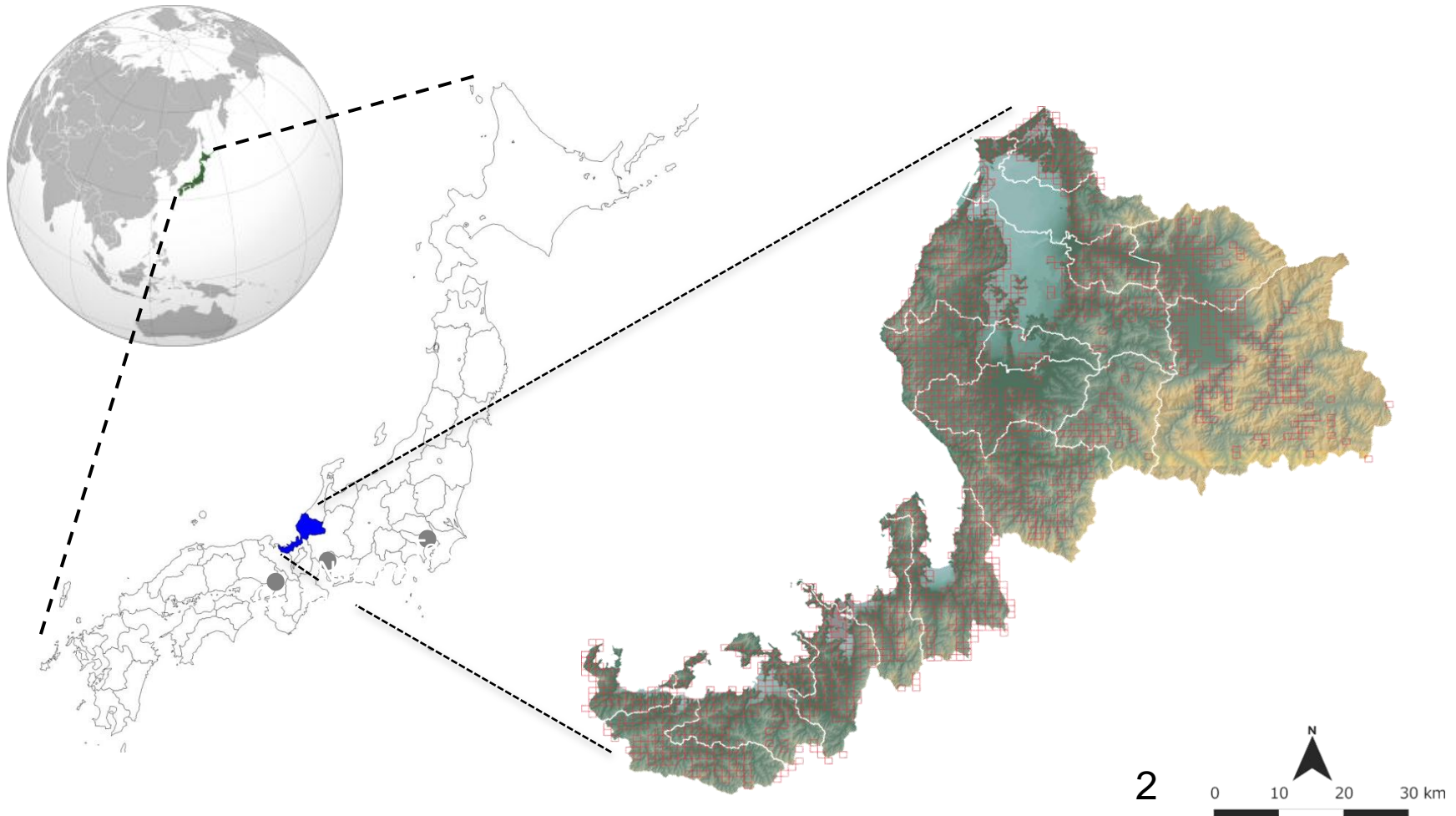


Conservation of SATOYAMA in Fukui Prefecture for Future Generations

Fukui Prefecture

The Location and Characteristics of Fukui Prefecture

Fukui Prefecture is located in the center of the northern side of Honshu, the main island of Japan (Fukui population: 800,000 people, area: 4,200 km²)



The Fourth Global Conference of the International Partnership for the SATOYAMA Initiative



The 2013 SATOYAMA Initiative International Convention was held from Sept. 8 to 14. The 4th Global Conference of IPSI in Fukui and other related events were also held in Fukui. Over 2000 people from 28 countries and areas participated in these events. 130 participants discussed Satoyama conservation issues. (We express our thanks to all those who participated in these events.)

Conservation of Satoyama Landscapes in Fukui

Toujinbo / Lake Kitagata



Heisenji / Okuetsu highland



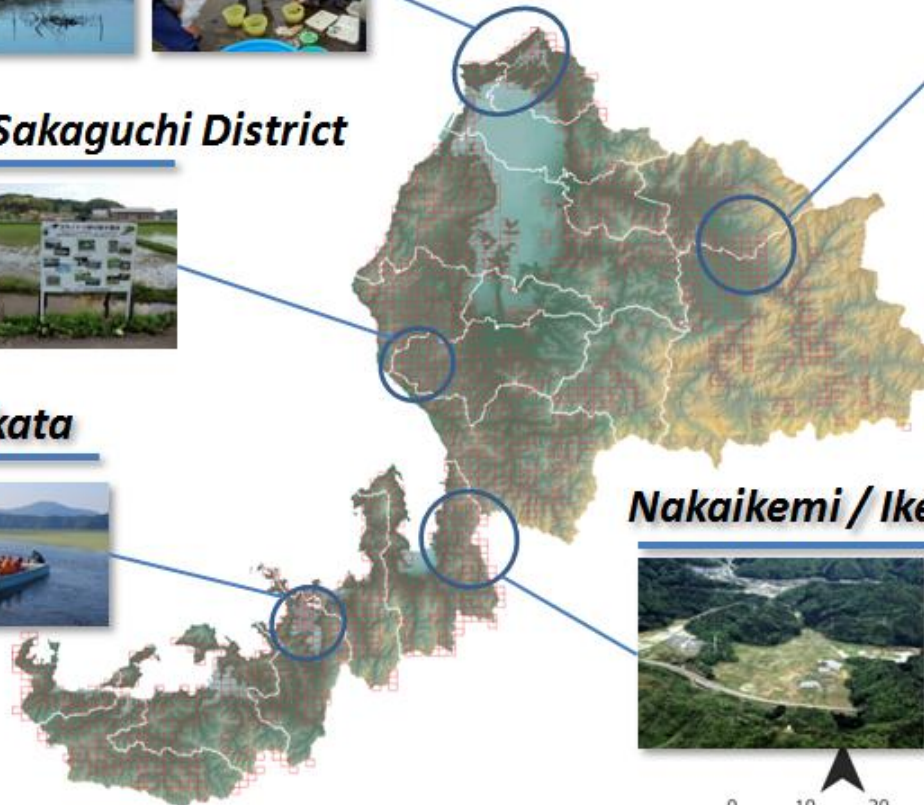
Shirayama and Sakaguchi District



Five Lakes of Mikata



Nakaikemi / Ikenokouchi wetland



In Fukui Prefecture, there are over 160 non-profit organizations (NPOs) which are working to conserve, restore, and use satoyama landscape. This map shows five regions where fishermen, municipalities, NPOs and private companies are cooperating to restore nature.

“The Calling-back of the Oriental White Stork” Project in Shirayama and Sakaguchi Districts



The Oriental white stork (*Ciconia boyciana*) was formerly common in Japan, but the national wild population became extinct in 1971.

Since 2010, we have been raising a pair of storks in this district to reintroduce the stork in Fukui.

In June 2014, three baby storks were born. We are planning to release these individuals into the wild in the future.

“The Calling-Back of the Oriental White Stork” Project in Shirayama and Sakaguchi District



In Shirayama and Sakaguchi districts, farmers have cultivated rice without using pesticides and chemical fertilizer. They seek to increase the number of fish and frogs that are potential prey of the stork.

The rice cultivated in this area is named “Calling-back-stork Rice”, which is known as a high-quality brand.

The SATOYAMA lunch boxes served at the IPSI-4 excursion contain rice balls made with this rice!

Nature Restoration Project (Five Lakes of Mikata)



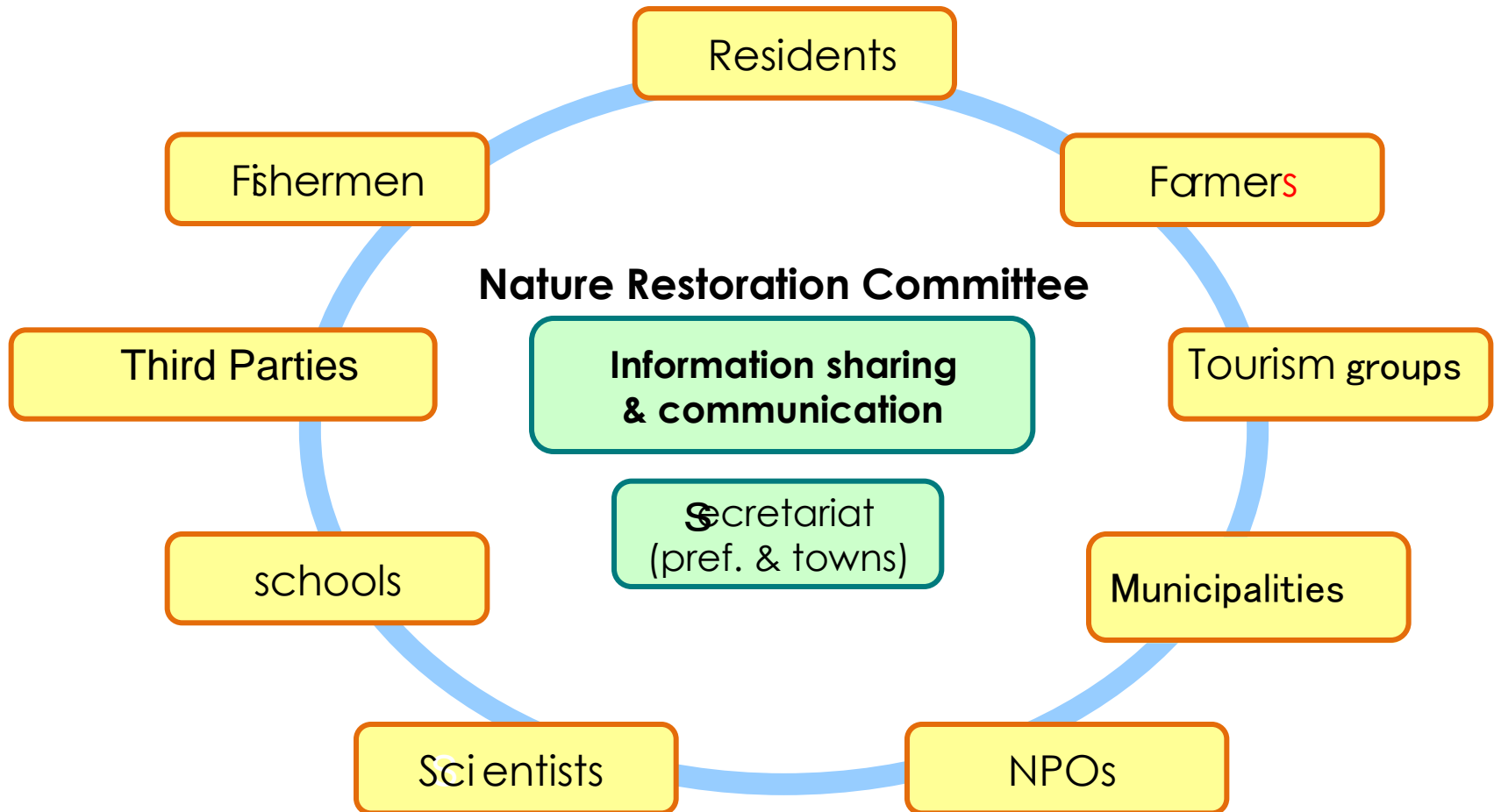
Rare cyprinid fish species



The Five Lakes of Mikata exhibit a typical *satoyama* landscape, providing habitats for rare and endangered animal and plant species.

The lakes were registered under the Ramsar Convention in 2005 because of their biodiversity including some endemic species.

Collaboration of Multiple Stakeholders and Participants



The nature restoration committee was officially established in 2011 for the Five Lakes of Mikata, composed of various parties including farmers, fishermen, NPOs, scientists, municipalities, and more.

Examples of collaboration



Working group meeting



Public-participating cooperative survey of fish fauna

The committee is implementing various projects, such as making fish-ways into rice paddies, restoring the clam population, and removing invasive species.

To Improve the Activities for Nature Restoration Fukui Prefectural *Satoyama -Satoumi* Research Institute

After the Fourth Global Conference of IPSI last year, in order to improve the activities for nature restoration in Fukui, we established the Fukui Prefectural *Satoyama -Satoumi* Research Institute, located within the boundaries of the Five Lakes of Mikata.



【Action Policies】

- Conducting research to make the biodiversity of *satoyama & satoumi* useful to people's lives.
- Providing opportunities to learn about *satoyama & satoumi* to encourage both children and adults to be conservation leaders.
- Supporting and working together with people in local communities who are trying to conserve *satoyama & satoumi*.

To Improve the Activities for Nature Restoration



Expansion of abandoned satoyama
(bamboo forests)



Cutting down bamboo trees by
children

Bamboo forests in Satoyama areas have increasingly been abandoned and wild boars inhabit the overgrowth. These boars damage the cultivated areas nearby. The research institute set up the “Fukui Manabi Forest” program near the Five Lakes of Mikata, in which researchers, nature restoration groups, and community residents cooperate to manage forests based on scientific viewpoints.

Research on Lake Suigetsu's "Varves"

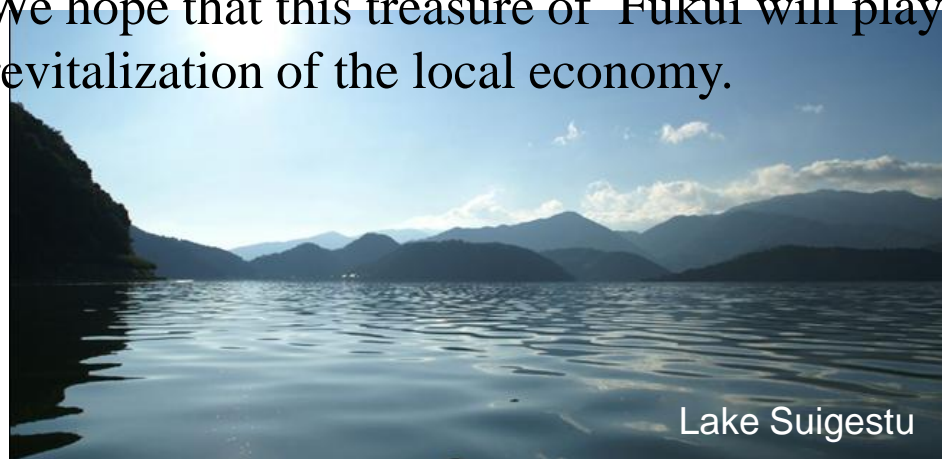


At the bottom of Lake Suigetsu, sediment with annual lamination (varved sediment) has been deposited for approx. the last 70,000 years and thus holds a continuous archive of palaeoenvironmental information.

^{14}C data from Lake Suigetsu was incorporated into IntCal13 (the international project for radiocarbon calibration)

The varved sediments will be used as a powerful tool to further understanding of the relationship between the changes of the natural environment and human activities.

We hope that this treasure of Fukui will play a role in the revitalization of the local economy.



Lake Suigetsu



We, Fukui prefecture, will conserve satoyama landscapes and pass them on to the next generation.

Thank you very much for your attention.