



世界農業遺産  
高千穂郷・椎葉山地域  
GIAHS Takachihogo - Shiibayama

# 高千穂郷・椎葉山地域 世界農業遺産

高千穂郷・椎葉山の  
山間地農林業複合システム  
Takachihogo-Shiibayama Mountainous  
Agriculture and Forestry System  
Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems

# 森林と伝統文化を育む 日本神話の里

## The Home of Japanese Mythology—Nurturer of Forests and Traditional Culture

標高 1,000m~1,700m 級の山々に囲まれた険しい山間地、高千穂郷・椎葉山地域。面積の 90% 以上が森林で、そのほとんどが急傾斜地という厳しい条件の中、人々は、農業と林業とを複合的に行うことで、森林の保全と活用とのバランスを図りながら生活の糧を得ている。その営みは、森林や農地に生息する希少動植物の保全、山々の斜面を覆う棚田などの美しい景観、そして、古の日本神話と民俗を今に伝える神楽などの伝統文化を育んできた。この農林業複合システムは、世界的に重要な伝統的システムと評価され、2015 年 12 月、世界農業遺産に認定された。

The Takachihogo-Shiibayama site is a steep, mountainous region enclosed by mountains ranging from 1,000-1,700 meters in elevation. Over 90% of the site is covered in forest that is mostly on sloped land, and despite these harsh conditions, people have been carrying out a composite system of agricultural forestry to sustain their lifestyles while striking a balance between conservation and the effective utilization of the forest.

The workings of this system have fostered the conservation of rare plants and animals that inhabit the forest and farms, beautiful landscapes that include sloping mountains covered in rice terraces, as well as traditional culture such as the religious performance known as kagura, which brings the mythology and folklore of ancient Japan into modern times.

This composite system of agricultural forestry has been evaluated as a globally important traditional system and was certified as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Site (GIAHS) in December 2015.

### 世界農業遺産とは

### What are GIAHS?

世界農業遺産とは、社会や環境に適応しながら何世代にもわたり継承されてきた独自の伝統的な農林水産業と、それに密接に関わって育まれた文化、ランドスケープ及びシースケープ、農業生物多様性などが相互に関連して一体となった、世界的に重要な伝統的な農林水産業を営む地域（農林水産業システム）を、国際連合食糧農業機関（FAO）が認定する制度である。申請地域は、世界的な重要性、申請地域の特徴（FAO が定める 5 つの認定基準）及び保全計画に基づき評価、認定される。

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems are systems that are certified by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as unique forms of agriculture, forestry, and fishing that have been passed down over countless generations while adapting to society and the environment as well as sites that practice globally important, traditional forms of agriculture, forestry, and fishing, which have integrated mutually related culture, landscapes, seascapes, and agro-biodiversity that are closely related to the unique forms of agriculture, forestry and fishing (agricultural, forestry, and fishery systems). Applicant sites are evaluated and certified based on the site's global importance, features (five certification criteria established by the FAO), and conservation plans.

#### 5つの認定基準 Five certification standards

- I. 食料及び生計の保障  
Food and Livelihood Security
- II. 農業生物多様性  
Agro-biodiversity
- III. 地域の伝統的な知識システム  
Local and Traditional Knowledge Systems
- IV. 文化、価値観及び社会組織  
Cultures, Value Systems, and Social Organizations
- V. ランドスケープ及びシースケープの特徴  
Landscapes and Seascapes Features

GIAHS: Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems  
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization



## 高千穂郷・椎葉山地域の町村

## Takachiho-go-Shiibayama Towns and Villages



### 高千穂町 Takachiho-town

数多くの神話とそれまつわるスポットが残る高千穂町。このまちの各集落には、地域の安寧を願う祭祀である伝統文化『神楽』が息づいている。年に一度、収穫に感謝して奉納されるこの舞を通じて地域は一体となる。

Takachiho Town is a place that retains numerous myths and spots related to mythology. Traditional kagura performances, a religious ritual carried out to pray for peace in the region, resides within each village in this town. Once a year, the region is united through this divine dance that is performed to give thanks for the harvest.



### 日之影町 Hinokage-town

深い森と清流が織りなす景観美が続く日之影町。森の持つ癒やしの効果を心身の健康作りにつなげる森林セラピー基地に指定されている。また、わら細工や竹細工、農村歌舞伎など、農村の民俗文化が色濃く残されている。

With its endless scenic beauty that weaves a tapestry of deep woods and clear streams, Hinokage Town has been designated as a forest therapy base to connect the healing effects of forests to the creation healthy minds and bodies. Additionally, the folk-culture of the farming villages, including wara-zaiku (straw-working) and take-zaiku (bamboo-working), as well as faming-village kabuki performances have been strongly retained.



### 五ヶ瀬町 Gokase-town

標高約 600m の五ヶ瀬町は、昼夜の気温差が大きいなど茶の栽培に適しており、古くから“釜炒り”の技法によるお茶が作られてきた。今日でも釜炒り茶は伝統農産加工物として生産されており、全国でも希少な産地である。

At an elevation of approximately 600 meters above sea level, Gokase Town is suitable for tea harvesting due to the area's large temperature differences between day and night as well as other features, and the town has long been producing tea through the kamairi (pan-frying) technique. To this day, kamairicha is being produced as a traditional processed agricultural product, making Gokase a rare area of production within Japan.



### 諸塚村 Morotsuka-village

林業が盛んな諸塚村は、適正に管理された森林を認定する世界的な FSC® 森林認証を、日本で初めて村ぐるみで取得している。林業と農業を複合して生計を立てる農林業複合システムが発達しており、その結果、針葉樹林や広葉樹林がパッチワーク状に広がる『モザイク林』が形成されている。

With its active forestry industry, Morotsuka is the first whole village in Japan to be certified by the FSC®, a global organization that certifies properly managed forests. Forestry and agriculture are combined to develop a composite system of agricultural forestry that sustains livelihoods, resulting in the formation of a "mosaic forest" that has conifers and broadleaf trees spread out in a patchwork pattern.



### 椎葉村 Shiiba-village

重なり合う山々が果てしなく続き、日本三大秘境の一つとされる椎葉村。ここでは、1950年頃まで全国各地で行われていた日本の伝統的な焼畑農業が唯一現存している。自然と共生する循環型の農法は、この地域の人々の自然に対する畏敬の念への現れでもある。

Shiiba Village is one of the Three Great Unexplored Regions of Japan, in an area with endlessly overlapping mountains. Since around 1950, this village has been the only place in Japan where the traditional Japanese agricultural practice of shifting cultivation has been carried out. This cyclical agricultural method exists harmoniously with nature and is also an expression the local people's reverence for nature.



# 高千穂郷・椎葉山地域

Takachihogo-Shiibayama Site



## 世界農業遺産 高千穂郷・椎葉山地域

GIAHS Takachihogo-Shiibayama

### 世界農業遺産 高千穂郷・椎葉山地域活性化協議会 GIAHS Takachihogo-Shiibayama Site Revitalization Council

【事務局】高千穂町 財政課 総合政策室 ☎0982-73-1260  
〒882-1192 宮崎県西臼杵郡高千穂町大字三田井 13  
E-MAIL/sougou@town-takachiho.jp

【Office】Takachiho Town Finance Section, Policy Management Department  
13 Oaza Mitai, Takachiho-cho, Nishiusuki-gun, Miyazaki Prefecture 882-1192

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日之影町 地域振興課 ☎0982-87-3910  
Hinokage Town Regional Development Department

諸塚村 産業課 ☎0982-65-1128  
Morotsuka Village Industries Department

宮崎県農政水産部 農政企画課中山間農業振興室 ☎0985-26-7924  
Miyazaki Prefecture Agricultural Planning and Administration Division

五ヶ瀬町 企画課 ☎0982-82-1717  
Gokase Town Planning Department

椎葉村 農林振興課 ☎0982-67-3206  
Shiiba Village Agricultural Forestry Development Department

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<https://takachihogo-shiibayama-giahs.com/>

