



## **GIAHS Steering and Scientific Committee Meeting**

**28-29 April 2014, Rome, Italy**

**FAO, German Room (C-269)**

### **Background Note and Provisional Agenda**

#### **Rationale**

The Globally Important Agricultural Systems (GIAHS) Partnership Initiative was conceptualized and launched by FAO in 2002 at the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa. The initiative represents an integrated policy and action framework for the recognition and dynamic conservation of unique agricultural systems around the world.

Currently 25 systems in 11 countries<sup>1</sup> have been designated as GIAHS and there are numerous systems remaining to be designated<sup>2</sup>. Many countries are involved in GIAHS supporting activities or projects and in the process of submitting candidatures for official designation. In the GIAHS sites, dynamic conservation with participation from multiple stakeholders has been explored and conducted, contributing to safeguarding their agricultural heritage systems along with ensuring food security, livelihoods, associated biodiversity, knowledge systems, cultures and landscape.

In May 2013, an international forum on GIAHS was held in Noto, Japan and the “Noto Communiqué” was adopted which recommends, among others, further designation of GIAHS sites, promotion of on-the-ground projects and activities and twinning of GIAHS sites.

Given the increasing interest in the GIAHS initiative among partners and countries, a policy agenda has been set in FAO and discussion has started to strengthen the GIAHS initiative by securing a formal approval of the operational framework by the FAO Governing Bodies. Through this process, it is foreseen to strengthen the base of the GIAHS as FAO corporate programme and a formal recognition through a conference resolution.

The GIAHS initiative falls under FAO’s new Strategic Objective 2 “Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner”.<sup>3</sup> In order to achieve these objectives, more multidisciplinary and cross-sectorial

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<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Chile, China, India, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Tanzania and Tunisia

<sup>2</sup> Egypt, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Iran, UAE, Oman, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Korea, Thailand, Mongolia, Colombia, Ecuador, Cuba

<sup>3</sup> Activities related to the GIAHS initiative are included in the product and service 7 and 8 of Outcome 1 Output 2 and the product and service 5 of Outcome 3 Output 3 of SO2.

approaches are emphasized. Enhancement of social, economic and environmental sustainability is also stressed.

To reinforce the multifaceted role of GIAHS through the GIAHS umbrella programme, the strengthening of the existing partnership and development of future innovative partnership is increasingly important.

Thus, based on the experience and lessons learnt in the past years, the time to consider a possible way forward of the GIAHS initiative in has come. This will be achieved through discussions with partners and member countries, as well as the Scientific Committee and Steering Committee members.

### **Objectives**

The meeting aims to have focused discussions on how to strengthen the GIAHS initiative in the future. Specifically, the Steering and Scientific Committee meeting shall focused on:

- (i) How to use the lessons learnt and achievements in the GEF pilot countries for further development of the GIAHS initiative
- (ii) Ways to strengthen and explore synergies with other FAO objectives through further enhancing collaboration with other sectors and regional organizations
- (iii) How to create innovative partnerships and collaborations to enhance the GIAHS initiative
- (iv) Ideas for strengthening the GIAHS corporate programme (twining, South-South cooperation, monitoring and evaluation modalities, etc.)

### **Expected outcomes**

- Renewal of partners' commitment in order to enhance the GIAHS initiative through planning and concrete activities
- Suggestions on further development of GIAHS projects based on stocktaking of existing experiences, particularly the GIAHS-GEF project, including a next global GEF project and a new type of collaboration such as South-South Cooperation.
- Suggestions to strengthen synergies with other FAO objectives and programmes in a cross-sectoral way and based on bottom up approaches
- Designation of new GIAHS sites

### **Proceedings of the meeting**

The meeting will take place over two days in the form of plenary meetings and round table discussions by objectives or topics. The objectives and expected outputs will be presented, together with an overview of the current status of the GIAHS initiative. Results of the discussions will be presented on day two.

<b>Day 1 Monday, 28 April 2014</b>	
<b>Introductory/Plenary Session</b>	
Moderator : Mr Masahito Enomoto, GIAHS Coordinator	
9:00 – 9:20	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> Mr Moujahed Achouri, Director Land and Water Division
9:20 – 9:40	<b>The status of GIAHS and way forward</b> Mr Masahito Enomoto, GIAHS Coordinator
9:40 – 10:00	<b>Keynote Speech: The importance and prospect of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems</b> Prof. Wenhua Li, Academician, Director, CNACH, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Chairman of GIAHS Steering Committee
10:00 – 10:20	<b>Options and Opportunities of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems in National and International Contexts</b> Dr Parviz Koochafkan, President, World Agricultural Heritage Foundation (WAHF)
10:20 – 11:00	Coffee/tea break
<b>Dynamic conservation of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems: lessons learned and experiences</b>	
How to use the lessons learnt and achievements in the GEF pilot countries for further development of the GIAHS initiative Chairperson/Moderator : Dr Mary Jane Ramos dela Cruz, Project Technical Officer	
11:00 –12:30	<b>Country Presentations</b> (10-15min each) - <b>Algeria</b> , Mr Fatah Achour Abdellatif - <b>Chile</b> , Mr Carlos Venegas, CET, Chiloé - <b>China</b> , Prof. Qingwen Min, IGSNRR <b>Discussion</b>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<b>Country presentations</b> - <b>Peru</b> , Mr Jose Alvarez Alonso, MINAM - <b>Philippines</b> , Mr Edwin Domingo, DENR - <b>Tunisia</b> , Mr Lazhar Cherif, ASM <b>Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion</b>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee/tea break
<b>Scientific Committee (Round Table Discussion)</b>	
Strengthen the base of the GIAHS corporate programme through monitoring/evaluation modalities and interaction with multiple sectors Chairperson/Moderator : Mr Thomas Price, Chair of Scientific Committee	
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Session 1 : Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b> (5-10min each) 1. University of Florence, Italy, Prof. Mauro Agnoletti 2. University of California Berkeley , USA, Prof. Miguel Altieri 3. Southampton University, UK, Prof. Craig Hutton 4. Research Institute of Humanity and Nature, Japan, Mr Daniel Niles, Prof. Kenichi Abe 5. Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, Italy, Mr Luigi Ponti <b>Discussion</b>
17:00 – 18:00	<b>Session 2 : GIAHS in multiple sectors</b> (10min each) 1. Forestry Sector, Ms Yuka Irie, FAO Forestry Department 2. Fishery Sector, Ms Anne Mcdonald, Sophia University, Japan/FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department 3. Pastoral/Livestock Sector, Ms Mary S. H. Mashingo, Tanzania 4. Tourism Sector, Prof. Kazem Vafadari, Asia Pacific University, Japan <b>Discussion</b>
18:00 – 18:30	<b>Wrap-up and conclusion</b>
18:30 – 20:00	Cocktail party

<b>Day 2 Tuesday, 29 April 2014</b>	
<b>Presentation of new GIAHS proposals</b> Chairperson/Moderator : Prof. Wenhua Li, Chairman of Steering Committee	
9:00 –10:00	<b>Presentation of newly identified GIAHS candidates</b> <b>1. Korea</b> (5min each) - Traditional Gudeuljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando - Jeju Batdam Agricultural System <b>2. China</b> (10min each) - Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens (Mr Zhongwei Wu) - Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem (Mr Xiangfang Ding) - Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System (Mr Jiangmin Zheng) <b>3. Iran</b> (10 min each) - Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan (Mr Ali Kiani Rad, Mr Mohammad Reza Mazandarani Haeri)
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Screening of proposals – Joint meeting of ST/SC</b> <b>Discussion and deliberation of Scientific Committee</b> (Mexico Room D213bis) <b>Endorsement by Steering Committee</b> (Mexico Room D213bis)
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee/tea break (participants not part of Steering and Scientific Committee)
10:30 - 10:40	<b>Reporting of the decision on designation</b> , Prof. Wenhua Li, Chairman of Steering Committee
10:40 - 11:30	<b>Potential GIAHS candidates</b> (10min each) 1. Ethiopia, Mr Wubalem Tadesse 2. Turkey, Mr Esin Dilbirligi 3. Indonesia, Ms Pamuji Lestari 4. Ecuador, Ms Erika Zárate 5. Thailand
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Designation ceremony for new GIAHS</b> Ms Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General Natural Resources
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch
<b>The future of GIAHS (Round table discussion)</b> Strengthen the base of the GIAHS corporate programme through twinning, South-South cooperation, collaboration with regions Chairperson/Moderator : Prof. Wenhua Li, Chairman of Steering Committee	
14:00 – 16:00	<b>Prospects and Opportunities: Voices from the GIAHS countries and partners</b> 1. Report of the ERAHS meeting and engaging in South-South cooperation, Mr Sixi Qu, Ministry of Agriculture, China 2. Policy Framework of the GIAHS and its Implementation in Japan, Mr Yutaka Sumita, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan 3. Twinning GIAHS sites, Prof. Koji Nakamura, Kanazawa University 4. GIAHS prospects in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa, Mr Shiferaw Wondimagegne, FAO Ethiopia 5. GIAHS prospects in the Latin America and Caribbean Region (via video conference), Mr Alfonso Alem, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean 6. GIAHS –Suggestions for next steps, Prof. Stuart Harrop, University of Sussex <b>Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion</b>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/tea break
<b>Securing the future of the GIAHS Initiative through innovative partnerships</b> Based on the experience and success of the current projects of GEF, IFAD etc., and an increase of the designated sites and growing demand of the potential sites and FAO Initiative to strengthen the base of the GIAHS programme, how to create innovative partnerships and expand collaborations to enhance the GIAHS initiative Chairperson/Moderator : Mr Masahito Enomoto	

16:30 – 18:00	<p><b>Voices from the GIAHS partners</b> (5-10min each)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. IFAD, Ms Rima Alcadi</li> <li>2. UNESCO, Mr Philippe Pypaert</li> <li>3. Bioersivity International, Mr Pablo Eyzaguirre</li> <li>4. ITPGRFA, Mr Shakeel Bhatti</li> <li>5. CGRFA, Mr Damiano Luchetti</li> <li>6. UNU, Mr Akira Nagata</li> <li>7. ISESCO, Ms Aicha Bammoun</li> <li>8. WAHF, Dr Parviz Koohafkan/ Mr Stefano Grego</li> <li>9. CBD, Mr John Scott, via video conference</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion</b></p>
18:00 – 18:30	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p>Mr Moujahed Achouri, Director Land and Water Division</p>