



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

Recent Developments and Future Prospects of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

**Yoshihide Endo
GIAHS Coordinator, FAO**

14 June 2016



GIAHS Definition

Remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaptation of a community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

For a long period of time, communities of farmers and herders have developed locally adapted ingenious agricultural systems that have led to food and livelihood security as well as the maintenance of natural and cultural diversity.





Backgrounds of Remarkable/Unique Agricultural Systems

- **Farmers had to establish complex and innovative land use/management practices due to:**
 - (a) geographic isolation:**
 - (b) fragile ecosystems:**
 - (c) limited natural resources:**
 - (d) extreme climate conditions**
- **Farmers developed a strategy to minimize risks by planting several species/varieties of crops**



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

These systems are threatened by;

- Population pressure and social, cultural and economic changes
- Accelerated process of Urbanization
- Neglect of diversified systems and local knowledge under the process of modernization
- Low community involvement in decision-making
- Inappropriate policy, legal and incentive frameworks

Designation as GIAHS

Conservation activities of the site can be carried out with involvement of all stakeholders.



Dynamic Conservation



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

Dynamic Conservation beyond Simple Conservation

The values of service and agricultural products provided by farmers in the GIAHS site should be appropriately evaluated and fully utilized.

Opportunities for Economic Development

- **Agritourist/Ecotourism**
- **Branding of local agricultural products**
- **Payment for environmentally friendly agriculture**
- **Promotion of local gastronomy and traditional culture**



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

Criteria for designation of GIAHS

1. Food and livelihood security

The proposed agriculture system should contribute to food and livelihood security of local communities.

2. Biodiversity and ecosystem function

Agricultural biodiversity and genetic resources (species, varieties & breeds), as well as other biodiversity such as wild relatives, pollinators and wildlife associated with the agricultural system and landscape.

3. Knowledge systems and adapted technologies

Maintain invaluable knowledge, ingenious technology and management systems of natural resources, etc.

4. Cultures, value systems and social organizations (Agri-Culture)

Cosmo-vision, value systems and agri-cultural practices associated with environment and agricultural calendar; festivities and rituals as knowledge transfer.

5. Remarkable landscapes, land and water resources management features

Landscape features resulting from human management



Monitoring and Evaluation

In order to know how the action plans for dynamic conservation are implemented, monitoring and evaluation are very important;

Monitoring of the Implementation of the Action Plans



Evaluation of the current state of the GIAHS



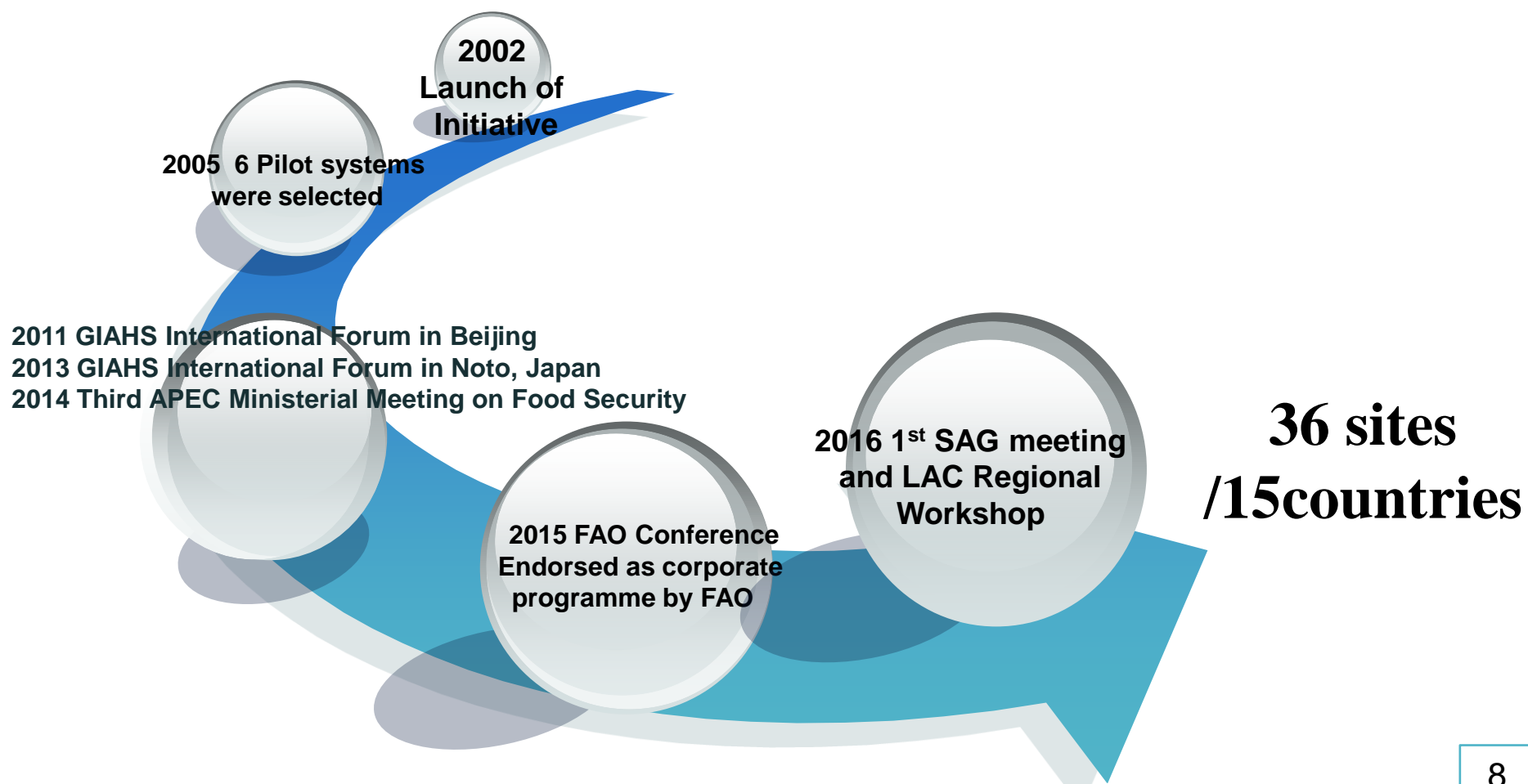
Feed back to Dynamic Conservation

- Revision of the action plans
- Acceleration of implementation of action plans

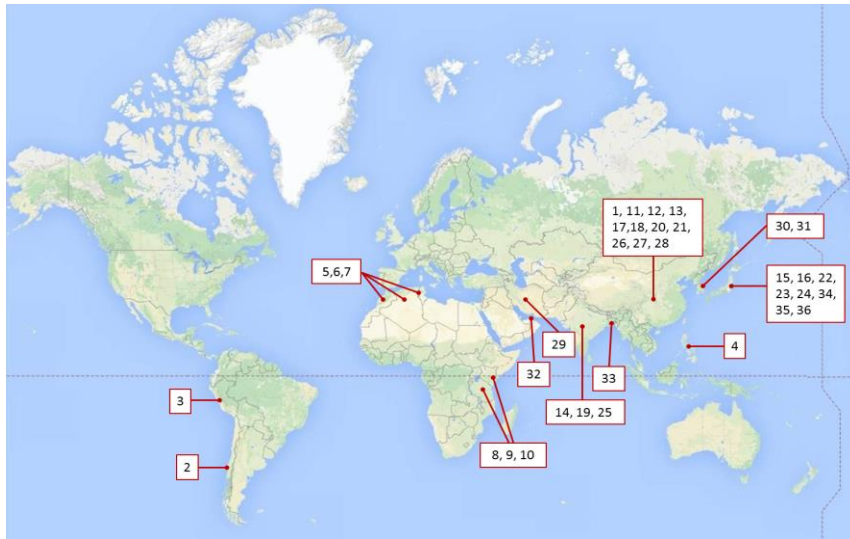


GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

History of GIAHS Development



Designated sites as of February 2016



1	Rice-fish Culture (CHN)
2	Chiloé Agriculture (CHL)
3	Andean Agriculture (PER)
4	Ifugao Rice Terraces (PHI)
5,6,7	Oases of the Maghreb Region (TUN, ALG, MAR)
8.9	Maasai Pastoral Heritage (KEN, TAN)
10	Shimbue Juu Kihamba Agroforestry (TAN)
11	Dong's Rice Fish Duck System (CHN)
12	Hani Rice Terraces(CHN)
13	Wannian Traditional Rice Culture (CHN)
14	Saffron Heritage of Kashmir (IND)

15	Sado's Satoyama in harmony with Crested Ibis (JPN)	26	Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens (CHN)
16	Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi (JPN)	27	Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem (CHN)
17	Pu'er Traditional Tea Agrosystem (CHN)	28	Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System (CHN)
18	Aohan Dryland Farming System (CHN)	29	Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan (IRI)
19	Traditional Agricultural Systems, Koraput (IND)	30	Traditional Gudeuljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando (KOR)
20	Kuaijishan Ancient Chinese Torreya (CHN)	31	Jeju Batdam Agricultural System (KOR)
21	Urban agricultural heritage – Xuanhua grape garden (CHN)	32	Al Ain and Liwa Historical Date Palm Oasis (UAE)
22	Managing Aso Grasslands for Sustainable Agriculture (JPN)	33	Floating Garden Agricultural System (BAN)
23	Traditional teg-grass integrated system in Shizuoka (JPN)	34	Ayu of the Nagara River System (JPN)
24	Kunisaki Integrated Forestry, Agriculture and Fisheries System (JPN)	35	Minabe-Tanabe Ume System (JPN)
25	Kuttanad Below Sea Level Farming System (IND)	36	Takachihogo-Shiibayama Mountaious Agriculture and Forestry System (JPN)

Remarkable landscapes, ecosystem function



Case1:Ifugao rice terrace in the Philippines

- Ingenious technology to form rice terrace in steep mountainous area with effective management of other resources (forest, upland field, water)
- vertical ecological landscape out of the mountains were created



Case2:Chinese Honghe Hani rice terraces System



Case3:The Upland Agro-forestry system in the Northern Tanzania



Case 4: Noto Satoyama/Satoumi system

Ingenious technology and multiple products



Case5: Floating Garden Agricultural System in Bangladesh



Case6: Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem in China

- Unique way to use available land and water resources



Case7: Rice-fish culture in China

Significant biodiversity and genetic resources



Case 8: Chiloe Island Agriculture



Case 9: Andean Agriculture

Agri-culture and cuisine



Fig25:Ureshino

Case10:Kunisaki Peninsula Usa Integrated Forestry, Agriculture and Fisheries System in Japan



Case11:Algeria Ghout System (Oases of the Maghreb)

Resources of tourism, sense of belonging to nature habitat



Case12:Maasai pastoral system-Kenya and Tanzania



Case13:The Ayu of Nagara River System in Japan

Recent Developments

Development in 2013

- The GIAHS International Forum held May 2013 in Noto Peninsula, Japan adopted “Noto Communique”

GIAHS Noto Communique

The recommendations:

1. the progressive designation of further GIAHS sites to promote the conservation of agricultural heritage and its contributions towards global food security and economic development
2. promotion of on-the-ground projects and activities, particularly in developing countries
3. the existing GIAHS to support the recognition of candidatures of GIAHS areas in less developed countries
4. promote the twinning of GIAHS sites between developed and developing countries.

- Regional Workshop for Asia and the Pacific was held by FAORAP in November 2013

Development in 2014

- **Joint Meeting of Steering/Scientific Committee in April**
 - Two Korean, three Chinese and one Iranian site were designated.
- **The First Conference for East Asia Research Association for Agricultural Heritage Systems (ERAHS)** was held in Xinghua City, Jiangsu Province, China, 7–11 April, 2014.
- **The First High Level Training on GIAHS in Beijing in September.**
- **The Third APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security (September)**

The Beijing Declaration on APEC Food Security, paragraph 19

“We agree that APEC should promote rural development policies that enhance the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of communities and support FAO’s work on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems.

We recognize that we should promote the public understanding and awareness of agricultural heritage systems and share successful stories of management on agricultural heritage and typical models of rural development.”

Development in 2014 (Cont.)

➤ The 24th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (October)

Discussion was carried out on how FAO should operate, manage and promote GIAHS.  Various fundamental comments and questions were raised.

➤ The International Workshop on GIAHs for the Islamic countries in collaboration with ISESCO (November)

➤ Collaboration with CBD and UNESCO

- GIAHS contribution to the regional capacity building workshop for Africa held by CBD (Nairobi, Kenya in March)
- GIAHS contribution to the 1st European Conference for the Implementation of the UNESCO-SCBD Joint Programme on Biological and Cultural Diversity (Florence, Italy in April)
- Side event at CBD COP 12 (Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, October)

Development in 2015

- **The Second Regional Workshop for Asia and the Pacific** was held by FAORAP (May)
- **The Second Conference for East Asia Research Association for Agricultural Heritage Systems (ERAHS)** was held in Sado City, Niigata, Japan (June)
- **FAO Conference approved its Program for Work and Budget (PWB) 2016-2017** (June)
 - The FAO Conference endorsed GIAHS as FAO corporate programme by allocating staff costs for the GIAHS Secretariat under regular budget.
- **The Second High Level Training on GIAHS in China** (September)
- **Joint Meeting of the Steering and Scientific Committee** (December)
 - One site in Bangladesh/Three sites in Japan were designated.
- **Steering and Scientific Committee ceased to function** (December).

Development in 2016

- **Scientific Advisory Group was established and started its activity since January.**
- **The First Session of the SAG was held (22-23 February).**
- **The Regional Workshop on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) for Latin America and the Caribbean (27-29 April)**
- **FAO-ISESCO Sub-Regional Workshop on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) for West Africa (28-30 June 2016, Marrakesh Morocco)**
- **The Third High Level Training on GIAHS in China (October)**

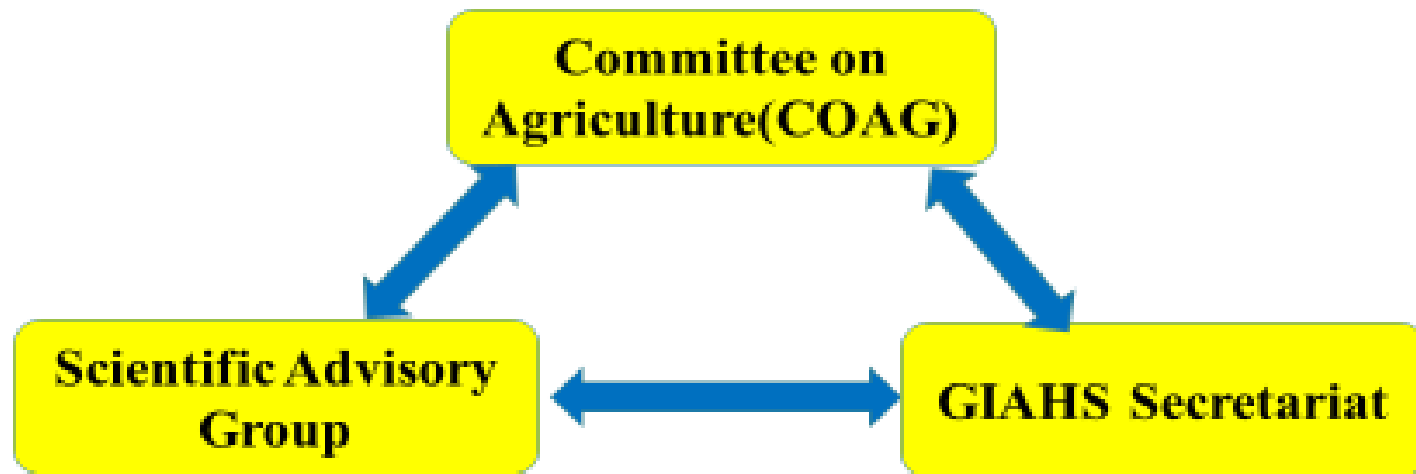
Future Prospects

(Trend, Tasks, Issues, Challenges)

Future Development of GIAHS (1)

1. Governance System

New GIAHS Governance Structure



- 25 COAG Session is expected to endorse its new role of GIAHS, namely providing policy and strategic direction;
- Rules & Regulations, procedures, and templates should be reviewed on a regular basis, if and when necessary.

Future Development of GIAHS (2)

2. More Global Expansion of the GIAHS sites

➡ Current Geographic Distribution of the GIAHS Sites

- Asia and Pacific: 25
- Africa: 3
- Near East: 5
- Latin America and Caribbean: 2
- North America: 0
- Europe: 0

3. Monitoring and Evaluation of the designated GIAHS sites

4. Scientific Analysis of the GIAHS sites to boost dissemination, demonstration effects (achieving impacts on macro level)

➡ The ultimate goal of GIAHS; Conservation of Heritage only? or more ambitious goal to pursue demonstration and dissemination effects of GIAHS sites?

➡ Agronomic/Ecological/Economic/Social Analysis

Future Development of GIAHS (3)

5. **Promotion of collaboration with UNESCO and other relevant activities in other organizations** (while making distinction with Cultural Landscapes in the World Heritage)
6. **More sustainable financial resources to support GIAHS**
 - ➡ FAO regular budget supports only Secretariat cost and China and Japan support main activities of GIAHS.
7. **Response to increasing number of interested countries**
 - Global project, national project, South-South corporation, twining of sites to assist member countries to identify their GIAHS sites and make qualified proposal document
8. **Active collaboration among sites**
 - Promoting the twinning of GIAHS sites between developed and developing countries declared in 'Noto Communique'

Future Development of GIAHS (4)

9. Establishment of the GIAHS Registry

10. More Comprehensive Support to Developing countries

- Current assistance → identification of GIAHS sites and making good proposal
- What should be additionally necessary in the future
→ Technical assistance for making action plans for dynamic conservation and facilitating its implementation, monitoring and evaluation

11. Establishment of Global, Regional Network of GIAHS sites

12. Promotion of the NIAHS



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



GIAHS Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

Thank You!