

Final Report

The Third High Level Training and Experience Sharing on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Under the Framework of the South-South Cooperation

Oct. 23 to Nov. 5 2016, China



Organizers:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Ministry of Agriculture, P. R. China (MOA)

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1. Background

Over the past decade, the GIAHS Initiative has been piloting an innovative model of engaging communities, local and national governments in the adaptive management of agricultural heritage and conservation of system's goods and services. GIAHS has gained considerable recognition both at international and national levels. At the global level, GIAHS was very much appreciated in various inter-governmental fora. At national level, GIAHS became the basis of adopting new policies integrating agricultural heritage in their development programmes. Some countries have adopted policies for recognition of Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (NIAHS).

Currently FAO has designated 37 GIAHS sites within 16 countries, and many more candidate sites are being considered for future recognition. Since the inception of the GIAHS Initiative, China as a pioneer pilot GIAHS country - has led the implementation of an innovative approach to conservation of agricultural heritage including engagement of variety of stakeholders (public-private-academic and research institutions-farming communities). This has resulted to enormous success, resulting to more GIAHS sites (within China) and as a model GIAHS sites to neighboring countries in Southeast Asia and other countries in the world.

In order to sustain the efforts and upscale the 11-year positive experiences, lessons learned and achievements, to further scale up GIAHS sites and to get more countries involved in, organizing the third GIAHS training in China would be essentially beneficial for potential GIAHS developing countries in Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America in particular.

2. Training Objectives

The Third High Level Training on GIAHS was aimed to equip and orient prospective GIAHS national focal point institutions, implementers, practitioners, government officials and/or academicians, in the process of initiate, institutionalize, implement, manage and monitor GIAHS programme in their respective countries.

The aims of the training are:

- Based on lessons learned during the implementation of GIAHS existing interventions in China, ideas will be stimulated on the use of the GIAHS concept to leverage support and synergies with existing relevant programmes and plans in each country.
- Expanding of the Chinese experiences and GIAHS best practices of dynamic conservation.
- Enhanced institutional capacity in establishing GIAHS and managing and implementing GIAHS interventions.
- Strengthening of cooperation on GIAHS among member countries.
- Enhanced FAO Regional Office's capacity in establishing GIAHS regional focal point and network.

3. Participants

This year, the participants came from 5 groups, countries with no GIAHS (we call it Group 1, in brief GP1), GIAHS recourse countries (GP2), FAO Regional Offices(GP3), some NGOs(GP4) and FAO GIAHS secretariat(GP5). There were 17 participants from **Group 1**, coming from 16 countries, Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Tajikistan, Saudi Arabia, Chad, Ethiopia, Costa Rica, Cameroon, Senegal, Malaysia, Suriname, Uzbekistan, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Papua New Guinea and State of Kuwait. **Group 2** has 9 members, with participants not only from GIAHS recourse countries, such as Tanzania, Japan, Morocco and Kenya, and SAG experts, but also from FAO related departments and Italian Ministry of Agriculture who has some experiences on rural landscape conservation. **Group 3** includes 4 participants from 4 FAO Regional Offices, namely FAO-RNE, FAO-RAP, FAO-RLC, FAO-RAF. **Group 4** includes 2 observers from Spain and Italy Association. **Group 5** includes 5 staff from GIAHS secretariat. A list of all the participants was attached.

In total, there were 37 participants from 31 countries/organizations have attended in this activity.

The training was conducted in English and whenever there were lectures and/or discussions in Chinese, translation from Chinese to English was provided.

The participants were mainly represented by the Ministry of Agriculture or other related ministries in their country, most of whom were senior policy-makers, senior officials and technical officers or researchers. They have diploma, BSc or advance university degree in agriculture, environment, rural development or biological sciences, and similar degrees in natural sciences.

4. Implementation of training

(1) Preparation of the training

Before the training, CICOS assisted FAO in the facilitation of the travel documents of the 37 participant to ensure their arrival in China on time.

CICOS made the necessary logistics and preparation including accommodation, food, facilities and domestic travel. The training was held at the Landmark Hotel, strategically located in the downtown Beijing, with good access to shopping malls, banks, hospitals and nearby tourist attractions. The participants, regardless of their country origin, background, religion, culture and profession, have given their excellent rating for the quality of the lectures, logistical support and arrangements, training kits, and facilitation of the training.

(2) Training Courses

The GIAHS training activities mainly consisted of two parts: (i) lecture courses/presentations, and (ii) field visits. Approximately one-thirds of the time was devoted to lecture presentations and one-third to field visits. Both lectures and field visits included discussions, open-forums and coaching from the GIAHS Secretariat, trainers and facilitators. Prior to the training, CICOS conducted the orientation for most of the lecturers and relevant staff to ensure the successful conduct of the training in accordance with the course objectives. CICOS has spared no effort to ensure the

training will be delivered with utmost quality, excellence, effectiveness and efficiency

Most of the lectures were delivered by professors and researchers from CAS-IGSNRR, South China Agricultural University.etc. In particular, professors with actual experience on the implementation of GIAHS were selected. To ensure that the participants will have the comprehensive information about the GIAHS programmer, officials from FAO, GIAHS Secretariat have delivered lectures and conducted coaching sessions with participants. China's GIAHS program managers from central and local governments of China were also invited to give lectures to share their knowledge and experiences, and motivated the participants. GIAHS way forward, contemporary development issues and experiences sharing were very much appreciated.

Overall, the lecture courses and presentations were divided in three modules: (i) GIAHS Initiative, (ii) GIAHS practice and operation (iii) GIAHS ways forward.

Part 1: GIAHS Initiative

Presentations of this module was focused on comprehensive introduction, methodology Framework, writing proposal and developing action plan of GIAHS which was presented by Mr. Yoshihide Endo (GIAHS Coordinator, FAO) and other colleagues.



Part 2: GIAHS Practice and Operation

This module presented various topics such as: Conservation of Biodiversity and the Environment Compensation of GIAHS, GIAHS products marketing and tourism in China, Contemporary challenges to conservation of GIAHS in China, GIAHS monitoring and evaluation in China, modern agriculture and Traditional farming from GIAHS perspective etc.



Part 3 : GIAHS way forward



In this module of the training course, not only the lectures about “Discover the wisdom of our past and lighten the sustainable future of agriculture”, and “High efficiency eco-agriculture practice from GIAHS perspective” were delivered, but also participants were requested to present potential GIAHS in their respective country and delivered a

“GIAHS Action Plan” based on the knowledge gained during the course. This was followed by presentation-Twinning Programmes from MOA, as a final message of the training. Participants are encouraged to discover their own heritage and enhance the knowledge and experience sharing between and among GIAHS countries.

(3) Field visit

During the two weeks of training, the participants visited 3 agricultural heritage sites in China including Dong's Rice Fish Duck System (GIAHS), Xing hua Duotian Agrosystem (GIAHS) and Xiajin Yellow River Old Course Ancient Mulberry Grove System(NIAHS). At each GIAHS/NIAHS site, we arranged the participants to meet with the local governors, local farmers and local entrepreneurs to talk about the effects of GIAHS to their life/ business and how they protect GIAHS. Through such visits, we helped the participants to gain hands-on experiences and impression of China's management and conservation of GIAHS/NIAHS.



(4) Opening and Closing Ceremony

Opening Ceremony: The training officially conducted its opening ceremony on Oct. 24. Ms. Tong Yue, Direct General of CICOS, Mr. Yoshihide Endo, GIAHS Coordinator, Mr. Vincent Martin, Representative, FAO Representation in China, Professor Min Qinwen, Chair of GIAHS SAG and Secretary-General of GIAHS Steering Committee MOA, Associate Professor Slim Zekri, member of SAG, attended the opening ceremony and made opening remarks. Particularly, Ms. Tong Yue expressed that CICOS of MOA would do its best to make this training course successful. Mr. Yoshihide Endo on behalf of FAO, expressed that he was delighted that China, one of the pioneering countries, was supporting the GIAHS initiative and encouraged all of the participants to deepen their understanding of Globally Important Agricultural Systems, and to request their further support to protect these indispensable systems for our common vision and goals.



Closing Ceremony: The closing ceremony was held on Nov.4 in Beijing. Ms. Tong Yue, Director-General of CICOS, Associate Professor Mauro Agnoletti and Wang Xiaoxiao, FAO GIAHS secretariat staff and most of the training staff and participants attended the closing ceremony. A certificate issued by CICOS was awarded to each participant. The trainees expressed their appreciation to CICOS, MOA and Ms. Tong Yue congratulated them for finishing the whole course. A full programme of activities is given in Appendix 1.





(5) Extra-curricular activities during spare time



To enrich the life of participants, excursions to places of historic places and cultural sites like the TianAnMen Square in Beijing, XiaoHuang Dong's Song Village (Intangible Cultural Heritage) in Congjiang and Chinese traditional culture show in Xiajin were organized for the participants. Basic services, like seeing a doctor,

shopping basic necessities, currency exchange, and other necessities were provided to the participants whenever needed.



5. Conclusions

During nearly two weeks training, all the 37 participants have learned and understood GIAHS conceptual framework and dynamic conservation approaches. "Well-organized, a mix of classroom lectures and field visits made the training more interesting, exciting, educative, efficient and effective". The training provided opportunity to meet and interact with different people such as academicians, bureaucrats, technocrats, and farmers provided in- depth understanding and

significance of the GIAHS”.

Meanwhile, participants have developed friendship and deepen their understanding on agriculture and cultural heritage – humanity’s common heritage. All participants shared views and understanding on the subject areas, exchanged special souvenirs from their home country, and encouraged each other to take up the responsibilities to serve as a GIAHS ambassador in their country. Also, it is interesting to note the initiatives undertaken by participants to assist the organizers and facilitators of the training as well as preparing the video and photo documentary of the training.

However, from the Evaluation form filled in by each participant, we understand we can do better if more farmers and technicians were invited to interact with the participants, which we will consider in the next training.

6. Recommendations

1) Future training to be organized in China

The third training on GIAHS in China turns out to be a successful one with objectives fully achieved and very much appreciated by participants. The training have inspired and motivated participants to better develop GIAHS in their own country. Based on the success of the training, similar capability-building activities in the future could be organized in China through SSC program targeting a wide range of countries and stakeholders to better advance and promote GIAHS.

2) Passion and Interest in GIAHS Twinning Programme

In accordance with the discussion with participants, in addition to appreciation on the overall course, many participants showed passion and interest in twinning programme, especially when they found out there is a great potential between GIAHS site in their countries and China as well as other countries.

3) Cooperation on scientific management of GIAHS site

Some participants suggested that since professional and technological assistance such as tourism development, pest control etc are in need in the GIAHS and NIAHS site of their country, they would like to put forward cooperation with China as well as other countries regarding the above areas.

Appendix 1 Training Agenda

DATE	MODULE	TIME	ACTIVITY
10/23	Registration	All day	Check-in at Beijing Landmark Hotel
10/24 (MON)	Opening Session (Dress Code: Formal) Venue: 3 rd floor, No.4 Building, Yongan Hotel Attention! Departure from the lobby of Landmark Hotel at 8:30.	Moderator: <i>Mr. Xu Ming</i> , Division Director, MOA-CICOS	
		09:00-09:05	Remarks by <i>Ms. Tong Yue</i> , Director-General, MOA-CICOS
		09:05-09:10	Remarks by <i>Mr. Vincent Martin</i> , Representative, FAO Representation in China
		09:10-09:15	Remarks by <i>Mr. Yoshihide Endo</i> , GIAHS Global Coordinator, FAO
		09:15-09:20	Remarks by <i>Professor Min Qingwen</i> , Chair of GIAHS SAG (Scientific Advisory Group)
		09:20-09:25	Remarks by <i>Professor Slim Zekri</i> , Member of GIAHS SAG (Scientific Advisory Group)
		09:15-09:55	Self-introduction
		09:55-10:25	Group Photo and Coffee Break
	Introduction of GIAHS Programme	Moderator: <i>Dr. Xu Ming</i> , Division Director, MOA-CICOS	
		10:25-11:30	<u>No. 1: Comprehensive Introduction about GIAHS</u> by <i>Mr. Yoshihide Endo</i> , GIAHS Global Coordinator, FAO

10/24 (MON)	(Dress Code: Formal)	Introduction of GIAHS Programme	11:30-13:30	Lunch
			Moderator: <i>Mr. Yoshihide Endo</i> , GIAHS Global Coordinator, FAO	
			13:30-14:30	<u>No. 2: GIAHS Methodological Framework, Writing Proposal and Developing Action Plan</u>
				Speaker: GIAHS Secretariat -TBD
			14:30-15:10	Japan Country Experience
			15:10-15:30	Coffee Break
			Moderator: <i>Ms Song Yuxing</i> , Deputy Division Director, MOA-CICOS	
			15:30-17:00	<u>No. 3: Policies and Experiences in Identifying and Conserving NIAHS in China</u>
				by <i>Mr. Shao Jiancheng</i> , Division Director, MOA-BAP
11/25 (TUE)	Cultural Activity	08:30-12:00	Receive DSA at Bank of China and Visit Tiananmen Square for participants	
		09:30-11:00	Meeting between GIAHS Secretariat and FAO-Regional offices	
	Resource Country	Moderator: <i>Mr. Slim Zekri</i> , Member of GIAHS SAG (Scientific Advisory Group)		

11/25 (TUE)	Presentation :	14:00-14:40	<u>Host Country (China) Experiences</u> by MOA
	Venue:: <i>Plum Blossom Room, located in 3rd floor of the convention centre, Landmark Hotel</i>	14:40-15:20	Tanzania Country Experience
		15:20-16:00	Kenya Country Experience
		16:00-16:10	Coffee Break
		16:10-16:50	Italy Country Experience
		16:50-17:30	Morocco Country Experience
10/26 (WEN)	GIAHS practice and operation Venue:: <i>Plum Blossom Room, located in 3rd floor of the convention centre, Landmark Hotel</i>	08:30-09:30	<u>No. 5: Social benefits and incentives for conservation</u> by <i>Mr. Slim Zekri</i> , Member of GIAHS SAG (Scientific Advisory Group)
		09:30-10:30	<u>No. 6: The role culture/humanity elements in the dynamic conservation of GIAHS: ways forward (Skype)</u> by Anne McDonald, Member of GIAHS SAG (Scientific Advisory Group)
		10:30-11:30	Luggage Packing
		11:30-12:00	Lunch
	Leave for Guiyang Attention!	12:30-13:30	Ground transportation to Beijing Capital International Airport
		15:05-18:25	Travel by Flight CA1463 from Beijing to Guiyang

10/27 (THU)	Leave for Congjiang	08:30-12:00	Ground transportation from Guiyang to Congjiang
	GIAHS practice and operation Venue:: <i>Multi-functional hall, XY•The History of Congjiang Hotel</i>	14:00-17:30	<u>No. 7:Dong's Rice Fish Duck System</u> by <i>Mr. Jiang Zhengcai</i> , deputy county governor of Congjiang county <u>No. 8: Chinese Agriculture & Agricultural Policies</u> by <i>Professor Li Xiande</i> , CAAS-IAE <u>No.9: Discover the Wisdom of our past and lighten the sustainable future of agriculture</u> by <i>Professor Luo Shiming</i> , South China Agricultural University
10/28 (FRI)	Field visit and interactions	All Day	Field Visit to Dong's Rice Fish Duck System (GIAHS) Cultural activity at Xiaohuang Village Dong's Song
10/29 (SAT)	Back to Guiyang	08:30-11:30	Ground transportation to Guiyang
	Leave for Nanjing	14:25-16:40	Flight CZ6452 from Guiyang to Nanjing
10/30 (SUN)	Leave for Xinghua	08:30-12:40	Ground transportation to Xinghua
	Field visit and interactions	14:00-17:30	Field Visit to Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem (GIAHS)
10/31	GIAHS practice and operation	08:30-11:30	<u>No. 10: Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem</u>

(MON)			by <i>Mr. Wu Cunfa</i> , Deputy General Director of Agricultural Department, Xinghua City <u>No. 11: GIAHS monitoring and evaluation in China</u> by <i>Dr. Jiao Wenjun</i> , Assistant Researcher, CAS-IGSNRR <u>No. 12: GIAHS and Agriculture Multi-Function Assessment</u> by <i>Dr. Liu Moucheng</i> , Deputy Researcher, CAS-IGSNRR
	Leave for Nanjing	13:30-16:00	Ground transportation to Nanjing
11/1 (TUE)	Leave for Xiajin	08:00-12:30	Ground transportation to Dezhou by CRH
	GIAHS practice	15:00-16:00	<u>No. 13: Xiajin Yellow River Old Course Ancient Mulberry Grove System</u> By <i>Mr. Cai Yupu</i> , deputy county governor of Congjiang county
	Field visit	16:00-18:00	Field Visit to Xiajin Yellow River Old Course Ancient Mulberry Grove System (China-NIAHS)
	Cultural Show	19:00-20:30	<u>No. 14: Chinese Traditional Cultural Lecture and Show</u> By <i>Mr. Lin Luogeng</i> , associate translator, CICOS
		8:30-12:00	<u>No. 15: Contemporary challenges to conservation of GIAHS in China</u> by <i>Professor Qingwen Min</i> , Chair of SAG

11/2 (WED)	GIAHS practice and operation		<u>No. 16: Presentations by the member of SAG (Topic TBC)</u> by <i>Professor Mauro Agnoletti</i> , Vice-Chair of SAG
			<u>No. 17: GIAHS products marketing and tourism in China</u> by <i>Dr. Sun Yehong</i> , Associate Professor, BUU
		12:00-13:30	Lunch
		13:30-14:30	<u>No.18: High efficiency eco-agriculture practice in China: from GIAHS perspective</u> by <i>Professor Gaoming Jiang</i> , Chinese Academy of Sciences
		14:30-16:30	<u>No. 19: Conservation of Biodiversity and the Environment Compensation of GIAHS</u> by <i>Ms. Lucy Garrett</i> , FAO Consultant of Payment on Ecosystem Services
11/2 (WED)		16:30-17:30	<u>No. 20: GIAHS Twinning Outlook</u> by <i>Dr. Xu Ming</i> , Division Director, MOA-CICOS
11/3 (THU)	Leave for Beijing	09:00-11:30	Travel to Beijing by CRH
	Cultural Activity	15:00-18:00	Cultural Activity
11/4 (FRI)	GIAHS Way Forward and	08:30-12:00	<u>No. 21: New GIAHS formulation and Action Plan</u> by <i>participating countries (10 mins each)</i>

	Closing Ceremony Venue: <i>Plum Blossom Room, located in 3rd floor of the convention centre, Landmark Hotel</i>		<u>No. 22: How to Incorporate GIAHS into Regional Priorities and Initiatives</u> <i>by FAO regional office representatives(10 mins each)</i>
		12:00-13:00	Lunch
		14:30-16:00	Awarding of Certificates and Wrap up
11/5 (SAT)	All day	Departure	

Appendix 2 List of Participants

No.	Name	Organization/ Country	Position	Email
1.	Yoshihide Endo	FAO	GIAHS Global Coordinator	Yoshihide.Endo@fao.org
2.	Clelia Maria Puzzo	FAO	Consultant, GIAHS Secretariat	CleliaMaria.Puzzo@fao.org
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5.	Aurelie Fernandez	FAO	GIAHS Secretariat	Aurelie.Fernandez@fao.org
6.	Shoki Al-Dobai	FAO-RNE	Regional Crop Protection Officer, Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa	Shoki.AIDobai@fao.org
7.	Marianna Bicchieri	FAO-RAP	Land Tenure Officer, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	Marianna.Bicchieri@fao.org
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9.	Peter Anaadumba	FAO-RAF	SSC officer, Regional Office for Africa	Peter.Anaadumba@fao.org
10.	Lucy Garrett	FAO	Consultant on Incentives for Ecosystem Services, AGL, FAO-HQ	Lucy.Garrett@fao.org
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17.	Ernest Mbogo	Kenya	Deputy Director, Range Resources Development Division	ernestmbogo@gmail.com
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20.	João Roberto Correia	Brazil	Coordination of Programs and Partnerships, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation	joao.roberto@embrapa.br
21.	Frances Louise Bekele	Trinidad and Tobago	Research fellow, Cocoa Research Centre (CRC)	Frances.Bekele@sta.uwi.edu
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30.	Ramos Silva Barros,	Cabo Verde	Delegate Ministério da Agricultura e Ambiente – Porto Novo	Joel.S.Barros@mdr.gov.cv

	JOEL AMARANTE		Público, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment	
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38.	José María Villanueva Saiz	Spain	Director of the Historical-Architectural Heritage Service in the Provincial Council of Alava (local government),Valle Salado Foundation	jmvillanueva@araba.eus
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