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. 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 usually last five years plus two-three years of preparation; they are always interdisciplinary, including researchers from the natural and social sciences and the humanities, and they strive to offer solutions to the environmental problems under study.

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

Social Outreach

- **Events**
  1. RIHN International Symposium
     Each year RIHN holds an international symposium with leading scholars from around the world.
  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 SpringerNature and established the Global Environmental Studies book series. Titles in the series reflect the full breadth of RIHN scholarship.

- **Laboratory**
  Our laboratories specialize in stable-isotope analysis and a wide range of equipment is available for use by RIHN projects and outside users.

- **YouTube**
  We have a YouTube Channel for sharing RIHN research findings and events.

International Collaboration

Memoranda of Understanding and Research Cooperation Agreements (As of April 1st, 2021)

- **AUSTRIA**
  - International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

- **BHUTAN**
  - College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan

- **BURKINA FASO**
  - Association des Jeunes pour la Protection de l’Environnement et l’Allevage

- **CAMEROON**
  - Association Oiseaux
  - Association Tarn-Tarn Mobile

- **CHINA**
  - East China Normal University
  - Hainan Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Hainan Provincial Preventive Medicine Association

- **GERMANY**
  - Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies

- **INDONESIA**
  - Indonesian Institute of Sciences

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- **LAOS**
  - Vientiane and Public Health Institute, Ministry of Health

- **MYANMAR**
  - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Environmental Conservation Department

- **NETHERLANDS**
  - Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University

- **OMAN**
  - Sultan Qaboos University

- **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
  - University of California, Berkeley

- **ZAMBIA**
  - University of Zambia

Access

By City Subway
From Kyoto Station, take the Karasuma Line to Kōtsukaichan Station (the last stop), and transfer to Kyoto Bus.

By Izan Railways
From Demachiyanagi Station in Kyoto City, take the Kurama Line. Get off at Kyoto Sakaidai-Mae Station. RIHN is a 10-minute walk from the station.

By Kyoto Bus
From Kōtsukaichan Station, take bus No.40, 50 or 52 to Chikyu-kan. RIHN is at the base of the hill on your left.

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https://www.chikyu.ac.jp

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

Inter University Research Institute Corporation
National Institutes for the Humanities

2021-2022
Societal Transformation under Environmental Change

This program aims at providing realistic perspectives and options to facilitates the transformation towards a society that can flexibly respond to environmental changes caused by natural factors as well as social impacts. As part of this, the following projects are currently being conducted:

- **Project Leader: KODZAI Dzvusha**
  - **Title:** Environmental Change in Sub-Saharan Africa
  - **Focus:** Environmental change in sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on the interaction of social and economic development with environmental change.

- **Project Leader: VYSHORA Takhtanov**
  - **Title:** Research and Social Implementation of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction as Climate Change Adaptation in Shrinking Societies
  - **Focus:** The rate of natural disaster occurrences is increasing, partly due to contemporary climate change, and adaptation to natural disaster risks is increasingly important to the sustainability of human societies. The project aims to create an understanding for inter-disciplinary adaptation approaches.

- **Project Leader: HAYASHI Shigeki**
  - **Title:** An Interdisciplinary Study toward Clean Air, Public Health and Sustainable Agriculture: The Case of Crop Residue Burning in North India
  - **Focus:** The study addresses air pollution caused by large-scale crop burning in North India and November in the states of Punjab and Haryana in North India. The burning causes severe air pollution in the surrounding areas, most notably in the Delhi National Capital Region. The project aims to create an understanding for inter-disciplinary adaptation approaches.

- **Project Leader: SHINJU Ryoichi**
  - **Title:** Adaptive Governance of Multiple Resources based on Land-Sea Linkages of the Water Cycle: Application to Coral Reef Islands Systems
  - **Focus:** Natural resources in small islands have been affected by global and local environmental changes, and the project aims to explore how to strengthen adaptive governance of multiple resources in tropical and sub-tropical western Pacific, coral reef islands by integrating natural science research on land-sea linkages (linked by water cycle with those learning biological and cultural diversity and natural resource governance focusing on norms, institutions, processes and local-rooted linkages).

- **Project Leader: YAMAGUCHI Taishi**
  - **Title:** The Sanitation Value Chain: Designing Sanitation Systems as Eco-Community-Value System
  - **Focus:** The project proposes a new concept of a holistic sanitation value chain that addresses the complex and diverse needs of sanitation service delivery. The project aims to create an understanding for inter-disciplinary adaptation approaches.

- **Project Leader: KADEMTO Kachitsa**
  - **Title:** Mapping the Environmental Impact Footprint of Cities, Companies, and Households
  - **Focus:** Economic growth in developing countries is associated with severe global environmental problems, such as climate change and loss of biodiversity. The project aims to identify key sources of greenhouse gas emissions and to assess local policies and strategies that can reduce these emissions.

- **Project Leader: WONG, Grace Mien Yee**
  - **Title:** Fair for whom? Politics, Power and Precarity in Transformations of Tropical Forest-agriculture Frontiers
  - **Focus:** This project investigates how political and social transformations of tropical forest-agriculture frontiers driven by climate change and deforestation are leading to the production of new forms of precarity.

- **Project Leader: YAMASHITA Akira**
  - **Title:** The Sanitation Value Chain: Designing Sanitation Systems as Eco-Community-Value System
  - **Focus:** The project proposes a new concept of a holistic sanitation value chain that addresses the complex and diverse needs of sanitation service delivery. The project aims to create an understanding for inter-disciplinary adaptation approaches.

- **Project Leader: SAKABARA Masayuki**
  - **Title:** Co-creation of Sustainable Regional Innovation for Reducing Risk of High-Impact Environmental Pollution in Asia
  - **Focus:** This project aims to investigate ways to co-create sustainable ecosystems in transdisciplinary approaches. It seeks to address regional innovations in Asia such as open-source platforms generating high-technology, and strengthening environmental governance. Using theory and practice, the project develops transformative boundary objects (TBOs) and transdisciplinary communities of practice (TDCPs).

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**Co-Existence of Resources:** An interdisciplinary approach that focuses on the co-existence of resources in order to achieve sustainable and eco-friendly practices.