“GEF-Satoyama Project” aims to achieve societies in harmony with nature, with sustainable primary production sector based on traditional and modern wisdom, and to make significant contributions to global targets for conservation of biological diversity.

**Project Duration:** September 1, 2015 - June 30, 2019

**GEF Project Agency:** Conservation International

**Executive Team:** Conservation International Japan (CI Japan) as Executing Agency, with United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

**Funding:** GEF: USD1,909,000 / Co-financing: USD6,350,000
Executive Team Activities
October to December, 2016

* Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot Inception Meeting and Training

During this period, an inception meeting and Training on the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) was held for the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot in Puerto Lopez, Ecuador, from October 7-9, 2016. The inception meeting was designed to explain the objectives and activities of the Project, as well as to establish the common ground for the subgrant projects regarding the Project’s expectations and requirements. The objective of the training was to build capacity of the GEF-Satoyama Project grantees and others for applying the Indicators of Resilience in their projects. A total of 29 participants from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru were involved as well as 10 community members from Agua Blanca for the practical exercise of evaluating the resilience of SEPLS of their own community. For a report of the training in Spanish please consult Memoria Taller Satoyama Puerto Lopez.

* Two subgrantees, Dahari of Comoros and Green Islands Foundation (GIF) of Seychelles were among 12 new confirmed members of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) bringing the number of our ten grantees who are members of IPSI to four (the other two being Fundación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Social (FIDES) of Ecuador and Inter Mountain Peoples’ Education and Culture in Thailand (IMPECT). Ny Tanintsika of Madagascar which participated in the Indicators of Resilience workshop held in Moramanga, Madagascar was also among the 12 new members.

* Two side events were organized at the CBD COP-13 in Cancun, Mexico:

- December 6, 2016 - “Strategic Action for Mainstreaming Biodiversity: Contributions of the International Partnership for the Satoyama initiative (IPSI) to Biodiversity and Human Well-Being” This activity was organized by the IPSI Secretariat where the publication “Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review vol. 2” was launched. It includes an article entitled “Toward mainstreaming concepts and approaches of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS)” which highlight broad principles that enable successful implementation of mainstreaming activities based on lessons learnt from seven case studies contributed by members of the IPSI.

- December 8, 2016 - “Contributions of funding mechanisms under the Satoyama Initiative to mainstreaming biodiversity for well-being:” This was done collaboratively between the GEF Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and Conservation International. A presentation was made by Dr. Yoji Natori on the GEF-Satoyama Project and the progress so far.
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) held consultation meetings in six villages (Ghukhuyi, Kivikhu, Nihoshe, Sukhai, Vishepu and Xuyivi) with the objective of forming Community Conserved Areas (CCAs). Based on these consultations, a Community Conservation Committee (CCC) was formed for each of the villages which comprises the village council members, women representatives, youth representatives and church representatives. The objective of the CCCs is to keep track of activities such as patrolling, conflict resolution, fixing tourist rates, managing the CCAs and enforcing regulations. In addition, all villages came together to form a joint CCA network.

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) conducted their assessment using the indicators of resilience for the stakeholders involved in the project. The boundaries of Fishing Conservation Zones (FCZs) were demarcated in Indawgyi in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife Sanctuary and communities. In collaboration with the communities, an agreed upon FCZ for the Malihka River was mapped and explained to the communities along the Hponganrazi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Inter Mountain Peoples’ Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT) continued its quest to strengthen the role and authority of the elders, spiritual leaders and shamans where a meeting was held which focused on areas such as traditional governance and cultural philosophy. Further, forums were organized to address economic self-determined development which eventually evolved into practical ways in which this development can occur such as the production of value-added products. There was a documentation of traditional knowledge through diverse media such as videography. This information was also shared with a wider audience through social media, national television, magazines and newspapers.
Green Islands Foundation (GIF) held an inception meeting where the project goals and expected outcomes were presented to stakeholders and conducted their assessment using the indicators of resilience for the stakeholders involved in the project. Capacity training was also held in the use of the field survey protocol which is necessary to prepare for the intensive monitoring of threatened fish species in the artisanal catch. Interviews were conducted with former and older fishers with the aim of obtaining a historical baseline and current knowledge assessment for occurrence and relative abundance of threatened species in the artisanal fishery catch.

Dahari published two papers. The first is based on the development of its landscape approach its landscape approach which was presented at the XIV World Forestry Congress in Durban in September 2015. Paper can be downloaded here: http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6616e.pdf The second is based on research into the Livingstone's fruit bat. It was featured on Mongabay in addition to the roost-site protection scheme being developed. The feature on Mongabay can be found at https://news.mongabay.com/2017/01/worlds-most-endangered-bat-could-soon-be-extinct-due-to-rapid-forest-loss/.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) supported the silvicultural maintenance of both corridors along trails of 288.4 km for Lokaitra and 40 km for Vohitaly. Plant growth monitoring sessions recorded trees from 0.5 to 4.5 meters high at Vohitaly, and 0.8 to 2.5 meters high at Lokaitra. In addition, young video reporters of the Junior Reporter Club (JRC) conducted interviews in three villages around the Vohitaly Corridor and produced a short film.

Environmental Protection and Conservation Organization (EPCO) continued its community-oriented activities by having a beautification exercise of the mangroves with one done exclusively by women and the other by student of the University of Mauritius while fishermen were involved in the renovation of the Barachois wall. Fishermen also collected strawberry guava stems, an invasive species, that were used mainly for the creation of crab's cages. Consultations were held with members of the community to assist in the designing, planning and implementation of community activities. Household surveys were also conducted. A community awareness activity was held for all members of the community and awareness panels created, involving the children.
Universidad Industrial de Santander (UIS) established a study group on socio-ecosystems comprising of 46 students from both the social and natural sciences whose undergraduate thesis will deal with topics related to the GEF-Satoyama Project. The celebration of Biologists Day in Colombia was utilized to share information on the GEF-Satoyama Project. Further alliances are being sought with relevant stakeholders in the project area with engagements held with the Fundación Natura and the Serranía de Yariguíes National Park. Preparation for the assessment using the indicators of resilience is underway.

Fundación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Social (FIDES) conducted training of children using the booklet called Amiguitas del manglar (Friends of the Mangrove). This training is aimed at improving the knowledge about the importance of the mangrove ecosystem. It allowed them to actively participate in mangrove preservation and protection. Children also instrumental in transmitting these messages to the adults in their families. Due to the earthquake of April 2016, it is necessary to start a process of environmental recovery of some salt pools which were considered to be potential sources of environmental pollution and contamination for production pools. Efforts are being made to advance this exercise.

Asociación Amazónicos por la Amazonía (AMPA) was successful in getting APRODEQUI Bolívar certified as organic to the USA market, European market, and the Peruvian market. The products were given a marketing thrust when the Director of AMPA’s Green Economies Program, Mr. Miguel Tang Tuesta, participated in the Business Roundtable about Sustainable Foods in Amsterdam. In addition, AMPA continued its drive in capacity building by holding beekeeping training events on harvest and post-harvest in the province of Bolívar, La Libertad and in Alto Huayabamba Conservation Concession-AHCC, San Martín. Another capacity building event was conducted for primate monitors which included information on Fire Hotspots.
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 2016

For more information please visit our website:

www.gef-satoyama.net

Produced by the Executing Agency of the GEF-Satoyama Project
Contacts: gef-satoyama@conservation.or.jp