		X

	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development		
	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss	X	
	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels		
	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development		X