

## Comment Form 【FR4】

February 14, 2019

<b>Title of the Project</b>	<b>Biodiversity-driven Nutrient Cycling and Human Well-being in Social-Ecological Systems</b>		
<b>Research Term</b>	<b>FR4</b>	<b>Project Leader</b>	<b>Okuda Noboru</b>
<b>General advice and comments of the EREC:</b>			
<p>The Committee noted that this project is progressing steadily. The use of the watershed as the unit of analysis, the combination of quantitative analysis of nutrient cycling with local action research, and the strong community engagement were all widely appreciated. Important insights are also emerging and, as the project enters its final year, much can be expected in terms of publication of results.</p>			
<p>The Committee was interest to see how the project will address wider learning. For example, how to consider the broader historical, socio-economic context beyond the watersheds? How to expand the applications of the approach in other regions beyond the case study areas? How to draw lessons from two watersheds that represent very different development contexts? The typology of watersheds, human-nature relationships, and the appropriateness of different approaches, which the project proposes may help to explore this wider relevance.</p>			
<p>It was noted that the concept of fairness, a key word for the Program, did not seem to be taken up in the Project, even though it is of immediate relevance.</p>			
<p>The notion of “indigenous nature” drew considerable attention: how can this be meaningfully defined and what is the meaning of “nature” in the human-dominated watershed of Lake Biwa and Laguna de Bay?</p>			