

Expert Thematic Workshop on Landscape Approaches for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Date: 3–6 September 2019 (Back-to-back with the Eighth IPSI Global Conference scheduled on 2–3 September.)

Venue: Kumamoto, Japan

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

In cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), the Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ), and the Kumamoto Prefectural Government

Introduction and mandate

In 2018, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision 14/34 “Comprehensive and participatory process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework¹”, which requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate implementation of the process. Decision 14/34 also decided that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be accompanied by an inspirational and motivating 2030 mission as a stepping stone towards the 2050 Vision “Living in harmony with nature”.

Additionally, Decision 14/34 goes further and urges:

- *Parties and invites other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, United Nations organizations and programmes, other multilateral environmental agreements, subnational governments, cities and local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, women’s groups, youth groups, the business and finance community, the scientific community, academia, faith-based organizations, representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, citizens at large, and other stakeholders, to actively engage and contribute to the process of developing a robust post-2020 global biodiversity framework in order to foster strong ownership of the framework to be agreed and strong support for its immediate implementation; and*
- *Parties, according to their capabilities, and encourages other Governments and all relevant organizations and stakeholders in a position to do so to provide timely financial contributions and other support to the process for developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including by offering to host global, regional, sectoral, or thematic consultations on this issue.²*

In response to this decision, UNU-IAS, with support from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and the Kumamoto Prefectural Government, will hold an expert thematic workshop on landscape approaches to biodiversity conservation, in order to explore the potential of landscape approaches in terrestrial and coastal landscapes and as a contribution towards the 2050 Vision of “Living in harmony with nature”.

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-34-en.pdf>

² For more details, please refer to CBD Decision 14/34: “Comprehensive and participatory process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework” <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-34-en.pdf>

Background

The most recent Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services produced by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) identified that for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, land-use change has had the largest relative negative impact on nature since the 1970s and that in marine ecosystems, sea-use change is also the cause of large and widespread impact on the world's oceans.³

UNU-IAS's extensive work with the Satoyama Initiative has provided a strong basis for the idea that landscapes and seascapes are highly influenced by humans' production activities – for example, customary places with sustainable agriculture, forestry, and fisheries practices – can be multipurpose and contribute to both production, human well-being, identity and culture. Such areas can be managed well for biodiversity conservation through sustainable use, contributing towards the objectives of the CBD. Diverse examples of traditional agricultural heritage systems are recognized and promoted by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, under the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) programme. Furthermore, the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity⁴ has provided evidence that the diversity of both human cultures and biodiversity is intimately linked and mutually dependent, meaning that some cultures have co-evolved with biodiversity as their diverse cultures are place-based.

Given that conversion of natural lands and waters to agriculture and aquaculture is a leading cause of biodiversity loss, mainstreaming biodiversity into production sectors has never been so important as it is today. Evidence shows that integrated landscape- and seascape-based approaches can build diverse sustainable, productive and resilient systems that can contribute to conservation, provide ecosystem services and increase human well-being, as opposed to fragmented approaches that are based on single economic sectors, single-species conservation, strictly protected areas, or other measure.

The expert thematic workshop on landscape and seascape approaches for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is planned from 3–6 September 2019 in Kumamoto, Japan. This will include a field visit to nearby Aso, a GIAHS site, and the Minamata coastal area. The workshop is scheduled back-to-back with the Eighth Global Conference of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI-8) and will include participants of IPSI-8 as well as invited experts from CBD Parties and related organizations to ensure geographical, gender, representation and a wide array of perspectives.

Purpose

The purpose of the expert thematic workshop is to bring together policymakers, IPLCs, relevant stakeholders and experts to consolidate lessons learned from landscape and seascape approaches, in the context of CBD, and to produce concrete recommendations as inputs to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in order to achieve the Convention's vision of living in harmony with Nature by 2050.

Note: The working language of the workshop will be English only. English-Japanese translation will be provided for the Public Forum)

³ <https://www.ipbes.net/news/ipbes-global-assessment-summary-policymakers-pdf>

⁴ Between the Convention on Biodiversity and UNESCO

Programme

Tuesday, 3 September 2019	
14:00	<p>Opening remarks Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, UNU-IAS Mr. Minoru Kiuchi, State Minister of the Environment, Japan Ms. Caridad Canales, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity Representative of Kumamoto Prefectural Government Prof. Kazuaki Hoshino, Co-Chair of the Expert Thematic Workshop Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, Co-Chair of the Expert Thematic Workshop</p>
14:20	<p>Overview of the post-2020 process Mr. Basile van Havre (video), Co-Chair of the Post-2020 Process Mr. William Dunbar, UNU-IAS</p>
14:50	<p>About landscape approaches and their implications for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Dr. Suneetha M. Subramanian, Workshop Facilitator</p>
15:10	<p>Structure, format, and organization of work of the workshop, planned outcomes and ongoing process after the workshop Dr. Suneetha M. Subramanian, Workshop Facilitator</p>
15:45	Coffee break
16:00	<p>Perspective presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Evonne Yiu, UNU-IAS: GIAHS landscape approach • Ms. Melina Sakiyama, Global Youth Biodiversity Network: Youth perspective • Ms. Florence Daguitan, Tebtebba: IPLC perspectives • Ms. Adrienne McKeehan, Conservation International: Social and human rights • Dr. Maiko Nishi, UNU-IAS: NBSAP research project report and guidance
17:00	Plenary Discussion
17:30	Housekeeping announcements
	Group Photo
18:30	<p>Reception Dinner <i>Hosted by the Kumamoto Prefectural Government</i></p>
Wednesday, 4 September 2019	
09:00	<p>Thematic Stream 1 <i>State and trends of landscape management</i></p>
	<p>Working Group Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coastal management ▪ Degradation and restoration ▪ Disaster Risk Reduction ▪ Cultural landscapes – nature and culture and the links between biological and cultural diversity ▪ Area-based conservation (protected areas and OECMs)

12:30 –	<p>Lunchtime Session (optional) <i>“Developing a manual for application of the integrated landscape and seascape approach for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)”</i></p> <p>Organized by UNU-IAS, The University of Tokyo Institute for Future Initiatives (UT-IFI) Supported by SCBD</p> <p>Note: Boxed lunch will be provided to all workshop participants, regardless of participation in the lunchtime session.</p>
14:00 –	Break
14:30 – 17:30	Expert Thematic Workshop / IPSI-8 Joint Public Forum
Thursday, 5 September 2019	
09:00	<p>Plenary Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments from workshop facilitator
9:05-9:20	3-minute reporting back from thematic stream 1
9:20-9:25	Floor open to comments or questions about the workshop proceedings
09:30	<p>Thematic Stream 2 <i>Enabling environment</i></p>
	<p>Working Group Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable agriculture ▪ Scientific assessment ▪ Links to SDGs and related policy frameworks ▪ Sustainable economic systems for landscapes and seascapes ▪ Gender
12:30	Lunch (will be provided to participants)
13:30	<p>Thematic Stream 3 <i>Implementation</i></p>
	<p>Working Group Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resource mobilization and capacity building ▪ Communications and CEPA ▪ Monitoring/Reporting/Evaluation ▪ NBSAPs and national-level policy ▪ Mainstreaming biodiversity into other sectors
16:30 –	<p>Closing Plenary 3-minute report-back from thematic streams 2 and 3</p>
17:00 –	<p>Wrap up of the workshop and reminder of post-workshop process Comments from:</p> <p>Workshop Co-Chairs Dr. Suneetha M. Subramanian, Workshop Facilitator Representative of UNU-IAS Ms. Caridad Canales, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity</p>

Friday, 6 September 2019

Excursion organized by the Kumamoto Prefectural Government

08:30	Depart from Hotel Mielparque Kumamoto
	4 groups will visit sites in Aso Region and Minamata. See separate programme for details.
18:00	Return to Hotel Mielparque Kumamoto