

GLOBALLY IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE SYSTEMS

With support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and in partnership with UNU, UNDP, UNESCO, government Organizations and other partners, FAO launched a global partnership initiative on conservation and adaptive management of [Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS](#)

The Initiative underlines that *worldwide, specific agricultural systems and landscapes have been created, shaped and maintained by generations of farmers and herders based on diverse natural resources, using locally adapted management practices. Building on local knowledge and experience, these ingenious agri-cultural systems reflect the evolution of humankind, the diversity of its knowledge, and its profound relationship with nature. These systems have resulted not only in outstanding landscapes, maintenance and adaptation of globally significant agricultural biodiversity, indigenous knowledge systems and resilient ecosystems, but, above all, in the sustained provision of multiple goods and services, food and livelihood security for millions of poor and small farmers.*

The GIAHS Initiative promotes public understanding, awareness, national and international recognition of Agricultural Heritage systems. Looking to safeguard the social, cultural, economic and environmental goods and services these provide to family farmers, smallholders, indigenous peoples and local communities, the initiative fosters an integrated approach combining sustainable agriculture and rural development.

The GIAHS initiative has project interventions in Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Chile, China, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic), Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Turkey. [In these countries](#), adaptive management approaches will be developed and implemented, to assist national and local stakeholders in the dynamic conservation of their agricultural heritage systems.

In the GIAHS webpage is possible to find information about the agricultural heritage systems valorised in the framework of the Initiative. The Initiative also calls for the main actors managing these systems to present their experiences in order to be analysed and included in this important international network.

To know more and participate

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Voices from the GIAHS partners

GIAHS in GFAR

Vision

***Dynamic conservation
of all agricultural heritage systems
and their multitude
of goods and services,
for food and livelihoods security,
now and for future generations***