



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## FAO-ISESCO Sub-Regional Workshop

on

### Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) for West Africa

28, 29, 30 June 2016

Hotel Atlas Asni

Marrakesh, Morocco

#### Background note

The **Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)**<sup>1</sup> is an FAO programme that aims to identify, support and safeguard Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems and their livelihoods, agricultural and associated biodiversity, landscapes, knowledge systems and cultures around the world.

Over the past decade, the GIAHS Initiative has been piloting an innovative model of engaging communities, local and national governments in the adaptive management of agricultural heritage and conservation of systems' goods and services. It has served as a learning laboratory for identifying new ways to sustain nature's bounty, the health of ecosystems, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and genetic resources for food and agriculture, protection of traditional knowledge systems, culture, and more importantly, building a bridge for the sustainable future.

In November 2011, FAO and Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a framework of partnership agreement. The MOU reflects the commitment of both organizations to promote cooperation and develop their capacities to protect agricultural heritage, promote the diversity of culture and cultural expressions, further develop their communication platform, institutional capacity and policies, and promote an exchange of activities and services.

Following the signing of the MOU, in May 2012, an international workshop on GIAHS for the Islamic countries was held in Rabat to launch GIAHS with ISESCO member states which coincided at ISESCO Annual Convention.

With this background, an international workshop on GIAHS was held in FAO in November 2014 with the aim of launching the Initiative and enhancing understanding on the values of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems among the attendees from Islamic countries. In June 2015, in response to the request from the Government of Mauritania, the joint workshop was held in Mauritania to establish a national GIAHS Committee towards the promotion of GIAHS in the country. In the recent days, more and more countries in the region (members and non-members of ISESCO) are establishing GIAHS and are submitting proposals to FAO.

#### Objectives of the Workshop

The general objective of this joint workshop is to promote GIAHS dissemination and enhance the capacity of the West African countries to identify and propose their GIAHS sites. The specific objectives are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, [www.giahs.org](http://www.giahs.org)

- To familiarize representatives of West African countries with the origin, background and concept of GIAHS, the fundamental values of agricultural heritage, and opportunities for collaboration;
- To share knowledge, experiences and lessons learned by outstanding examples of GIAHS in Africa (GIAHS holding countries like Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Kenya) on the coordination of all the relevant stakeholders including local communities, planning and implementation of dynamic conservation of the GIAHS sites;
- To prepare an action plan to promote GIAHS in West-Africa Region

## Provisional Agenda of the Workshop

<b>June 28</b>		
<b>9:00-10:00</b>	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Remarks by FAO, ISESCO representatives</li> <li>• Guidance on Workshop by Secretariat</li> <li>• Introduction of the Participants</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>Short Break</b>	
<b>10:15-12:00</b>	<b>I. Introduction to Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>GIAHS Introduction</i>, Yoshihide Endo, GIAHS Coordinator</li> <li>• <i>GIAHS Contribution to Food and Livelihood Security</i>, Mr. Ming Xu, GIAHS Secretariat</li> <li>• <i>GIAHS Designation Procedure</i>, Ms Clelia Maria Puzzo, GIAHS Secretariat</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  30 minutes presentation +Q&A
<b>12:00-13:30</b>	<b>Mid-Day Rest</b>	
<b>13:30-15:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>GIAHS opportunities in the West African Sub-Region</i>, Ms Aicha Bammoun, ISESCO</li> <li>• <i>GIAHS SAG Exerts in Kenya</i>: Ms Helida Oyeke, National Museums of Kenya</li> <li>• <i>GIAHS SAG Exerts in Oman</i>: Dr. Slim Zekri, Sultan Qaboos University</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  30 minutes presentation +Q&A
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	<b>Short Break</b>	
<b>15:30-16:30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>GIAHS Perspectives in Morocco</i> (TBD)</li> <li>• <i>Tunisia</i>, Mr. Nadhem Rachdi ASM Gafsa</li> <li>• <i>Algeria</i>, Mr. Fateh Achour, INRAA</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  30 minutes presentation +Q&A
<b>16:30-17:00</b>	<b>Reflection of the Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on all the topics presented on this day</li> <li>• Supplementary/Additional Information</li> <li>• Questions and Answers</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat

<b>June 29</b>		
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>II. Country Presentation on Potential GIAHS Sites</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nigeria, Ms Elizabeth Ekenma Oagheria</li> <li>● Burkina Faso, Mr. Jean Bijoun, Direction générale des productions végétales</li> <li>● Togo, Mr. Sadate Amadou, Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA)</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  20 minutes Presentation + 10 minutes Comment and Q&A
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Short Break</b>	
<b>11:00-13:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Niger, Mr. Zibo Issa, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Elevage</li> <li>● Guinea Bissau, Mr. Mangla Nantchia, National Expert in Agriculture</li> <li>● Guinea, Dr. Almamy Seny Soumah, Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>● Senegal, Dr. Djiby Dia, Ministry of Agriculture</li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  20 minutes Presentation + 10 minutes Comment and Q&A
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Mid-day Break</b>	
<b>14:00-15:30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ghana, Adema Agyei, Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>● Benin, Mr. Abdoulaye Chabi, MINistry of Agriculture</li> <li>● Morocco, <i>Potential GIAHS site: Argan Forest (TBD)</i></li> </ul>	Moderator: GIAHS/ISESCO Secretariat  20 minutes Presentation + 10 minutes Comment and Q&A
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<b>Short Break</b>	
<b>16:00-17:00</b>	<b>III. Group Exercise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Approach, Methods and Tools for GIAHS: Experiences from North Africa</i>; Nouredine NASR, FAOSNE</li> <li>● Group Exercise to prepare an action plan to promote GIAHS in West-Africa Region with a time table</li> </ul>	Moderator: Nouredine NASR, FAOSNE

<b>June 30</b>	
<b>8:00-12:00</b>	<b>Field Visit to a traditional agricultural system: Essaouira Argan Forest</b>