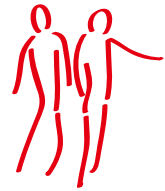


About RIHN



The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) was established in April 2001 by the Government of Japan to promote integrated research in the field of global environmental studies. As a national institute, RIHN solicits, develops, hosts, and funds fixed-term research projects on pressing areas of interaction between humanity and nature. RIHN promotes coordinated, problem-centered, context-specific, and multi-dimensional science. RIHN projects can last from two to five years; they are always multidisciplinary and employ multiple methodologies, and they are supposed to offer solutions to the environmental problems under study.

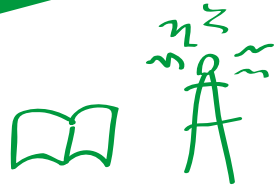
RIHN maintains extensive national and international research networks and serves as the Regional Hub for Future Earth in Asia.

Laboratory



RIHN maintains eighteen laboratories for environmental analysis, including specialized facilities for analysis of DNA and stable isotopes.

Social Outreach



Events



1. RIHN International Symposium

Each year RIHN holds an international symposium describing the key findings of concluding research projects.

2. RIHN Public Seminars

Public seminars are held throughout the year at RIHN or in the city center.

3. RIHN Open House

RIHN opens its doors to the public once a year with a special curriculum for children.

Publications



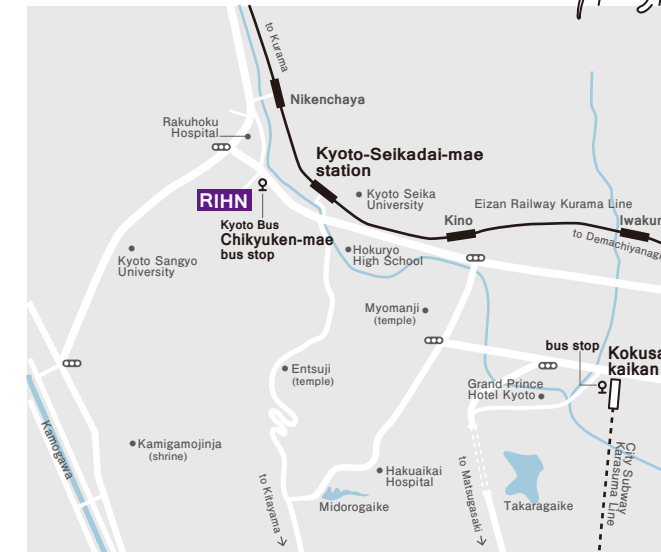
In addition to many individual publications for general and specialist audiences, RIHN has partnered with Springer Publishers to establish the Global Environmental Studies book series. Titles in the series reflect the full breadth of RIHN scholarship.

International Collaboration



Memoranda of Understanding Research Cooperation Agreements (As of March 31st, 2016)

- **AUSTRIA**
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
- **BANGLADESH**
International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research
- **CHINA**
East China Normal University
Peking University
Yunnan Health and Development Research Association
- **EGYPT**
National Water Research Center (NWRC)
- **FRANCE**
La Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
- **INDIA**
Institute of Rajasthan Studies, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth
Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
- **INDONESIA**
The Center for International Forestry Research
Universitas Hasanuddin
Universitas Indonesia
- **LAOS**
National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health
- **MALAWI**
University of Malawi
- **NAMIBIA**
Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
- **NIGER**
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), West and Central Africa
L'Organisation Nigériennes des Educateurs Novateurs
- **PHILIPPINES**
Laguna Lake Development Authority
University of the Philippines Diliman
University of the Philippines Visayas
University of Santo Tomas
- **RUSSIA**
Far Eastern Federal University
- **SUDAN**
Sudan University of Science and Technology
- **SWEDEN**
The Sven Hedin Foundation
- **THAILAND**
Faculty of Fisheries, Kasetsart University
Rice Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
- **TURKEY**
Adiyaman University
Çukurova University
Harran University
- **UNITED KINGDOM**
Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures
- **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
Mote Marine Laboratory
The University of California, Berkeley
University of the Virgin Islands
- **ZAMBIA**
Zambia Agricultural Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock



ACCESS

By City Subway

From Kyoto Station, take the Karasuma Line to Kokusaikaikan Station (the last station), and transfer to Kyoto Bus.

By Kyoto Bus

From Kokusaikaikan Station, take bus No. 40, 50 or 52 to Chikyuken-mae. RIHN is at the base of the hill on your left.

By Eizan Railway

From Demachiyana Station in Kyoto City, take the Kurama Line. Get off at Kyoto-Seikadai-mae Station. RIHN is a 10-minute walk from the station.

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<http://www.chikyu.ac.jp>



Inter-University Research Institute Corporation
National Institutes for the Humanities
**Research Institute for
Humanity and Nature**



RIHN

Research Projects



Photo : Takanori Oishi

2012 – 2016



Coastal Area-capability Enhancement in Southeast Asia

Project Leader **ISHIKAWA Satoshi**

Many coastal areas with high biodiversity and biological productivity are located in tropical zones of developing countries, as is the case in Southeast Asia. In such areas, ecosystem services, local livelihood and culture are closely related. As the roles and importance of ecosystem services are different among persons with different interests and conditions, we examine several good practices of ecosystem management based on local community participation, in order to compile the conditions and functions of each actor as "Area-capability".

2012 – 2016



Desertification and Livelihood in Semi-Arid Afro-Eurasia

Project Leader **TANAKA Ueru**

This project identifies the social, cultural and ecological characteristics of livelihood in Semi-Arid Afro-Eurasia and adaptation strategies related to desertification. It re-examines techniques and approaches to desertification control and rural development assistance, and seeks feasible and practical solutions to encourage improved livelihood security for people living in fragile semi-arid environments.



Photo : Haruka Shinkura

2012 – 2016



Creation and Sustainable Governance of New Commons through Formation of Integrated Local Environmental Knowledge (ILEK project)

Project Leader **SATO Tetsu**

This project studies and develops processes of local knowledge production and circulation in order to understand how community-based adaptive governance systems emerge and function. It examines and facilitates dialogue between scientific explanation and everyday ways of understanding, and it monitors how this knowledge changes as it is utilized at different points and levels of social networks.

2013 – 2017



Human-Environmental Security in Asia-Pacific Ring of Fire: Water-Energy-Food Nexus

Project Leader **ENDO Aiko**

Climate change and social changes are causing increased pressure on water, energy and food resources, presenting communities with increased levels of tradeoffs and potential conflicts among these resources. The purpose of the project is to design optimal policy to increase human-environmental security within the complexity of water-energy-food nexus system.



2014 – 2016



Long-Term Sustainability through Place-Based, Small-Scale Economies: Approaches from Historical Ecology

Project Leader **HABU Junko**

This project examines the importance of place-based, small-scale and diversified economies for the long-term sustainability of human societies. Archaeological, historical, ethnohistorical and paleoenvironmental studies will test our hypothesis that long-term community sustainability has been directly linked to community scale and food system diversity.

2014 – 2018



Societal Adaptation to Climate Change: Integrating Palaeoclimatological Data with Historical and Archaeological Evidences

Project Leader **NAKATSUKA Takeshi**

How have people adapted to abrupt climate change in the past? This project investigates the ways in which human societies in Japan have reacted to large abrupt climate changes since the Jomon era. Past climate variability can now be reconstructed with great precision in annual or monthly time resolutions due to recent developments in the analysis of palaeoclimatological proxies, such as tree-ring cellulose oxygen isotopic ratios.



Photo : Keiichi Oshiumi

2015 – 2019



Biodiversity-Driven Nutrient Cycling and Human Well-Being in Social-Ecological Systems

Project Leader **OKUDA Noboru**

This project develops a transdisciplinary framework of adaptive watershed governance that can link nutrient cycling and human well-being, and so improve social involvement in biodiversity conservation and environmental restoration. It also establishes new methods to evaluate how biodiversity contributes to natural nutrient cycles and inspires citizens to practice community-based conservation activities.

2016 – 2020



Lifeworlds of Sustainable Consumption and Production: Agrifood Systems in Transition

Project Leader **MCGREEVY Steven R.**

The FEAST project takes an action research approach to explore the realities and potential for sustainable agrifood transition at sites in Japan, Thailand, Bhutan, and China. We will analyze patterns of food consumption, food-related social practices and their socio-cultural meanings, and the potential of consumer-based agency to change deeply-held cultural notions and institutions. The notion of "lifeworld" captures the meaning behind the shared everyday lived experience of food consumption and production, and allows us to more deeply investigate and understand the "inner dimensions" that can catalyze socio-cultural change.

