

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

INFORMATION NOTE

The forum will be held from **29 to 31 May** in Ishikawa, Japan. The organizer in collaboration with Sado City is offering optional tours to Noto and Sado Island, GIAHS sites on 31 May and 1st of June 2013 after the closure of the forum.

1. VENUE

Hotel Aenokaze

Address: Wakuraonsen, Nanao-city, Ishikawa, Japan

Phone: +81-767-62-1111

Fax: +81-767-62-1121

URL Japanese Website : <http://www.aenokaze.jp/> (Official Site)

English Website:

www.japanican.com/hotels/shisetsudetail.aspx?ty=rsv&st=5343005#shisetsumenu

(Unofficial Site)

2. TENTATIVE PROGRAMME¹

International participants Committee members should arrive at the venue on the 28th May

DAY 1 / 29 May

Preparatory Meetings and Parallel Sessions

8:30-10:00 Steering Committee Meeting

10:30-12:30 Scientific Committee Meeting

13:30-15:30 Parallel/Thematic Sessions

Country Presentation Session I

16:00-17:30 GIAHS sites' Presentations and lessons learnt

Day 2 / 30 May

9:00-12:30 High Level Session : Contribution of GIAHS toward a sustainable world

14:00-16:20 Ishikawa Public Forum

14:00 -17:30 Country Presentation Session II

19:00-21:00 Welcome Reception

¹ Programme Agenda of the GIAHS Forum will be made available in April 2013.

Day 3 / 31 May

8:30-10:00	Closing Session
10:30-15:00	Excursion to Noto (or Sado) GIAHS site: Experience the nature, culture and a taste of Noto (optional)

Day 4 / 1st June (optional)

9:00-13:00	Excursion to Sado Island: Experience the nature, culture and a taste of Sado
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3. CONTACTS

For information, please contact:

FAO Rome:

Mary Jane Ramos dela Cruz

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GIAHS Secretariat

Email: GIAHS-secretariat@fao.org;

4. TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN TOKYO AND ISHIKAWA

- From Haneda airport to Komatsu/Noto airport by flight (approximately 1hour)

	Haneda Airport	Komatsu Airport	Noto Airport
ANA751	08:20	09:20	
ANA747	09:30		10:30
ANA753	09:45	10:45	
ANA969	13:15	14:15	
ANA749	15:05		16:05
ANA755	15:10	16:10	
ANA757	18:00	19:00	
ANA759	20:00	21:00	
JAL1273	07:55	08:55	
JAL1275	10:05	11:05	
JAL1279	13:05	14:05	
JAL1281	16:15	17:15	
JAL1283	18:05	19:05	
JAL1285	19:55	20:55	

- From Komatsu/Noto airport to Haneda by flight (approximately 1hour)

	Komatsu Airport	Noto Airport	Haneda Airport
ANA752	07:45		08:50
ANA754	10:05		11:15
ANA748		11:10(11:35 after 6/1)	12:15(12:40after6/1)
ANA756	11:30		12:40
ANA970	15:25		16:35
ANA750		16:40	17:45
ANA758	16:55		18:10
ANA760	19:50		21:00
JAL1270	07:55		09:00
JAL1272	09:40		10:45

JAL1276	11:50	12:55
JAL1278	14:50	15:55
JAL1280	18:00	19:05
JAL1282	19:45	20:50

- From Narita airport to Komatsu airport by flight (approximately 1 & 1/4hour)

	Narita Airport	Komatsu Airport
ANA3117	10:05	11:20
ANA3119	18:50	20:05

- From Komatsu airport to Narita airport by flight (approximately 1 & 1/4hour)

	Komatsu Airport	Narita Airport
ANA3116	08:20	09:35
ANA3118	15:00	16:15

5. TRANSPORTATION AT ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE

- From Komatsu airport to Hotel Aenokaze by chartered bus (approximately 2.5hour)
- From Noto airport to Hotel Aenokaze by chartered bus (approximately 1hour)
- From Kanazawa station to Hotel Aenokaze by chartered bus (approximately 1.5hour)

6. REGIONAL INFORMATION OF ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE

Ishikawa Prefecture is made up of three main regions: *Kanazawa*, *Kaga* and *Noto* and which is surrounded on three sides by the Sea. The reason why FAO designated Noto as GIAHS is because the world acknowledged that traditional cultures in rural villages are preserved along with sustainable regional agriculture.

Area: 1,615.92 sq mi

Farm area: 43,000 ha (2011)

Population: 1,168,929 (Feb, 2011)

Capital city: Kanazawa City

7. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Time Zones:

Japan time is 9 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +9)

- Electricity:

In Japan, the voltage is AC100V, with a frequency of 60 hertz in western Japan including Ishikawa and 50 hertz in eastern Japan including Tokyo. The hotels sometimes do not offer voltage converters. The power plug in Japan is the flat, two-pin A Type plug.

- Drinking Water:

Tap water is safe to drink anywhere in Japan. In addition, bottled mineral water can be easily purchased in supermarkets and convenience stores.

- Currency:

The Japanese currency is the Yen (¥). Coins are available in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 500 yen and bank notes in denominations of 1,000, 2,000, 5,000 and 10,000 yen. Japan uses a floating exchange rate system and the Yen is exchanged at the rate of approximately ¥90 to US\$ 1.00 (as of January 2013).

➤ Credit Cards:

Although credit cards can be used in most hotels and shopping centers, they are sometimes not accepted in small shops and stores. Moreover, some stores charge a fee, so care is required. The major credit cards which can be used in Japan are Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners Club. Emergency contact numbers in the case of lost or stolen credit cards in Japan are:

VISA	00531-440-0022
MasterCard	00531-11-3886
American Express	0120-020120
Diners Club	0120-074-024

➤ Smoking:

In Japan, under the Health Promotion Act, smoking is permitted only in designated areas in most public facilities. Public transport facilities such as trains, buses and taxis are basically non-smoking. Most hotels have separate smoking rooms and non-smoking rooms.

➤ Mobile Communication:

All principal mobile networks in Japan provide 3G and WCDMA. Delegates are advised to check with their service providers whether they have global roaming agreements.

Main mobile network operators in Japan are as follows:

Docomo	(http://www.nttdocomo.co.jp/english/)
Softbank	(http://www.softbank.co.jp/en/)
Au	(http://www.au.kddi.com/english/index.html)