

# GLOBALLY IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE SYSTEMS IN CHINA

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In order to safeguard and support the world's agricultural heritage systems, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) implements an initiative for the conservation and adaptive management of [Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS](#) with the support of Global Environment Facility (GEF). China has been one of the countries giving active response to the initiative in the first place.

At present, a total of 57 sites of 21 countries have been inscribed on GIAHS List, among which, [China has 15 GIAHS sites on the List, ranking top in the world.](#)



Since 2004, the Ministry of Agriculture of China (MOA) has carried out a series of activities including pilot site selection, recommendation, exploration, conservation and development, as well as expertise extension and research facilitation with cooperation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), local governments, experts and local people.



Over years, MOA's efforts have produced significant social, ecological and economic benefits. The work on GIAHS have substantially pushed forward sustainable agricultural development and rural ecological conservation, and identified effective approaches to improve agricultural efficiency, increase farmers' income, maintain rural stability, and address problems related to agriculture, rural areas and farmers.



Now it is already ongoing an effective platform of China's agricultural heritage systems conservation, evaluation and practice. A bunch of scholars are attracted by the project led by Professor Li Wenhua, the director of CNACH and academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering. Furthermore, in order to promote the knowledge and understanding of GIAHS, lots of training courses are designed on the local level to relevant government officials, communities and farmers.



With a history of 5,000 years in farming civilization, China is home to diversified agricultural heritage of great economic, ecological and cultural value. Conserving and developing such agricultural treasure will be conducive to increasing agricultural productivity, farmer's income and prosperity of rural community.



From 25 to 28 October, 2014, Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS in China have been first exhibited at the 12th China Agricultural Trade Fair (CATF 2014) held in Qingdao, it has been the first national exhibition of GIAHS in China.

On January 28, 2015, FAO and the People's Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the FAO-China South-South Cooperation Framework to support the implementation of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS Initiative, opening a new page of China's efforts to contribute to global food security and sustainable agriculture.

### To know more

#### [FAO-GIAHS](#)

#### [GIAHS sites in China in FAO website](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 1: Qiantian Rice-Fish Culture, Zhejiang](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 2: Hani Rice Terraces in Honghe, Yunnan](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 3: Wannian Traditional Rice Culture System](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 4: Dong's Rice Fish Duck System, Guizhou](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 5: Pu'er Traditional Tea Agrosystem, Yunnan](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 6: Aohan Dryland Farming System, Inner Mongolia](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 7: Urban Agricultural Heritage – Xuanhua Grape Garden](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 8: Shaoxing Torreya Grandis cv. Merrillii Community, Zhejiang](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 9: Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 10: Fuzhou Jasmine and Tea Culture System](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 11: Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 12: Huzhou Mulberry-dyke and Fish Pond System](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 13: Diebu Zhagana Agriculture-Forestry-Animal Husbandry Composite System](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 14: Xiajin Yellow River Old Course Ancient Mulberry Grove System](#)

#### [GIAHS Pilot Site 15: Rice Terraces in Southern Mountainous and Hilly areas](#)



[Ministry of Agriculture of The People's Republic of China website](#)

[Journal of Resources and Ecology](#)

[Article in researchgate.net](#)

[GIAHS in WAHF Foundation website](#)

