

# **GIAHS REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA 2022-2025**

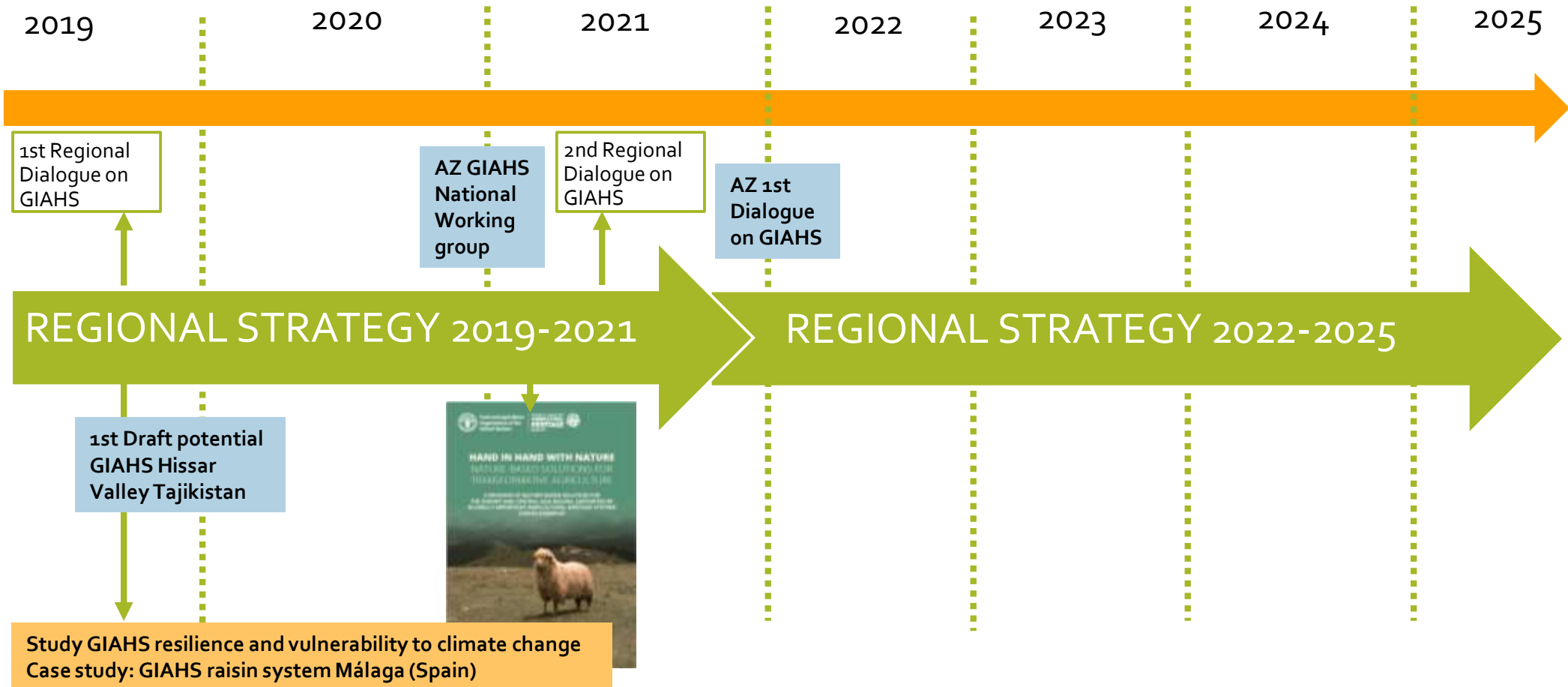
**FAO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

# Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) in the region of Europe and Central Asia

- 2015:** GIAHS as a FAO Programme, FAO GIAHS Secretariat promotes the programme in Europe and Central Asia
- 2017:** 1st GIAHS site recognised in the region, Southwest Europe Mediterranean area, Spain
- 2017:** Incorporation Regional Initiative 3 to REU, **“Managing natural resources sustainably and preserving biodiversity, under a changing climate”**.
- 2019:** Regional Strategy on GIAHS under RI3, strengthening GIAHS under a changing climate
- 2020:** 7 GIAHS sites recognised in Europe, Italy (2), Portugal (1) and Spain (4)
- 2021:** Preliminary draft Regional Strategy on GIAHS 2022-2025

# GIAHS Programme support and promotion

FAO REU RI3: "Managing natural resources and preserving biodiversity, under a changing climate"



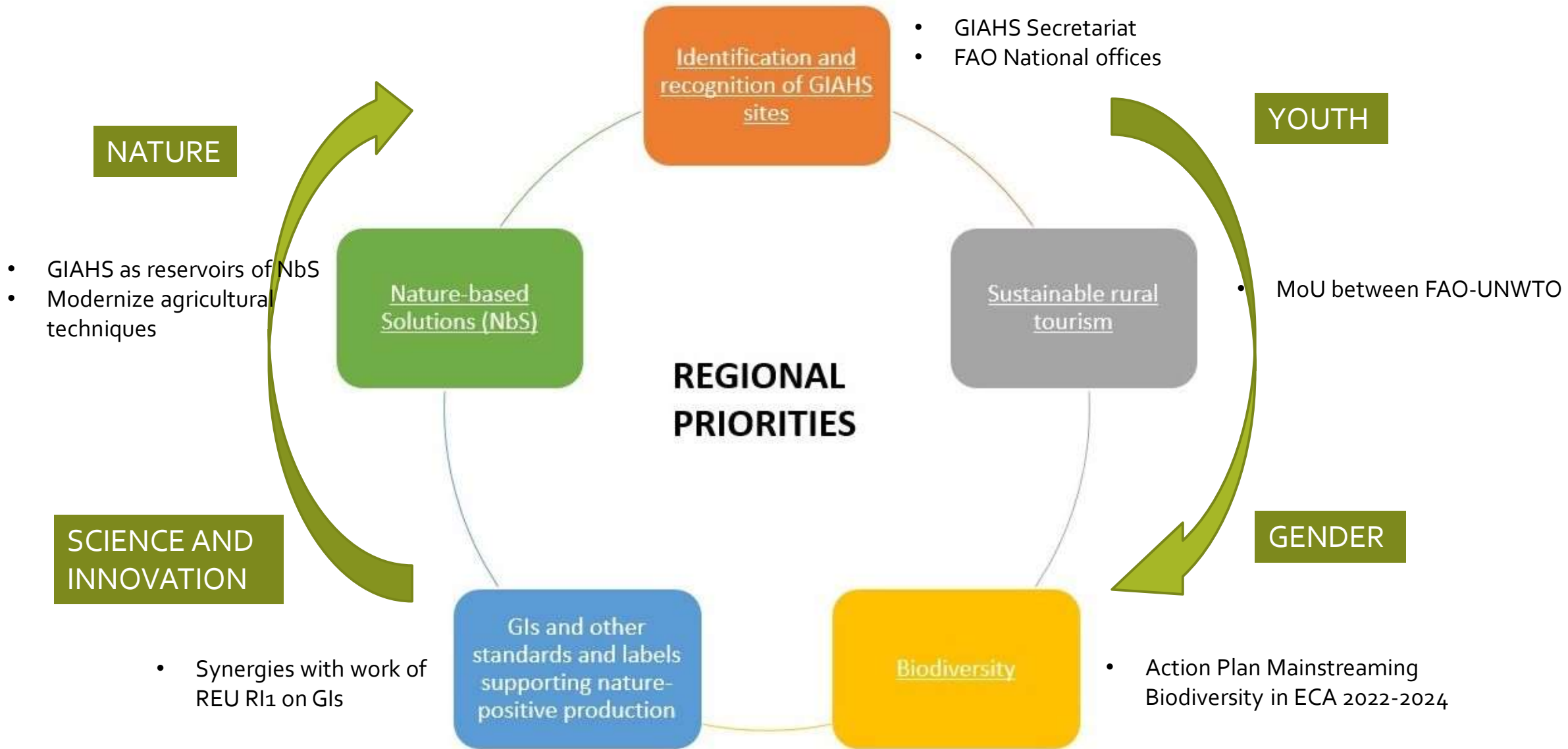
# Regional Strategy 2022-2025

## Methodology of Analysis

- Information and conclusions coming from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Dialogue on GIAHS in Europe and Central Asia; held respectively on 2-3 July 2019 and 27 April 2021
- Data collected during the consultation to Member Countries interested on the GIAHS programme (2021): Fact-sheets, meetings, panel discussion.
- Results of the Regional Strategy to strengthen engagement with GIAHS 2019-2021, under a changing climate
- Programmatic Strategy RI3: Components and Outcomes 2022-2025
- CPF and bibliography resources supporting the analysis

During the consultation to countries interested and working already in GIAHS identification in ECA, they showed local communities' priorities:

- **preserving their territory** and their traditions.
- **modernizing their agricultural practices** in order to protect the natural resources and agro-biodiversity.
- improving the **resilience** of the sites they live in.
- promote **tourism and locally produced goods**, giving locals extra income.
- increase **youth engagement** by providing services and economic development in the region.
- Enhance **products** tradability, **visibility** and **access to markets**
- **Conserve** the landscapes and culture



	Activities	Results/ Outputs	Outcomes	Countries implied	Partners
I. Identification and recognition of GIAHS sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of GIAHS Programme and technical assistance to the member countries</li> <li>Support on the identification of GIAHS sites by technical experts from REU</li> <li>Support on the Action Plan</li> <li>Facilitate the communication among stakeholders to create the GIAHS National Work Team</li> <li>Facilitate the communication with the GIAHS Secretariat</li> <li>FAO REU Social media promotion of the recognised sites</li> </ol>	One GIAHS site recognized in every country by 2023 / 5 GIAHS sites recognised by 2023	Countries recognise the value of their agricultural heritage and support its dynamic conservation	All countries	GIAHS Secretariat, FAO National Offices
II. Sustainable agritourism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of sustainable rural tourism focusing on agritourism through trainings and virtual events</li> <li>Developing of materials (Booklets, brochure, reports..) to showcase with evidence-based information the sustainable link between products, landscape, culture and tradition</li> <li>Youth employment</li> </ol>	<p>Income diversification opportunities increases for rural communities.</p> <p>Landscape preserved and enhanced by recognizing the value of culture and tradition in agriculture.</p> <p>Reduced youth migration and increased generational turnover</p>	Rural development enhanced in the three dimensions of sustainability: economic, environmental, and social.	Tajikistan Azerbaijan	UNWTO
III. Biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the countries on the Regional Dialogues on Biodiversity and promoting their participation</li> <li>Guide member countries in the inclusion of core action 3 of the Biodiversity Action Plan on REU (2021-23) to BFA* Preservation in GIAHS Sites</li> </ol>	Biodiversity is an essential element of the GIAHS Action Plan	Biodiversity is maintained and perceived as a key element of food and livelihoods security.	All countries	
IV. GIs and other standards and labels supporting nature-positive production	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting the work of REU in the work GIs in the region</li> <li>Support the mechanism for the creation of associations to promote their products in the domestic and foreign markets through the Action Plan/in the AP development</li> </ol>	<p>The adding value of the products and services developed in this area is recognised</p> <p>Improved market access through the recognition of the</p>	Improved the competitiveness of local communities' products and services in national and international markets	Tajikistan Azerbaijan	Regional Office; Slow Food
V. NbS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting public and private partnership to attract science and innovation for NbS improvement in agriculture</li> <li>Implementation of a local strategy to attract funds to modernize technologies and practices supporting ecosystem functions (soil health, water conservation, biodiversity maintenance...)</li> <li>Identifying current problems and select NbS to solve them.</li> <li>Developing youth training programmes on science and innovation in agriculture through NbS</li> </ol>	<p>Applied science and innovation to local and traditional techniques and technologies based on nature.</p> <p>Young people are engaged in sustainable rural development bringing projects in coherence with nature / that balance nature and agriculture</p>	Preserved NbS that derives from context specific knowledge and supported through science and technological innovation		

THANK YOU!