



GIAHS Scientific and Steering Committee Meeting

28-29 April 2014

Rome, Italy

Workshop report



Contents

Abbreviations and acronyms 3

Executive summary 4

1. Background 5

2. Meeting..... 5

 2.1 Introduction and opening 5

 2.2 Dynamic conservation of GIAHS: Lessons learned and experiences 6

 2.3 Options for monitoring and evaluation 8

 2.4 GIAHS in multiple sectors 9

 2.5 New GIAHS sites proposals: Presentation countries, screening by the Scientific and Steering Committee members and designation ceremony 10

 2.6 Potential GIAHS sites 12

 2.7 The future of the GIAHS initiative – Prospects and opportunities 13

 2.8 Scientific Committee meeting (Closed Session)..... 17

3. Wrap up, conclusion and closing remarks 17

Annex I – Background note and agenda 19

Annex II – Participants list..... 24

Abbreviations and acronyms

CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CENESTA	Centre for Sustainable Development
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
ERATH	East Asia Research Association for Agricultural Heritage Systems
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	The Global Environment Facility
GIAHS	Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems
ICCA	Indigenous People and Community Conserved Areas and Territories
ICCROM	International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture and Development
IGSNRR/CAS	The Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences
IPOGEA	Traditional Knowledge Research Center (Società Cooperativa di Produzione e Lavoro)
ISESCO	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
ITPGR	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
LADA	Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
LPFN	Landscapes for People, Food and Nature
MAB	Man and the Biosphere Programme (UNESCO)
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Japan)
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture (China)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NIAHS	Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems
ODEPA	Oficina de Estudios y Políticas Agrarias (Ministerio de Agricultura de Chile)
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
RIHN	Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
SCBD	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNU	United Nations University
WHC	World Heritage Council
WHL	World Heritage List
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organization

Executive summary

The Steering and Scientific Committee meeting was organized for strengthening partnerships, organizations, institutions and creates collective actions to improve fisheries, forestry, pastoralism and agriculture sectors in the GIAHS. There was general agreement among participants that the GIAHS Initiative complements and could potentially contribute to equitable futures for small-scale farmers, fishers and facilitate policy initiatives that aim at developing alternatives in all different sectors and help move forward the sustainable agenda both locally and globally.

Main outcomes

More than eighty participants from 18 countries and representatives of potential partners attended the two days meeting, including representatives from the six pilot countries under the GEF-funded project (Algeria, Chile, China, Peru, Philippines and Tunisia).

- Further commitment were expressed by GIAHS Partners in order to enhance the GIAHS initiative
- Suggestions and commitment were expressed by countries for further development of GIAHS projects based on existing experiences and analysis of gaps, particularly for the GIAHS-GEF project, as well as new types of collaboration such as twinning and South-South Cooperation.
- Suggestions and commitment were expressed by other sectors (fisheries, forestry etc.) and regional/country office to strengthen synergies with GIAHS.
- Suggestions were made by Scientific Committee members on how to formulate the process to incorporate science knowledge into the GIAHS implementations.
- Designation of 6 new GIAHS sites: Six new sites (3 in China, 1 in Iran and 2 in Republic of Korea) were designated during the ST/SC Committee Meeting bringing to a total of 31 sites located in 13 countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. These new sites are (i) China: Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens; Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem; Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System; (ii) Iran: Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan; (iii) Republic of Korea: Traditional Gudeuljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando; Jeju Batdam Agricultural System.
- GIAHS potential sites were introduced in five countries presented a total of 15 potential sites. The sites are (i) Ethiopia: Gedeo multistory agroforestry system; Konso Agoroforesy and Cultural Landscape; (ii) Turkey: Rice Production Systems; Traditional Cheese Production Systems; Fig Production Systems; Natural Dying and Weaving Systems; Grape Production Systems; Olive Production Systems; (iii) Indonesia: Tri Hita Karana for Balinese Agriculture System; (iv) Ecuador: El Ajá Shuar; Huertas Paltas - Cosecha de agua; Chacra Andina; Pueblos del Manglar; Canoeros y Colinos. (v) Thailand: Traditional Sericulture Community in Nong Sung District of Mukdahan Province.

Way forward

- Further development of GIAHS Initiative based on the results of GEF project interventions
- Strengthen synergies with other FAO SOs and programmes
- Strengthen policy advocacy
- Develop a strategy on how to better integrate scientific knowledge into the project/future programme

1. Background

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 31 systems in 13 countries have been designated as GIAHS and there are numerous systems remaining to be designated. 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, 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”. In order to achieve these objectives, more multidisciplinary and cross-sectorial approaches are emphasized. Enhancement of social, economic and environmental sustainability is also stressed.

2. Meeting

2.1 Introduction and opening

Welcome and opening remarks

Mr Moujahed Achouri, Director Land and Water Division, FAO

The meeting commenced with opening remarks by Mr Achouri who presented an overview of the GIAHS initiative, from the GIAHS vision and its inception at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002 as an initiative committed to improving the livelihoods of the world’s 1.4 billion small-scale.

Mr. Achouri mentioned also the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, the growing adverse impacts on food security and rural livelihoods and then went on to identify the potentials of GIAHS within this challenging global context; specifically ensuring food security, poverty alleviation and empowering small-scale farmers worldwide through the GIAHS Initiative.

The status of GIAHS and way forward

Mr Masahito Enomoto, GIAHS Coordinator

During the presentation, Mr. Enomoto explained the meeting will use the lessons learned and achievements in the GEF pilot countries (best practices, success stories, barriers, gaps) for further development of the GIAHS Initiative and explore commitment from partners. The objectives of the

meeting will focus on: enhancing the GIAHS programme through interaction with multiple sectors and collaboration with regions; broadening the GIAHS programme with new approaches such as twinning, South-South cooperation and strengthening the base of the GIAHS programme through monitoring and evaluation modalities. Based on the positive experience of current projects, the increase of GIAHS sites, and FAO's Initiative to strengthen the GIAHS programme, the GIAHS team aims to create innovative partnerships and expand collaborations of the GIAHS Initiative in the future.

The importance and prospects of GIAHS

Professor Wenhua Li, Chair of GIAHS Steering Committee

Professor Li underlined that GIAHS is not only for the memory of the past, but important for our time and for the future in order to reach the ultimate goal of sustainable development. Professor Li suggested to continue to invest on expanding involvement of the governments/countries; Improving the construction of regulation and management mechanism of GIAHS; multi-channel fundraising and broaden range of partnerships and intervention strategies for raising budgetary resources; payments for ecosystem services and scientific research.

Options and opportunities of GIAHS in national and international contexts

Dr Parviz Koohafkan, President, World Agricultural Heritage Foundation (WAHF)

Dr Koohafkan stressed the mission of the Initiative to identify, support and safeguard GIAHS and people's livelihoods, agricultural and associated biodiversity, knowledge systems, cultures and landscapes around the world. Moreover,

- GIAHS approach is seen complementing the national and local food security plans and programmes
- GIAHS is about multidisciplinary diversity: ecosystem, socio-economic, cultural, culinary and curative diversity
- GIAHS is based on knowledge systems, wisdom, religion, belief, customs etc. to ensure the co-existence of human and nature
- GIAHS promotes indigenous crops to ensure that traditional varieties are better valued
- GIAHS as a model of eco-agriculture with the characteristics of resilient farming system, green products, low-carbon economy
- GIAHS promotes intensification without simplification
- Brings back the identity, pride and honour to our local peoples, farmers and indigenous groups to attain the sustainable development goals for the future.

2.2 Dynamic conservation of GIAHS: Lessons learned and experiences

Dynamic conservation of GIAHS: Lessons learned and experiences

Ms Mary Jane Ramos dela Cruz, Technical Officer GIAHS (FAO)

Ms Mary Jane Ramos dela Cruz, Technical Officer of the GIAHS project, provided introduction of the session, in particular recalling the GIAHS project background, experiences and lessons learned, policy advocacy, seizing all possible opportunities to enhance the GEF project interventions. As a background to the presentation of the six pilot countries, Ms Dela Cruz presented the global project framework which served as the guiding implementation. The GEF funded project served as the main umbrella GIAHS Initiative and all succeeding GIAHS projects are anchored to this. Expected outputs are, as follows:

- An internationally accepted system for full recognition of GIAHS is in place
- The conservation and adaptive management of globally significant agricultural biodiversity harboured in GIAHS in six countries is mainstreamed in sectoral and inter-sectoral plans and policies in pilot countries (local, national)
- Globally significant agricultural biodiversity in pilot GIAHS is being managed effectively by indigenous and other traditional communities (local)
- Lessons learned and best practices from promoting effective management of pilot GIAHS are widely disseminated to support expansion of the GIAHS network (global)

Algeria – The Oasis system Ghout

Mr Fatah Achour

In the south east of Algeria there are ancient agricultural systems called the Seven Wonders of the Ghout. These are currently under threat and deserve to be protected. The main two problems which hazard the systems are the ascent of the water level and the lowering of the water level. The protection of the oasis will ensure local, national and international recognition, conservation of biological diversity and saving cultural heritage and ensuring food security.

Chile – Chiloé agriculture

Mr Carlos Venegas

Mr Venegas highlighted the importance of a methodology to protect a territory with a strong cultural identity like Chile. The creation of a methodology would be important for the GIAHS Initiative and Chiloé biological patrimony. The protection of the ancient agricultural systems can be achieved through four components: identification of assets and actors; enhancement of natural and cultural assets, joint assets and actors and capacity building. In Chiloé, GIAHS has already started 80 joint economic initiatives with artisans, hotels, touristic companies and tour operators.

China – GIAHS implementation: China's work and experiences

Professor Min Qingwen IGSNRR/CAS

Professor Qingwen highlighted that in the future, China will operate at national level on regulations, mid-long term master plans, special policy/fund support, organize Scientific Committee meetings for the GIAHS/NIAHS products (combined with other labels) and increase tourism (with leisure agriculture and rural tourism). At local level will also focus on regulations, special policy/fund support, active participation and income improvement for farmers, scientific features urban residents and enterprises.

Peru – GIAHS Peru: from Machu Picchu to Titicaca Lake

Mr Jose Alvarez Alonso

Mr Alvarez Alonso emphasized the GIAHS Initiative will benefit local communities which expect support and tangible assistances. Mr Alvarez Alonso also underlined that in the near future, in Peru, the GIAHS will impact on articulating efforts for establishing agro biodiversity zones, agro biodiversity projects at regional level in Andean grains and projects on the recovery of coloured alpacas, lamas and vicuñas, coordination with the national project like "My Irrigation" envisaging Sukakollos, recovery of terraces, incentives for agro biodiversity conservation, Andean ecosystems, wild relatives conservation, in situ conservation projects.

Philippines – The dynamic conservation of the Philippines

Mr Edwin Domingo

Mr Domingo provided an overview of the importance of the conservation of the Ifugao Rice Terraces (IRT) and clarified ways forward to take in order to protect the systems.

The ancient IRT is the country's only remaining highland mountain ecosystem featuring ingenuity of the Ifugao and a remarkable agricultural farming system which has retained the viability as well as the efficacy of the 2000 year-old organic paddy farming.

Tunisia – Dynamic conservation of unique agricultural systems around the world: Experiences and lessons learned from the historic oasis system in Gafsa

Mr Lazhar Cherif

Mr Cherif underlined the development and consolidation of Oasis Development Groups of women and youth of Gafsa is essential for the support of income-generating activities through the promotion of oasis products and sub-products. Several issues can compromise the use of Gafsa systems. Hence, local people have to continue to participate in the management of water resources in the oases, increase motivation of agricultural development groups in the oases, fight against pytho-sanitary problems and land parcelling and agricultural urbanization and strengthen agricultural popularisation in the oases.

Main Questions Raised during Discussion

- The need for a conceptual framework of GIAHS monitoring that can be tailored to specific sites
- The need to elaborate the NIAHS formulation and guidance for other countries. Strengthen communication between HQ and GIAHS countries' beneficiaries
- The need to continue involving local governments and local institutions for the maintenance of ancient agricultural systems from both economic and political perspectives
- The need to further strengthen communication strategy to attract investments for GIAHS sites
- The need to assess the best positive experiences and lessons learned to transform into policies and regulations in order to support GIAHS custodians
- The need to involve more both fishery and forestry sectors to benefit rural and indigenous communities
- The need for the project final evaluation was also discussed

Due to time constraints, there was no detailed discussion and synthesis of the session. Ms Ramos dela Cruz expressed sincere appreciation and gratefulness for all the pioneering GIAHS sites (China, Philippines, Chile, Peru, Algeria and Tunisia) which have demonstrated the intrinsic and fundamental values of GIAHS which served as inspiration and models to other countries (Japan, India, Republic of Korea, others), and also as an attractive project for donors to support. She also thanked sincerely, the creator of GIAHS, Mr Parviz Koohafkan, for without him, GIAHS will not be as it is known today.

2.3 Options for monitoring and evaluation

Professor Agnoletti highlighted the importance of having an efficient monitoring system. FAO/GIAHS can achieve this goal by improving FAO GIAHS description and criteria and FAO template of GIAHS proposals. He suggested the creation of a FAO methodological framework. The professor provided an overview of the monitoring landscape changes between 1971 and 2010 in the Cinque Terre (Liguria region). Professor Altieri presented a detailed picture of all the indicators that should be part of a

monitoring methodology and specified that economic, natural and social capital are linked to each other to achieve successful projects and reduce farmers vulnerability. Dr Hutton showed that Baboo Culture of Gedeo is better in all the sustainable livelihood indicators used to determine its potential as GIAHS candidate compared to the open agriculture (ex-Baboo culture) system practiced at other areas of Gedeo. The results of his research showed that the SLF (Sustainable Livelihood Framework) approach was valuable to capture key components of the GIAHS. Professor Daniel Niles showed photographs that illustrated various activities that can be found in a number of GIAHS sites in Asia, including tourism. Dr Ponti identified three main points: olive as a Mediterranean example in a biodiversity/ climate hot spot where extreme human-driven diversity in the Mediterranean may be seen as lost Eden or bio-cultural landscapes; holistic (ecosystem-level) assessment of traditional systems reveal small olive farms are at risk from climate change; and GIAHS links to UNESCO-SCBD and Mediterranean opportunities where the Mediterranean heritage is strongly linked to the Mediterranean diet embedded in bio-cultural landscapes and to the traditional Mediterranean agricultural systems.

Discussion

During the discussion, participants highlighted for a second time the need to find a methodology to assess progress, outcomes and limits found during the implementation of the projects.

The most relevant discussion points included:

- Concern to find the right approach to monitor projects, implement activities and create an action plan
- When approach and methodology will be clarified, members should consider the need to have a “dynamic conservative approach” which allows progress and the conservation of cultural and biodiversity values
- The need to create a monitoring system which is practical and approachable for all members
- The need to create an action plan with specific interventions according to the different need

2.4 GIAHS in multiple sectors

The importance of forests for the GIAHS plays a crucial role. However, the visibility of the forestry sector in the Initiative is not yet sufficient. Forest and landscape restoration sites should also be considered, as they create and provide new ecosystems for food security and support livelihoods. Among the GIAHS, forest components should be enhanced to better represent globally important heritage systems. In agricultural components, for example, paddy field farming, nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoral systems and hunting-gathering systems are included. While in fisheries, components such as salt fields, foreshores, as well as traditional fishing methods may be included. Some components in forestry that should be noted are sustainable forest management, non-timber forest products including wood energy, and forest landscape restoration that include watershed management and agroforestry. Professor McDonald raised the significance of fishery for the GIAHS and the development goals and asked to have high level principles which are equally applied to fisheries and not only for forestry and/or agriculture. However, biodiversity and ecosystem functions may be different for fisheries as their systems are very delicate. Dr Mashingo highlighted that traditional pastoral heritage systems aim at identifying cultural practices and indigenous knowledge systems which have shaped, conserved and managed the natural resources and their associated landscapes and biodiversity. By assisting pastoral communities to dynamically conserve their good pastoral practices and traditional knowledge systems, GIAHS can support pastoralism and meet the emerging challenges which threaten the system, landscapes and biodiversity. Professor Vafadari

stressed that impact of rural tourism influences the GIAHS sites in different ways. In fact architecture and building techniques should also be based on ancient methodologies which guarantee sustainability for present and future activities. Tourism options should be adopted based on livelihood priorities to livelihood diversification.

Discussion

In the discussion, several points and suggestions were presented: Farmers, fisher folk, forest users, and pastoralists should be better involved in the GIAHS Initiative with deeper public information and marketing of GIAHS sites. Traditional knowledge holders may help to preserve, protect, and promote traditional agricultural systems. Especially Tunisia is trying to find techniques and methods to promote small scale fishing. Farmers are currently using aquaculture near the coast and it is in competition with large producers. Coastal resources and small producers are often in conflict. Farmers are requesting help to solve this issue.

- GIAHS sites can encourage national governments to develop policies to better protect landscapes, the fisheries and pastoralism sectors. A protocol with a broad platform within several related international instruments is needed.
- Members expressed the need to give higher cultural values to the GIAHS sites. The systems'/ sites' contemporary relevance is critical for the future capacity to provide food and livelihood security, to contribute to human well-being and quality of life, and to generate other local, national and global economic and environmental goods and services to their communities and societies.

In closing, Mr Enomoto thanked all participants for their contributions to the meeting, which had proved to be a good opportunity for renewing partners' commitment after the considerable success of the GIAHS partnership over the last ten years, both nationally, in several countries, and internationally.

2.5 New GIAHS sites proposals: Presentation countries, screening by the Scientific and Steering Committee members and designation ceremony

The chairperson of the Steering Committee and moderator, Professor Wenhua Li, introduced the session of the new GIAHS sites. Prof Li, emphasized that traditional and indigenous knowledge systems are the foundation and basis of the agro-ecosystem management. Agricultural systems have evolved, co-evolved with the human communities, handed down from one generation onto another generation, refined and continuously fine-tuned, primarily as a response to the specific natural environment changes due to which they need to gain their livelihood.

The new GIAHS sites contain a wealth of diverse knowledge systems and management techniques which help to ensure food security and quality of life for humanity and cope with the global and economic challenges of today and tomorrow. They provide mosaics of micro-habitats, with associated plant and animal communities, which now depend largely on continued management for their viability.

Republic of Korea: Traditional Gudeuljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando Mr Kil-Sik Hwang

Cheongsando Island had an agricultural environment that was disadvantageous for paddy agriculture due to steep slopes, sandy soil with rocks and rapid drainage, and a scarcity of water for paddy farming. "The main characteristics of Cheongsando Island are culverts constructed by stacking

stones. These culverts are used as aqueducts of underground irrigation and drainage systems so as to preserve effective surface of paddies.

Republic of Korea: Jeju Batdam Agricultural System

Ms You Wonhee Kanoelani

Jeju Island is a volcanic island located in the southernmost part of the Korean Peninsula. The topographic and geological characteristics of the volcanic island made Jeju a barren island for farming. Jeju is abundant with volcanic ash soil and rocks and is very windy. Protected by Jeju Batdam, agriculture on Jeju Island has survived natural disasters over 1,000 years, but now faces newer challenges like farm land arrangement and widespread urbanisation. Registration of the circa 22,000 km long black dragon stone fences called Jeju Batdam on the GIAHS would provide such opportunities in sustaining the agricultural heritage of Jeju Batdam itself and agriculture of Jeju for more effective and efficient preservation application of Jeju Batdam.

China: Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens

Mr Zhongwei Wu

Jujube is a unique fruit species native to China. Located in the Jinshaan Canyon at the middle reach of the Yellow River, the Jia County is recognised as the place with the longest history of jujube cultivation. The proposed GIAHS is a strong evidence of China being the origin of jujube, its domestication and scale of cultivation. It also constitutes an important germ-plasm bank for the future development of the jujube industry. Besides, the system is of outstanding eco-functions and cultural significance. In conclusion, the system is worth protecting.

China: Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem

Mr Xiangfang Ding

Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem is a world-level wonder for its unique water-land utilisation method in low-lying land and its splendid raised field landscape. It is surrounded by water and looks like small islets drifting on the sea. As it has many lakes, Xinghua suffered a lot from floods in the past, it is of vital importance to list Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem as a GIAHS site in order to conduct dynamic conservation and adaptive management.

China: Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System

Mr Jiangmin Zheng

Fuzhou is most famous for their cultivation as the city boasts the most favourable climate for the many species. It is in this city that the tea scenting method was first invented more than 1,000 years ago. People continued to develop scenting in the Ming Dynasty, and began to use machines in scenting since the Qing Dynasty. Jasmine tea combines the health effects of tea and flower affecting positively human health. This system is of great ecological significance, as jasmine and tea trees grow in different environments. Together with the diversified microclimates, they have shaped vertical landscapes.

Iran: Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan

Mr Ali Kiani Rad, Mr Mohammad Reza Mazandarani Haeri

The qanat system is based on the use of indigenous knowledge and sustainable management of land, water and biodiversity and has contributed to enrichment of the landscape in the region which otherwise would have been a desert. It is associated with a highly intelligent region-wide

participatory agricultural decision making system which acts as a strong element of de-desertification plays an important role in food security and livelihoods. It further has important cultural, socio-economic, architectural and biodiversity functions. A wide variety of species, high value crops, fruits and trees have developed and still are maintained and cultivated through the qanats.

Screening of proposals and deliberations of the Scientific and Steering Committee

In a closed meeting, the members of the Scientific and Steering Committee discussed the six proposed sites from China, Korea and Iran. The different proposed sites were discussed from a technical point of view, to ensure that they all comply with the principles of GIAHS. It was pointed out that not all aspects (e.g. social and cultural importance) were developed equally strong in all proposed sites. However, it was decided that all sites fulfill the minimum requirements and should therefore be designated as new GIAHS sites.

For the sake of a more rigorous selection process, participants noted that in the future, a closer look should be taken at how proposed sites shape the landscapes. A vocal request for the establishment of a formal evaluation template with strong and clear indicators for the selection of sites was raised. These should be developed and adopted by the Scientific Committee. The introduction of regular deadlines for the submission of proposals was also suggested. As the time available for presentations during the Scientific and Steering Committee meetings is usually very limited, it was proposed to circulate future proposals way ahead of the meetings, in order to allow for sufficient time for review, comments and possible amendments. Looking at the growing number of designated and proposed sites, it should be decided, again based on clear indicators, which kinds of sites to consider for inclusion, and which to exclude. Further, the need to explore ways on how to facilitate knowledge transfer from one area of the world to others with similar conditions was expressed.

Designation ceremony

Back in the plenary, Professor Li, as Chair of the Steering Committee, announced that all six proposed sites had been endorsed by the Committee.

The GIAHS coordinator thanked Ms Semedo for her support to the initiative and her coming to the designation ceremony and presented a short summary of the endorsed sites to the media present in the meeting room. Ms Semedo conveyed greetings from the Director General who could not attend the ceremony, and thanked all participants for their attendance which showed the countries' commitment and the importance of GIAHS, and underlined the uniqueness of the cultural aspects of the agricultural heritage systems. She then proceeded to hand over the certificates to the three countries.

2.6 Potential GIAHS sites

Representatives from **Ethiopia, Turkey, Indonesia, Ecuador and Thailand** presented potential GIAHS sites from their respective countries. Mr Wubalem Tadesse (Ethiopia) introduced the Gedeo Multistory Agorofrestry System, a cultural and natural landscape showing human interaction with the environment, which has become vulnerable due to the impact of deforestation, loss of biodiversity and low adaptive capacity to climate change, and the Konso Agorofrestry and Cultural Landscape, a complex and highly sophisticated agricultural system that has allowed local farmers to subsist in a mountainous area with harsh conditions and irregular rainfall. Dr Esin Dilbirligi (Turkey) elaborated on the activities carried out in the country and leading up to the identification of six potential sites, namely Rice Production Systems, Traditional Cheese Production Systems, Fig Production Systems,

Natural Dying and Weaving Systems, Grape Production Systems and Olive Production Systems. For Indonesia, Ms Pamuji Lestari introduced the concept of Tri Hita Karana for Balinese Agriculture System, a system created in order to maintain the sustainability of ecology, social-economy and spiritual culture, with terraced rice fields as main common characteristic. Ms Erika Zárate introduced the strengthening of identities and promotion of interculturalism, food sovereignty and nutrition, as well as sustainable economic and social development at local and regional level as cross-cutting issues related to GIAHS in Ecuador and gave an overview of the five proposed systems: Ajá Shuar, Huertas Paltas/Cosecha de agua, Chacra Andina, Pueblos del Manglar and Canoeros y Colinos. In Thailand, the system Traditional Sericulture Community in Nong Sung District of Mukdahan Province was proposed by Mr Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs. The focus lies on rice cultivation, natural dyeing and textile weaving for silk and cotton as the predominant livelihood activities for the resident population.

2.7 The future of the GIAHS initiative – Prospects and opportunities

The first part of this session was opened by Mr Sixi Qu (China), who concentrated on the account of the East Asia Research Association for Agricultural Heritage Systems (ERAHS) meeting and his country's engagement in South-South cooperation. Developing the GIAHS initiative further requires interactive discussions and a clear vision and road map, and synergies and cooperation between the global level of GIAHS initiative and national government. Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (NIAHS) can facilitate GIAHS-related activities in the countries, and new directions of agro-environmental policies to meet food security needs and environmental concerns of agricultural practices should be taken into consideration by the governments, and cooperation between countries is needed for the initiative to be successful.

Mr Yutaka Sumita presented the policy framework for GIAHS and its implementation in Japan. The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is leading policy initiatives aimed at promoting GIAHS in Japan (specifically to establish a national steering committee in Japan, develop guidelines and criteria for identifying candidate sites of GIAHS in Japan, develop a monitoring system and assessing/checking action plans and activities post-designation to ensure not only that quality is maintained but also help to build GIAHS activities within Japan and mainstream into agricultural policies). Promoting GIAHS through cooperative activities include setting up a trust fund for FAO. A the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) training course will be established aimed at capacity building in GIAHS sites in developing countries and twinning activities/building partnerships between sites.

Professor Koji Nakamura elaborated on the twinning of GIAHS sites for collaboration in human capacity building between Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi in Japan and Ifugao Rice Terraces in the Philippines. The human capacity building intends to contribute to the reversal of the challenge of an aging population and outmigration which pose a risk to future community viability and management of the systems, and to the revitalization and an increase of youth living in the communities. The twinning among sites in the Philippines and Japan is funded by JICA.

Mr Wondimagegne Shferaw gave an overview of the GIAHS prospects in Ethiopia. The work carried out so far in the country includes the identification of the sites presented earlier in the meeting, as well as scientific and social science-based field studies by the University of Southampton which has worked with the Gedeo Multistory Agorofrestry System and the local communities. Discussions on the way forward for GIAHS Ethiopia are focusing on the possibility of GIAHS (FAO) working with UNESCO to develop potential sites.

A different regional insight in GIAHS prospects was given by Mr Alfonso Alem on the Latin America and Caribbean region, where GIAHS has the potential to address and contribute to discussions and activities related to culture, food security and food sovereignty and issues related to indigenous people empowerment. It needs to be explored how to develop a strategic framework for GIAHS at regional, sub-regional, national and local levels. Currently, a review of existing GIAHS sites in Latin America (Chile and Peru) and pre-identified potential sites (Brazil, French Guyana and Mexico) is being carried out and more than 30 new potential sites have been identified/ proposed by the country offices. In Cusco (Peru) an International Seminar on Cultural Diversity, Food Sovereignty and Traditional Livelihoods through GIAHS will be held and the outputs of this will be submitted to the UN high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly (“World Conference on Indigenous Peoples”) in September 2014.

The last presentation in this session was held by Professor Stuart Harrop on the strategy for governance for GIAHS and suggestions for the next formal steps to be undertaken. Lessons learned from the GIAHS sites could be used to mainstream the best practices into building agro-environmental schemes but also transmit these lessons learnt to civil society to raise awareness and support of these systems. GIAHS sites do not just address biodiversity conservation but also climate change adaptation and mitigation. With financial and human resource constraints in mind, working with other agencies/organizations such as CBD and UNESCO is pivotal to building the initiative globally. Suggested elements comprising a GIAHS framework (preamble) include:

- Current UN FAO priorities and strategies and relevance of GIAHS for national and global food security and resilience, food safety, environmental sustainability, human health and well-being and averting negative climate change feedback
- GIAHS sites comprise dynamic and adaptive “systems” rather than geographically restricted museum activities
- Promote support for these systems generally in regional, national and local planning/land use regulation
- Promote nationally/regionally eco-labels supporting GIAHS-sourced products in order to secure local economic stability and resilience
- Promote zoning around and within biodiversity protected areas for GIAHS operations
- Promote global knowledge exchange, knowledge repositories for GIAHS in line with other instruments such as ITPGRFA
- Refer to links with the ITPGRFA, CBD, the Aichi targets, the UNESCO MAB programme, RAMSAR, WIPO etc.

The question of how much science is needed, how rigid the science should be etc. need to be addressed and the question on what the role of the scientific committee is requires more dialogue and design. One key role is to provide guidance, support for sites that ensure empowerment and capacity building towards future sustainability.

During the discussion after the first part of the session, Iran mentions that it is important that GIAHS systems under pressure from climate change work towards sustainable development, through adaptation and mitigation measures. It is suggested to establish a subgroup focusing on crops and plants across the sites, as the most vulnerable systems are plants. Professor Li’s comments touch on the importance of taking more action on the ideas and opinions voiced at these meetings. Key in building GIAHS will be more actions on the ground and complimenting other efforts by local, national and regional governments to ensure food security and sustainable agriculture.

The second part of the session focuses on the view of the GIAHS partners, including IFAD, UNESCO, Bioversity International (BI), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA), the United Nations University (UNU), the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), the World Agricultural Heritage Foundation (WAHF) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Ms Rima Alcadi (IFAD) gave an overview of IFAD's field of work and experience and highlighted the linkages and complementarities between IFAD and GIAHS, especially in the field of community development/ empowerment. A suggestion for a strengthened GIAHS corporate programme is to focus on the nature of the unique sites, which are public goods and usually underfunded, and on the potential of scaling up which is restricted as they are site specific. As both IFAD and FAO focus on people and their livelihoods, both organizations should work together and need to develop a good business model for GIAHS and demonstrate tangible results for and with communities, and leverage on IFAD investment projects.

Similarly, Mr Pypaert Philippe (UNESCO) stressed the importance to focus on synergies and areas of cooperation between GIAHS/FAO and UNESCO, e.g. in oasis systems, agro-pastoralism and work in arid areas could be areas of interest for further development, as is UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme. UNESCO has much experience and compiled lessons learned which could be shared to help GIAHS grow. To this end, it would be good if documents submitted for GIAHS designation could include more information on existing designations (in particular World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves as well as Intangible Heritage) and/or the potential existing at the proposed sites for such international designations, thus underlining their global importance and indicating concrete opportunities for synergies and further cooperation on thematic actions. The upcoming UN-Expo 2015 offers GIAHS/FAO and UNESCO a unique opportunity to strengthen their cooperation and explore possibilities to communicate about such designations' role in assuring sustainable food production and highlight GIAHS/UNESCO's partnership in Milan (where Japan has already proposed to highlight GIAHS activities in their pavilion) as well as in Venice.

Mr Pablo Eyzaguirre (BI) pointed out that GIAHS sites demonstrate that agricultural communities innovate, adopt and endogenise new biological and cultural practices over a brief historical period and that seed variety and genetic information in GIAHS sites could provide critical information for innovation and building resilience in agriculture. A strong GIAHS could provide information and the gateways to solutions for developing sustainable systems that are resilient to current environmental challenges and provide adaptive capacities that will help farmers in the face of climate change. Biosphere reserves are centres of crop domestication and crop genetic resources, and GIAHS sites can be their custodians. BI has done a lot to explore the mechanisms and functions of separate sites, but does not have a network of sites. In this regards, GIAHS could provide a platform for BI work.

Also emphasising the importance of future collaboration, Mr Shakeel Bhatti from ITPGRFA said that a collaboration with GIAHS represents a strong additional action framework for the dynamic conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, in the context of evolving traditional agricultural systems and their associated biodiversity, livelihoods, knowledge systems, cultures and landscapes. Following the request of the Governing Body for exploring new approaches for the use of funds under the Benefit-Sharing Fund, the Secretariat would like to explore means and opportunities for the establishment of ad-hoc systematic innovative partnerships with GIAHS. Immediate Impact Projects provide potential for the establishment of sub-programme components for adaptation of

PGRFA in the face of climate change. Further, more than USD10 million will be invested in two types of projects: Immediate Action Projects and projects for Co-development and Transfer of Technology.

Following the example of the previous speakers, also Mr Damiano Luchetti (CGRFA) stressed the importance of collaboration between GIAHS and the Commission which carries out assessments of the state of genetic resources for food and agriculture to be channelled into policy development both at the international and national level and asks for input from countries and stakeholders. GIAHS could be a critical stakeholder and contribute information to be used in the compilation of this global assessment. GIAHS could also play a role in promoting in-situ conservation and on-farm management of plant genetic resources and in developing a global networking mechanism on in-situ conservation and on-farm management. Further, transferring knowledge and lessons learned from GIAHS sites could help strengthen the work of the Commission and in turn strengthen the GIAHS Initiative. A global assessment is but one step, national assessments are also important. GIAHS could be the important link and help build national knowledge.

Mr Akira Nagata from UNU elaborated on the collaboration of the University with FAO since the inception of the GIAHS initiative in 2002, especially in identification of pilot sites through case studies in China, Japan and Korea, and in coordinating bi-lateral cooperation and exchanges on agricultural heritages systems between these three countries, which led to the establishment of the “East Asian Research Association for Agricultural Heritage Systems (ERAHS)” in October 2013. He stressed that issues of future GIAHS development include clarification of GIAHS application procedures, ensuring a regional balance of GIAHS sites and enhancement of information outreach.

Following Mr Nagata’s presentation, Ms Aicha Bammoun from ISESCO talked about the promotion and integration of GIAHS within ISESCO’s strategies. Through a memorandum of understanding, FAO and ISESCO have been collaborating since 2011, in order to promote agri-cultural significance of ingenious heritage systems and establish a stronger win-win partnership between the two organisations and their member states. According to Ms Bammoun, a framework for GIAHS-ISESCO partnership in the countries should focus on education/training, assessments of GIAHS, public awareness, adding value and demonstrating the benefits for stakeholders, market incentives, and policies/legislation.

Mr Stefano Grego, on behalf of the World Agricultural Heritage Foundation, introduced the audience to the foundation’s goals, which are the promotion and support of basic and applied research, project development and verification, innovation and the creation of international master’s and doctorate degree programmes pursuing sustainable development and the principles of the sustainability science. Areas of assistance could be providing technical assistance to GIAHS, planning and organising conferences, workshops and seminars at the national, regional or global level; promoting policy and strategic dialogue and interchange, developing and implementing classification systems for products and activities related to GIAHS and networking for GIAHS.

Lastly, Ms Viviana Figueroa of the CBD presented – via video conference – an overview of the UNESCO-SCBD Joint Programme 2010-2020 on Linking Biological and Cultural Diversity and touched upon the issues of loss of diversity as a global challenge, the value of the interlinked diversity and existing challenges on the international level. The mission of this programme is to advance knowledge and strengthen the linkages between biological and cultural diversity initiatives, and enhance synergies between interlinked provisions of conventions and programmes dealing with biological and cultural diversity at relevant scales.

2.8 Scientific Committee meeting (Closed Session)

After the morning session of day 2, the chairperson of the Scientific Committee, Mr Thomas Price, summoned Scientific Committee members to discuss various aspects related to the role of the Scientific Committee in the overall GIAHS process and its participation in the selection of the GIAHS sites. With acknowledging that the main role of the Scientific Committee is to provide scientific and technical guidance to the Steering Committee and GIAHS partners implementing the initiative on the ground, members suggested further roles/activities listed below;

- The Scientific Committee should develop an evaluation framework that allows members of the Scientific Committee to evaluate each GIAHS candidate site based on a series of scientific indicators, making sure that the proposed GIAHS sites meet the established criteria to be considered as a candidate site. The Scientific Committee should be given at least 3 months to provide its feedback for a set of suggested sites.
The assessments and recommendations made by the Scientific Committee should be seriously considered by the Steering Committee in its deliberations.
- The Scientific Committee proposes to develop a methodology to assess the advances of the GIAHS sites after they have been selected and monitor their dynamic conservation in order to ascertain that they maintain and enhance the cultural and ecological features that allowed them to be selected as GIAHS sites. This methodology should be experimentally tested at one GIAHS site and then applied in all the sites. The Scientific Committee would then analyze the data and make the necessary recommendations to each GIAHS team depending on results obtained from the assessment.
- The Scientific Committee should provide input to the GIAHS website and also write every two years a progress report highlighting the scientific contributions to food security, biodiversity conservation, provision of ecological services, landscape ecology, resilience to climate change of the GIAHS initiative.
- For the effective coordination of above roles/activities, the assignment of a dynamic Chair and an executive secretary of the Scientific Committee who are responsible for these activities should be considered.
- A small committee would work efficiently for review and discussion of proposals.

3. Wrap up, conclusion and closing remarks

Mr Enomoto concluded by saying that FAO is in a process of enhancing the GIAHS initiative to a full programme, which will include a legal framework agreed upon by the organisation, and that in the process of expansion, it is important to focus even more than now on the collaboration with the different partners. In order to secure its sustainability, the programme will also collaborate with other FAO technical units and regional offices. Moreover, GIAHS needs to explore how to incorporate more scientific knowledge into its implementation. Regarding the collaboration with ITPGRFA, a concrete collaborative system between the GIAHS and Treaty will be created. The GIAHS Secretariat will continue to report on GIAHS progress to the ITPGRFA Committee on Sustainable Use and will explore creating systematic links with the Secretariat of the Treaty, the Committee and the Benefit Sharing Fund of the Treaty. The Steering Committee should request the Secretariat of the Treaty to develop and report these systematic linkages to the Treaty Governing Body for longer-term structural collaboration and funding, beyond the one-time, project-by-project funding.

Mr Achouri thanked all members for their active participation in the two days conference and thanked in particular all the speakers and moderators who provided several interesting insights. He stressed the fact that the GIAHS Initiative is entering its second decade and that so far, it has led to new discussions and ways forward from small-scale farmer empowerment to national policy impacts. Therefore, the Initiative has contributed significantly to driving the global sustainable agenda built on dynamic conservation systems which are a heritage of the past and represent a sustainable approach for future generations. He concluded by saying that the GIAHS Secretariat and FAO's Land and Water Division support the promotion of equity in the use and access to natural resources, traditional knowledge systems and values as key elements to safeguard biodiversity, land and water and adaptive approaches. The commitment and contribution of everybody involved play a critical role for the synergy with local institutions in balancing environmental and socio-economic objectives, in creating resilience and maintenance of functioning agricultural systems.



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 countries¹ have been designated as GIAHS and there are numerous systems remaining to be designated². 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”.³ In order to achieve these objectives, more multidisciplinary and cross-sectorial approaches are emphasized. Enhancement of social, economic and environmental sustainability is also stressed.

¹ Algeria, Chile, China, India, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Tanzania and Tunisia

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

³ 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.

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.

Day 1 Monday, 28 April 2014	
Introductory/Plenary Session Moderator : Mr Masahito Enomoto, GIAHS Coordinator	
9:00 – 9:20	Welcome and Opening Remarks Dr Moujahed Achouri, Director Land and Water Division
9:20 – 9:40	The status of GIAHS and way forward Mr Masahito Enomoto, GIAHS Coordinator
9:40 – 10:00	Keynote Speech: The importance and prospect of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems Prof. Wenhua Li, Academician, Director, CNACH, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Chairman of GIAHS Steering Committee
10:00 – 10:20	Options and Opportunities of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems in National and International Contexts Dr Parviz Koochafkan, President, World Agricultural Heritage Foundation (WAHF)
10:20 – 11:00	Coffee/tea break
Dynamic conservation of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems: lessons learned and experiences 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	Country Presentations (10-15min each) - Algeria , Mr Fatah Achour Abdellatif - Chile , Dr Carlos Venegas, CET, Chiloé - China , Prof. Qingwen Min, IGSNRR Discussion
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Country presentations - Peru , Mr Jose Alvarez Alonso, MINAM - Philippines , Mr Edwin Domingo, DENR - Tunisia , Mr Lazhar Cherif, ASM Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee/tea break
Scientific Committee (Round Table Discussion) 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	Session 1 : Monitoring & Evaluation (5-10min each) 1. University of Florence, Italy, Prof. Mauro Agnoletti 2. University of California Berkeley , USA, Prof. Miguel Altieri 3. Southampton University, UK, Dr Craig Hutton 4. Research Institute of Humanity and Nature, Japan, Prof. Daniel Niles, Prof. Kenichi Abe 5. Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, Italy, Dr Luigi Ponti Discussion

17:00 – 18:00	Session 2 : GIAHS in multiple sectors (10min each) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forestry Sector, Ms Yuka Irie, FAO Forestry Department 2. Fishery Sector, Prof. Anne Mcdonald, Sophia University, Japan/FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department 3. Pastoral/Livestock Sector, Dr Mary S. H. Mashingo, Tanzania 4. Tourism Sector, Prof. Kazem Vafadari, Asia Pacific University, Japan Discussion
18:00 – 18:30	Wrap-up and conclusion
18:30 – 20:00	Cocktail party

Day 2 Tuesday, 29 April 2014	
Presentation of new GIAHS proposals Chairperson/Moderator : Prof. Wenhua Li, Chairman of Steering Committee	
9:00 –10:00	Presentation of newly identified GIAHS candidates <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Korea (5min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional Gudeuljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando - Jeju Batdam Agricultural System 2. China (10min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens (Mr Zhongwei Wu) - Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem (Mr Xiangfang Ding) - Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System (Mr Jiangmin Zheng) 3. Iran (10 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan (Dr Ali Kiani Rad, Mr Mohammad Reza Mazandarani Haeri)
10:00 – 10:30	Screening of proposals – Joint meeting of ST/SC Discussion and deliberation of Scientific Committee (Mexico Room D213bis) Endorsement by Steering Committee (Mexico Room D213bis)
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee/tea break (participants not part of Steering and Scientific Committee)
10:30 - 10:40	Reporting of the decision on designation , Prof. Wenhua Li, Chairman of Steering Committee
10:40 - 11:30	Potential GIAHS candidates (10min each) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ethiopia, Dr Wubalem Tadesse 2. Turkey, Dr Esin Dilbirligi 3. Indonesia, Dr Pamuji Lestari 4. Ecuador, Ms Erika Zárate 5. Thailand, Mr Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs
11:30 – 12:00	Designation ceremony for new GIAHS Ms Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General Natural Resources
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch
The future of GIAHS (Round table discussion) 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	Prospects and Opportunities: Voices from the GIAHS countries and partners <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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,

	<p>FAO Ethiopia</p> <p>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</p> <p>6. GIAHS –Suggestions for next steps, Prof. Stuart Harrop, University of Sussex</p> <p>Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee/tea break
<p>Securing the future of the GIAHS Initiative through innovative partnerships</p> <p>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</p> <p>Chairperson/Moderator : Mr Masahito Enomoto</p>	
16:30 – 18:00	<p>Voices from the GIAHS partners (5-10min each)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IFAD, Ms Rima Alcadi 2. UNESCO, Dr Philippe Pypaert 3. Bioersity International, Dr Pablo Eyzaguirre 4. ITPGRFA, Mr Shakeel Bhatti 5. CGRFA, Mr Damiano Luchetti 6. UNU, Mr Akira Nagata 7. ISESCO, Dr Aicha Bammoun 8. WAHF, Dr Parviz Koohafkan/ Prof. Stefano Grego 9. CBD, Mr John Scott, via video conference <p>Discussion, wrap-up and conclusion</p>
18:00 – 18:30	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Dr Moujahed Achouri, Director Land and Water Division</p>

Annex II – Participants list

Country/Organization	Name
China, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Wenhua Li
Algeria, National Institute of Agronomic Research	Abdellatif Fatah Achour
Algeria, Ministry of Planning and the Environment	Asma Ouramdane
China, Director-General, Ministry of Agriculture	Sixi Qu
China, Ministry of Agriculture	Luo Ming
China, Ministry of Agriculture, China	Xiong Zhe
China, Vice Mayor, Yulin Municipal Government	Wang Changan
China, Section Chief, Yulin Municipal Government	Jing Haofa
China, Deputy Director, Jiaxian Department of Sciences and Technologies	Wu Zhongwei
China, Vice Mayor, Xinghua Municipal government	Dai Rongjun
China, Director, Department of Agriculture of Xinghua	Wu Chunfa
China, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture of Xinghua	Ding Xiangfang
China, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture of Fuzhou	Zheng Huaqiong
China, Section Chief, Department of Agriculture of Fuzhou	Zheng Jiangmin
China, Consultant, Fuzhou Chunlun Tea Group	Yan Youming
Chile, Study Office of Agricultural Policies, Ministry of Agriculture	Teresa Aguero
Chile, Education and Technology Center	Carlos Venegas
Philippines, Officer-In-Charge, Chief, Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Edwin Domingo
Philippines, Director, Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Theresa Mundita S. Lim
Peru, General Director from Biological Diversity, Ministry of Environment	Jose Alvarez Alonso
Tunisia, President, Association for the safeguard of Medina of Gafsa	Lazhar Cherif
Tunisia, Head of Division of Technical Cooperation Secretary of State for Sustainable Development Tunisia	Youssef Mejai
Tanzania, Director, Tanzania Livestock Research Institute West Kilimanjaro	Mary S. H. Mashingo
Turkey, Coordinator, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policy	Esin Dilbirligi
Japan, Deputy-Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Yutaka Sumita
Japan, Deputy Director, International Cooperation Division, International Affairs Department, Minister's Secretariat, MAFF	Makiko Uemoto
Japan, Deputy Director, Rural Environment Division, Rural Development Bureau, MAFF	Hiroko Naito
Korea, Deputy Director, Rural Development Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	Dong-myung Min
Korea, Director, Eco-friendly Agricultural Policy Division, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province	Choong-eui Kim

Korea, Interpreting, Coordinator for International Relations, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province	Je-yon Kim
Korea, Research Fellow, Jeju Development Institute, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province	Seung-jin Kang
Korea, Director, E Study Abroad Center at Jeju National University	You Wonhee kanoelani
Korea, Chairman, Jeju professional photographers society	Hwan-cheol Kim
Korea, Director, Environmentally-Friendly Agriculture Division, Wando County Office	Man-sub Shin
Korea, Senior researcher, Myeongso IMC, Wando County Office	Kil-sik Hwang
Iran, Deputy Director of Agricultural Planning, Economic and Rural Development Research Institute (APERDRI) , Ministry of Agriculture	Ali Kiani Rad
Iran, Advisor to APERDRI, Ministry of Agriculture	Mohammad Reza Mazandarani Haeri
Ethiopia, Director, Forestry Research Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research	Wubalem Tadesse
Indonesia, Deputy Assistant for Community Empowerment, Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Community Empowerment	Pamuji Lestari
Indonesia, Senior Government Official from Sumatera Barat Province	Suhermanto Raza
Ecuador, Ministry of Culture and Heritage	Erika Zárate
Thailand, Minister (Agriculture), Permanent Representative of Thailand	Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs
Thailand, First Secretariat (Agriculture), Permanent Representative of Thailand	Piyawat Naigowit
Oman, Ministry of Regional Municipalities & Water Resources	Nabil Abdullah Salim Al Khanjari
Oman, Ministry of Regional Municipalities & Water Resources	Khalfan Marhoon Fadhil Al-Abdali
IFAD, Grants Portfolio Adviser - Strategy & Knowledge Department	Rima Alcadi
IFAD, Consultant Strategy & Knowledge Department	Valeria Smarrini
UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme	Pypaert Philippe
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Shakeel Bhatti
United Nations University	Akira Nagata
Global Forum for Agricultural Research	Thomas Price
Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (China)	Qingwen Min
University of Florence (Italy)	Mauro Agnoletti
University of California, Berkeley (USA)	Miguel Altieri
University of Southampton (UK)	Craig Hutton
Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (Japan)	Daniel Niles
Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (Japan)	Kenichi Abe
Sophia University (Japan)	Anne McDonald
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Japan)	Kazem Vafadari
Kanzawa University (Japan)	Koji Nakamura
University of Sussex (UK)	Stuart R. Harrop
Bioversity International	Pablo Eyzaguirre
Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Damiano Luchetti

Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation	Aicha Bammoun
University of Tuscia (Italy)	Stefano Grego
International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property	Joseph King
Convention of Biological Diversity	Viviana Figueroa, Djessy Monnier (via video conference)
World Agricultural Heritage Foundation	Parviz Koochafkan
Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development	Luigi Ponti
FAO, Deputy Director-General Natural Resources	Maria Helena Semedo
FAO, Land and Water Division	Moujahed Achouri
FAO, Land and Water Division	Masahito Enomoto
FAO, Land and Water Division	John Latham
FAO, Land and Water Division	Paolo Groppo
FAO, Land and Water Division	Reza Najib
FAO, Land and Water Division	Mary Jane Ramos dela Cruz
FAO, Land and Water Division	Laura Schild von Spannenberg
FAO, Land and Water Division	Margherita Maiello
FAO, Land and Water Division	Jumpei Tachikawa
FAO, Agriculture Division	Kim Minwook
FAO, Forestry Division	Eduardo Mansur
FAO, Forestry Division	YoungSuk Im
FAO, Forestry Division	Yuka Irie
FAO, Fisheries Division	Daniela Kalikoski
FAO, Fisheries Division	Jessica Sanders
FAO, Internet and Internal Communication Branch	Herve Nsama
FAO, Ethiopia	Shiferaw Wondimagegne
FAO, Regional Office Latin America and Caribbean Region	Alfonso Alem (via video conference)