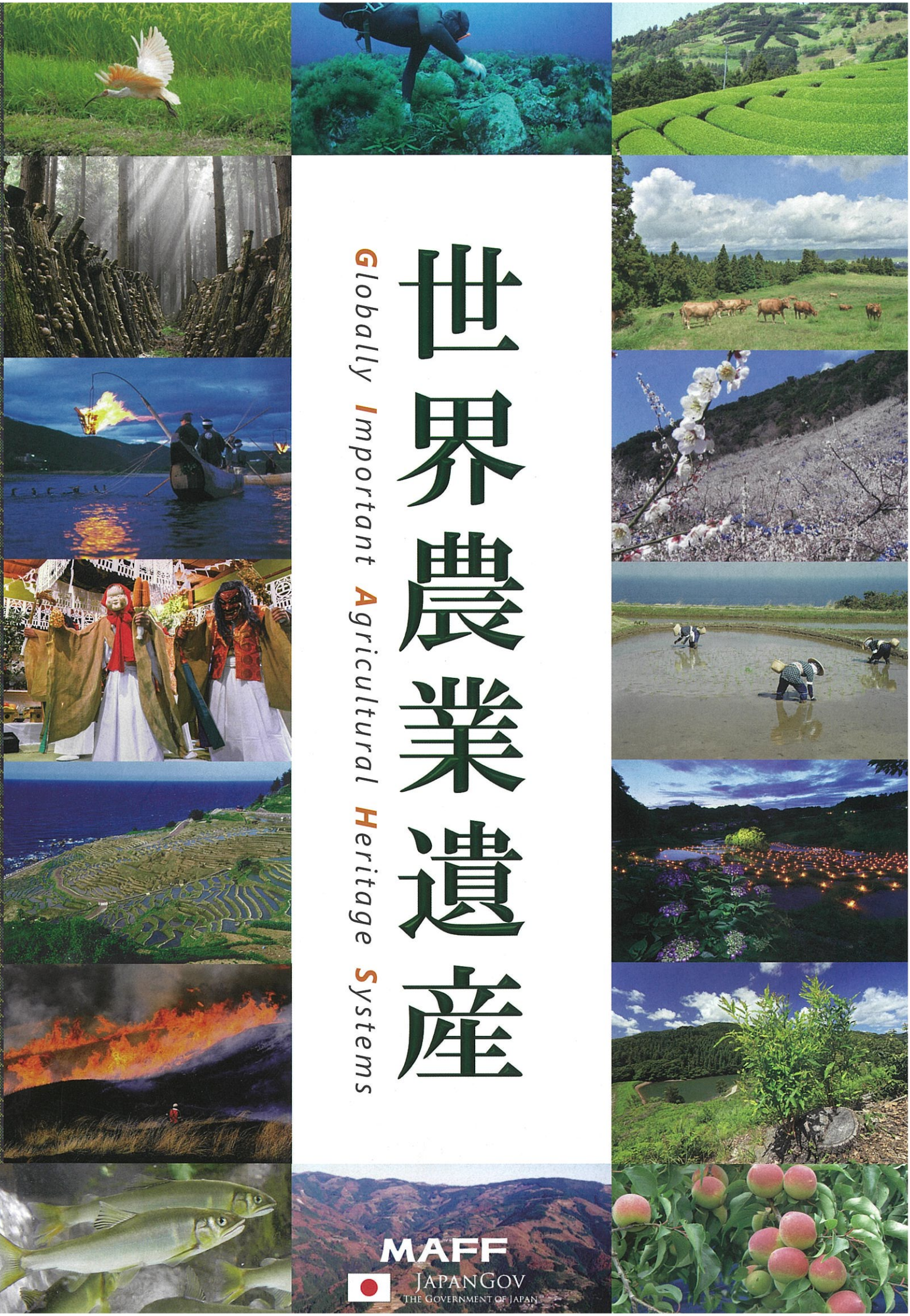

世界農業遺産

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

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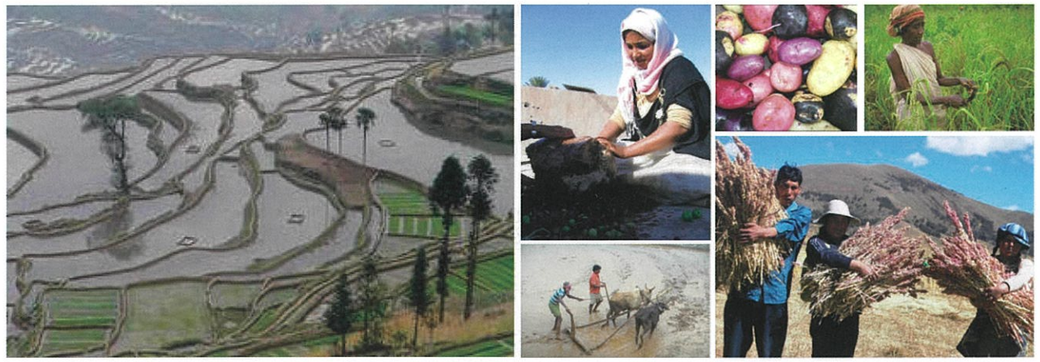
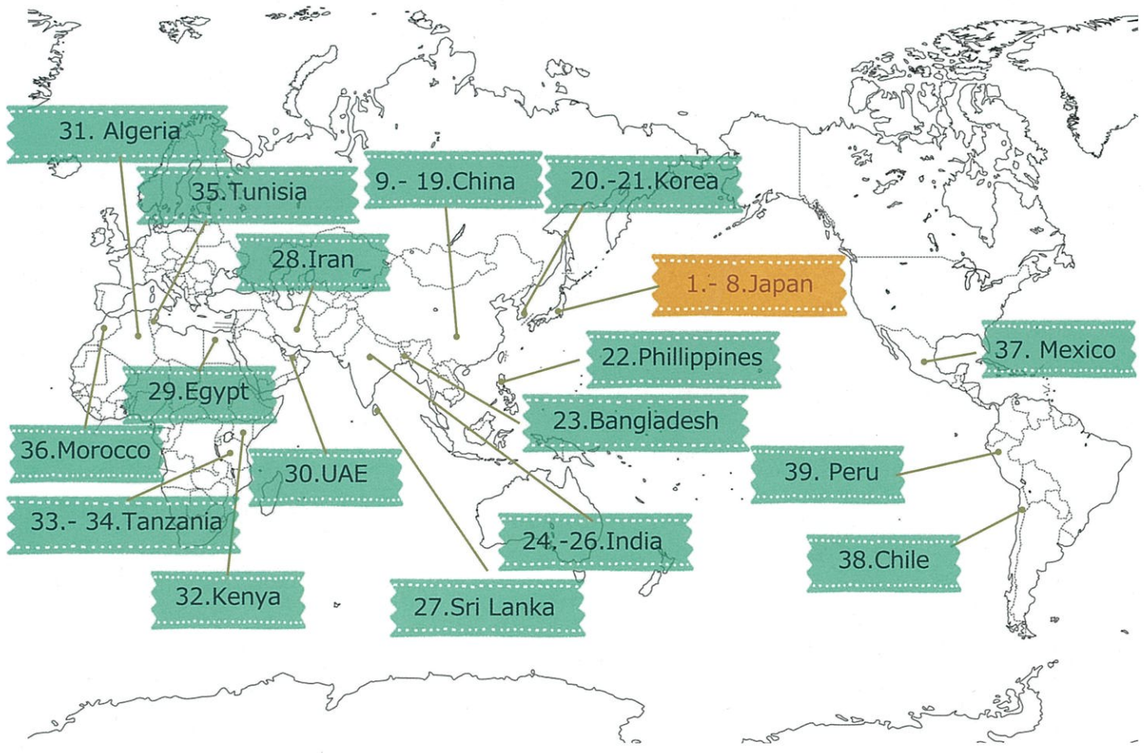
What is GIAHS?

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) is defined by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as "Remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaptation of a community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development".



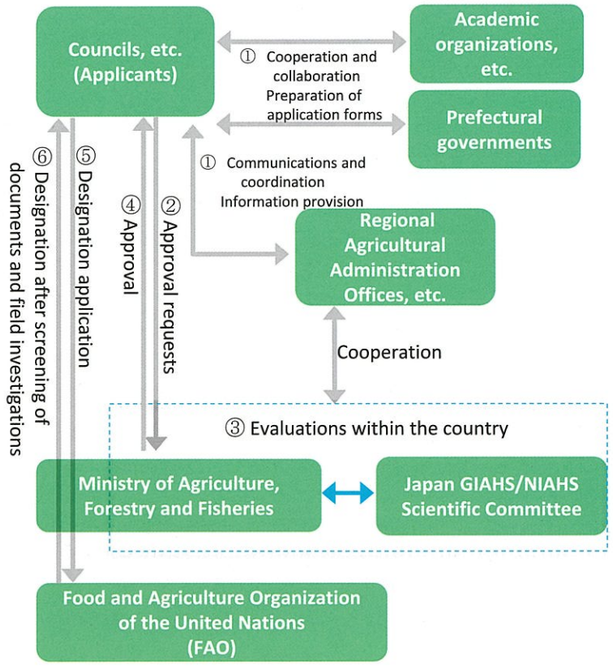
39 regions in 18 countries have been designated on a global scale, and 8 regions have been designated in Japan thus far (as of October 2017)



Criteria of GIAHS designation

The proposed GIAHS site will be assessed based on the following five criteria and an Action Plan.

Procedure of designation in Japan

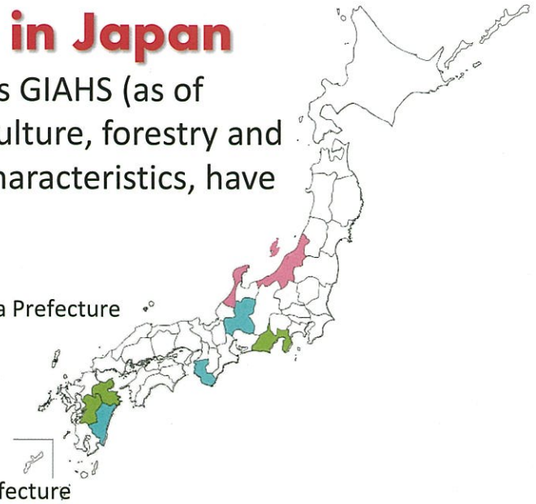


Countries	Designated sites (year of designation)
Japan	1. Sado's satoyama in Harmony with Japanese Crested Ibis (2011)
	2. Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi (2011)
	3. Traditional Tea-grass Integrated System in Shizuoka (2013)
	4 . Managing Aso Grasslands for Sustainable Agriculture (2013)
	5. Kunisaki Peninsula Usa Integrated Forestry, Agriculture and Fisheries System (2013)
	6. Ayu of the Nagara River System (2015)
	7. Minabe-Tanabe Ume System (2015)
	8. Takachihogo-Shiibayama Mountainous Agriculture and Forestry System (2015)
China	9. Rice Fish Culture (2005)
	10. Hani Rice Terraces (2010)
	11. Wannian Traditional Rice Culture (2010)
	12. Dong's Rice Fish Duck System (2011)
	13. Aohan Dryland Farming System (2012)
	14. Pu'er Traditional Tea Agrosystem (2012)
	15. Kuaijishan Ancient Chinese Torreya (2013)
	16. Urban Agricultural Heritag - Xuanhua Grape Garden (2013)
	17. Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem (2014)
	18. Jianxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens (2014)
	19. Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System (2014)
Republic of Korea	20. Traditional Gudenljang Irrigated Rice Terraces in Cheongsando (2014)
	21. Jeju Batdam Agricultural System (2014)

Countries	Designated sites (year of designation)
Philippines	22. Ifugao Rice Terraces (2011)
Bangladesh	23. Floating Garden Agricultural Practices (2013)
India	24. Saffron Heritage of Kashmir (2011)
	25. Koraput Traditional Agriculture (2013)
	26. Kuttanad Below Sea Level Farming System (2013)
Sri Lanka	27. The Cascaded Tank-Village System in the Dry Zone of Sri Lanka (2017)
Islamic Republic of Iran	28. Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems, Kashan (2014)
Egypt	29. Dates production System in Siwa Oasis (2016)
United Arab Emirates	30. Al Ain and Liwa Historical Date Palm Oases (2015)
Algeria	31. Ghout System (Oases of the Maghreb) (2011)
Tunisia	32. Gafsa Oases (Oases of the Maghreb) (2011)
Morocco	33. Oases System in Atlas Mountains (Oases of the Maghreb) (2011)
Tanzania	34. Engaresero Maasai Pastoralist Heritage Area (2011)
	35. Shimbwe Juu Kihamba Agroforestry Heritage Site (2011)
Kenya	36. Oldonyonokie/Olkeri Maasai Pastoralist Heritage (2011)
Mexico	37. Chinampa Agriculture (2017)
Peru	38. Andean Agriculture (2011)
Chile	39. Chiloé Agriculture (2011)

GIAHS designated sites in Japan

In Japan, there are 8 sites designated as GIAHS (as of October 2017). The value of Japan's agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and their variety and regional characteristics, have been recognized internationally.



Designated in June 2011
Sado City in Niigata Prefecture／Noto peninsula in Ishikawa Prefecture
Designated in May 2013
Kakegawa and surrounding region in Shizuoka Prefecture
Aso region in Kumamoto Prefecture
Kunisaki Peninsula Usa area in Oita Prefecture
Designated in December 2015
The upper and middle basin of the Nagara River in Gifu Prefecture
Minabe-Tanabe region in Wakayama Prefecture／Takachihogo-Shiibayama in Miyazaki

Ibises feed in paddy fields

Species live in and raise their young in “e” during dry periods

[Rice of the hometown to live with ibis certified]
Certification standards are very strict. It includes habitat survey twice a year and prohibition the use of pesticide as well as conducting "the farming system for providing habitats".

Designated in 2011 Sado City in Niigata Prefecture

Sado's Satoyama in Harmony with Japanese Crested Ibis

Revival of the island for human and other species' well-being in interdependence

On Sado Island, efforts have been made to take in the whole island in the “Agricultural practices that nurture lives” in paddy fields which provide a habitat for loaches, the principal food for wild Japanese crested ibis, in order to create an environment that can harbor a variety of species, particularly ibis.

Creating so called “e”, deep ditches, in paddy fields, during dry periods in which the water is drained, provides the species shelters, ensuring an environment that species can live in and raise their young throughout the year.

Sustainable agricultural practices have been expanded in harmony with the species which provides food and supports wildlife.

Designated in 2011 Noto Peninsula in Ishikawa Prefecture

Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi

Life of coexistence between humans and nature taking advantage of the gifts from Satoyama and Satoumi

Noto peninsula is characterized by terraced rice-fields including “Shiroyone Senmaida” in the steep slopes facing the Sea of Japan, and Magaki, fence made of bamboo, to protect houses against harsh salt wind. They represent the farming, fishing and mountain villages indigenous to Japan.

“Agehama”: the traditional salt making method remained in practice only on Noto peninsula in Japan. “Ama fishing”: free diving fishing by women for turban shells and abalones, and “Charcoal making”: closely related to the conservation and maintenance of Satoyama, are still being practiced as traditional technology.

The festivals related to agriculture, forestry and fisheries have been held all over Noto peninsula.

Terraced rice-fields on Noto peninsula “Shiroyone Senmaida”

Traditional salt making “Agehama”

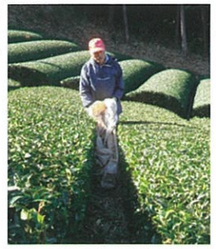
[Aenokoto]
Farm families welcome the guardian deity of paddy fields in their house in December when the harvesting of the crop is finished, and provides hospitality with the feast. In February, the deity is sent out to the snow-falling paddy fields wishing for a bumper crop in the coming year.

Designated in 2013 Kakegawa and surrounding region in Shizuoka Prefecture

Traditional Tea-Grass Integrated System in Shizuoka

Production of high-quality tea coexistent with biodiversity

In the Kakegawa and surrounding region, Shizuoka’s specialty tea has been produced using a unique traditional tea cultivating method called the “Chagusaba method”. Grass, such as pampas grass in the semi-natural grasslands (Chagusaba) dotted around the tea gardens, is reaped, and laid out in the tea gardens during autumn and winter. The active use of the grass is indispensable to local tea production, as it enriches the soil of tea gardens, and prevents soil erosion. At the same time, grass has been used in offerings for prosperity and for a good harvest in rituals in the traditional culture of the region. The active use of the grass has enabled Chagusaba to be maintained and, as a result, its many types of rare species still exist today.



Laying the grass in the furrows

Chagusaba adjoined by tea garden

[Parapodisma awagatakensisi Ishikawa]
Habitats in Chagusaba and region-specific grasshoppers that cannot fly because of the degeneration of their wings.

[Red cattle]
Indigenous cattle adapted to the natural environment of the Aso region.

“Echinops setifer” designated as an endangered species

“Noyaki” indispensable to maintain the grasslands

Designated in 2013 Aso region in Kumamoto Prefecture

Managing Aso Grasslands for Sustainable Agriculture

Agriculture using grasslands continuously

Typical grasslands will transform naturally into forests as time passes in Japan, but the grasslands in the Aso region have been maintained by human activities that result in the largest grasslands in Japan. Throughout the four seasons, people have been maintaining the grasslands mainly by burning grasslands, a method called “Noyaki (burning dead grass off a field)”, and by grazing horses and cattle, as well as “Cutting grasses”. Noyaki in the Aso region has been practiced as the burning of the surface of the land, resulting in no impact on the plant seeds and insects under the ground, while protecting a number of rare plants and species.

Designated in 2013 Kunisaki Peninsula Usa area in Oita Prefecture

Kunisaki Peninsula Usa Integrated Forestry, Agriculture and Fisheries System

Circular agriculture, forestry and fishery utilizing the forest resources in a land with little rain

With a small amount of precipitation, the Kunisaki Peninsula Usa area has been interlinking the small scale irrigation ponds to ensure a stable water supply for farming to utilize the land and water efficiently. Maintenance and management of the water supply systems have been carried out cooperatively by the people of the region.

In this region, shiitake mushroom cultivation using the Sawtooth Oak has been actively carried out. It stimulates the metabolism of the forest, as well as recharging the water resources and preserving the good environment and landscape of satoyama.

Shiitake mushroom cultivation using Sawtooth Oak

“Tashibu no Shou” successfully preserves the medieval manor in Japan

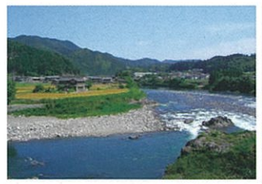
[The only Cyperus monophyllus Vahl production area in Japan]
It has high durability compared to the rush, and has also been used in the tatami mats of judo halls and traditional cultural assets. Cultivation of this plant requires extensive hard work, but it has been promoted as the only source of Cyperus monophyllus Vahl in Japan.

Designated in 2015 The upper and middle basin of the Nagara River in Gifu Prefecture

Ayu of the Nagara River System

Cyclical system links the aquatic environment, fishing resources, and daily lives of the people

The Nagara River flowing through Gifu Prefecture is the "Satokawa" which has conserved the resources of its basin and has protected the good environment through proper management and activities to nurture forests and the regular cleaning by fishermen and citizen groups. Such efforts lead to the development of fisheries, agriculture, and forestry along the basin. Particularly, inland fisheries which revolve around Japanese Sweetfish called Ayu thrives, and many traditional fishing methods such as cormorant fishing have been succeeded and a culinary culture incorporating ayu prevails. Also, traditional crafts such as Mino washi paper and Gujo honzome dyeing have been carried on through sustainable use of the cyclical system.



limpid stream of Nagara River

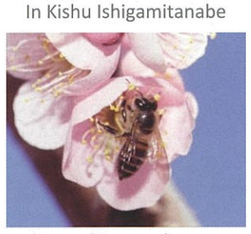
[Cormorant fisherman]
Cormorant fishing is the traditional fishing method for catching ayu, going back 1,300 years.

Ayu (sweetfish) inhabit only a limpid stream

Designated in 2015 Minabe-Tanabe region in Wakayama Prefecture

[Nanko Ume]
"Nanko" is a breed that local farmers, high school teachers, and high school students created in cooperation. The locally grown ume has inherited a variety of genetic traits.

Ume Forests
In Kishu Ishigamitanabe



Honeybee pollinates the ume trees

Minabe-Tanabe Ume System

Ume production making use of slopes with rudaceous soil which is poor in nutrients

Most of the Minabe-Tanabe region is occupied by steeply inclined mountains with rudaceous soils, which are poor in nutrients. Trees of Ume (*Prunus mume*) were planted while preserving the forests for fuel of *Quercus phillyraeoides*on, and high-quality ume has been produced. Maintaining of the forests provides watershed conservation, nutrient replenishment, and slope collapse prevention. The *Quercus phillyraeoides* is used to produce hard and high-quality charcoal called "Kishubinchotan".

Besides the ume aid honeybee playing an important role of pollinator to propagate in the early spring in February when few flowers are blooming, by providing them with valuable nectar in perfect mutualism.

Designated in 2015 Takachihogo-Shiibayama in Miyazaki Prefecture

Takachihogo-Shiibayama Mountainous Agriculture and Forestry System

Sustainable composite system of agriculture and forestry on mountainous sites

Under the environment which provides few flat lands enclosed by the peaks, people have been making a living through the establishment of a composite management system of agriculture and forestry which combines timber production in planted forests, shiitake mushroom cultivation utilizing broad-leaved trees, high-quality beef cattle raising, tea cultivation and terraced rice growing, etc.. Hillside irrigation which extend to 500km on the high altitude slopes have supplied water to ensure agricultural practices, and have protected villages from disaster by draining the rainwater flowing down the slopes of the mountains.

"Kagura" is the local traditional culture of the ritual Shinto dance to thank the gods for their blessings and to pray for a bountiful harvest.

Traditional culture "Kagura"

Hillside irrigation network from deep mountains

[Mosaic-pattern forest landscape]
Forest vegetation spread out in a patchwork pattern according to the properties of land, such as conifers for timber production, deciduous broadleaf trees for shiitake mushroom cultivation, and evergreen forests for preserving natural forest.

GIAHS sites in the world

Chiloé Agriculture
Chile

The Archipelago of Chiloé is considered one of the original homes of potatoes and 200 or more varieties of native potatoes have been produced, following ancestral practices transmitted orally by generations of farmers, mostly women.

Qanat Irrigated Agricultural Heritage Systems
Iran

Qanat Irrigated Systems have developed since about 800 BC. Underground tunnels minimize evaporation loss and ensure stable water resources, which enables the agricultural production in dry areas. Farmers select diverse crops that complement each other in terms of water requirements for best water use efficiency.

Rice-fish Culture
China

Fish farming in wet rice fields has a long history in this region. The record dating back 2000 years shows a fish swimming from its pond into a rice field. Rice provides shade and food for fish, and fish provide fertilizer for the rice, and eat larvae and weeds in the flooded fields. The swimming action of a fish causes oxygen to be added to the water, and softens the soil.

Shimbwe Juu Kihamba Agro-forestry Heritage Site
Tanzania

In this region, rich agriculture and forests have been coexisting. A typical home garden is composed of four vegetation layers. The uppermost layer is formed by sparsely spaced trees which provide shade. Bananas are grown under this layer. Coffee and vegetables follow under these layers. This multilayer system maximizes the use of limited land.

GIAHS Q & A

Q1 What is the difference from UNESCO World Heritage?

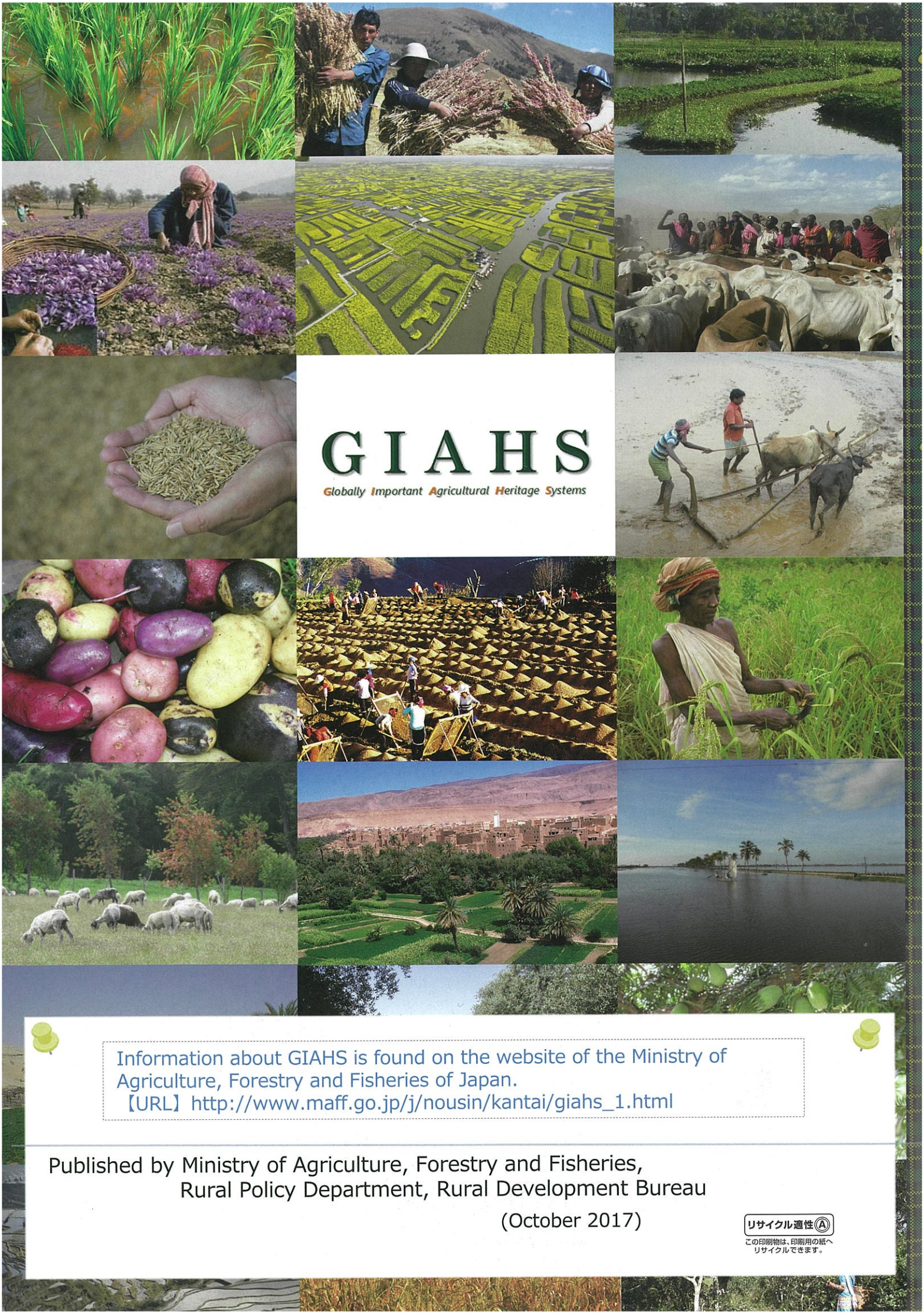
The UNESCO World Heritage System focuses on protection and preservation of the tangible cultural heritages and natural heritages of the world. FAO's GIAHS intends not only for the conservation of the site but also balancing between conservation and agricultural/social economic development of the site.

Q2 What responsibilities are indicated by the designation?

The site designated as a GIAHS must be given a specific action plan for the conservation of the site. On the basis of this, traditional agriculture and farming methods, and rich biodiversity, etc., are needed to inherit to the future.

Q3 What are the benefits from the designation?

If the value of the agricultural practice indigenous to the designated site is approved globally, people will pride themselves and gain self-confidence. It is also expected that the economy of the region would be stimulated through branding of the local agricultural products and through the attraction of tourists.



GIAHS

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

Information about GIAHS is found on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.
【URL】http://www.maff.go.jp/j/nousin/kantai/giahs_1.html

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