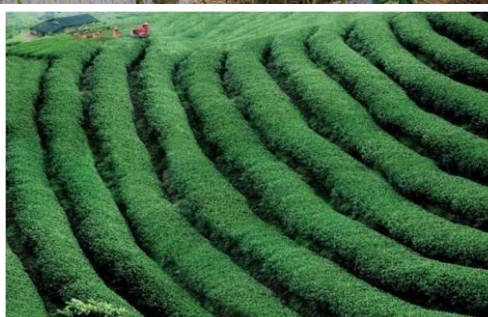


NEW GLOBALLY IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE SYSTEMS JOINING THE GIAHS NETWORK IN 2018

During 2018, twelve new *Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems* (GIAHS) have been recognized in China, Japan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kingdom of Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Republic of Korea, joining the GIAHS Network managed by FAO.



The [website of the GIAHS initiative](#) underlines that *Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems* are outstanding landscapes of aesthetic beauty that combine agricultural biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and a valuable cultural heritage. Located in specific sites around the world, they sustainably provide multiple goods and services, food and livelihood security for millions of small-scale farmers. Unfortunately, these agricultural systems are threatened by many factors including climate change and increased competition for natural resources. They are also dealing with migration due to low economic viability, which has resulted in traditional farming practices being abandoned and endemic species and breeds being lost. These ancestral agricultural systems constitute the foundation for contemporary and future agricultural innovations and technologies. Their cultural, ecological and agricultural diversity is still evident in many parts of the world, maintained as unique systems of agriculture.



The [GIAHS Initiative](#) has been launched in 2002, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa) by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in response to the global trends that undermine family agriculture and traditional agricultural systems. The GIAHS Initiative identifies and safeguards *Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems* and their associated landscapes, agricultural biodiversity and knowledge systems through a long-term programme supporting such systems and enhancing global, national and local benefits derived through their dynamic conservation, sustainable management and enhanced viability.



At present, the [GIAHS Network](#) comprises [57 Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems](#) operating in [22 countries](#).



The website section *GIAHS around the world* presents information sheets on each of the sites allowing to learn about many interesting agricultural heritage practices that are being safeguarded and projected into the future:

- Africa region: [3 GIAHS sites in Kenya and Tanzania](#).
- Asia and Pacific region: [36 sites in Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka](#).



- Europe and Central Asia region [6 sites in Spain, Portugal and Italy.](#)
- Latin America and the Caribbean region: [3 sites in Chile, Mexico and Peru.](#)
- Near East and North Africa region: [6 sites in Algeria, Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Egypt\).](#)

The GIAHS Initiative calls for the main actors managing traditional agricultural systems to present their experiences in order to be analysed and included in this important international network.

To know more

[Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS website](#)

[GIAHS publication 2018](#)

[Partners in Implementing the GIAHS Activities](#)

[To become a GIAHS](#)

[GIAHS and agro-ecology in slideshare.net](#)

[GIAHS Presentation](#)

[GIAHS in GEF website](#)

[IFAD brochure](#)

[GIAHS in World Agricultural Heritage Foundation website](#)

