



Photo: Kaoru Kikuchi

Welcome to RIHN News!

We are very happy to announce the start of our English newsletter, *RIHN News*. With this mini English digest, we will be able to share the recent research, publication and event news with our RIHN community. Hope you will get more interested in our research and activities and visit our homepage or contact us for further information.

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/index_e.html



Contents

Page 1:

What is New?

10-Year Anniversary Symposium

The 6th RIHN International Symposium

Inauguration of GEC-Japan Platform homepage

Page 2:

Volume Special:

2011 RIHN Open House:
Science-Society Interaction

Research at RIHN

Notice Board

Upcoming Events

Recent Events

Recent Publications

You can visit our homepage for further information on each events and news (http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/index_e.html)

You can also send us your feedback about our RIHN News and also share your questions, comments,

Contact:

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10-Year Anniversary Symposium



Panel discussion

2011 marks the 10. year of RIHN's establishment. Many events are organized during this academic year of 2011 and the biggest event was the Anniversary Symposium of April 20. Challenges for integration of global environmental studies were discussed with special focus on RIHN Futurability Initiatives and importance of international research collaboration.

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/topics/2011/symposium_110420_annai.pdf

The 6th RIHN International Symposium

RIHN International Symposium is organized for the sixth time this year during October 26 and 28 with the title of "Beyond Collapse: Transformation of Human-environmental Relationships, Past, Present and Future". Symposium is organized around five sessions with following session topics: new ecologies of disease, the case of the Indus civilization in terms of collapse, transformation of human society and environment in Central Eurasia and resilient communities in the semi-arid tropics.

<http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/event/international-symposium/06/111026-28symposium-e.html>

Inauguration of GEC-Japan Platform

Realizing the necessity for regional consciousness and accumulative dialogue for better acknowledgment of common challenges and opportunities of global environmental change and sustainability development, RIHN has initiated GEC-Japan (Global Environmental Change- Japan) platform in order to facilitate and promote institutional and research collaboration among Japan representatives of the Global Environmental Change Programs. Having its emphasis and starting point in Japan, the initiative endeavors to focus on establishment of sound and innovative research community to be the channel for Asia Vision on global change and sustainability development.

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



Upcoming Events

- **RIHN San-ya-ka-kai Initiative Symposium, The 2nd East Asian Anthropology and Ethnology Forum**, November 9-10, 2011 (RIHN, Kyoto)
“Ecological Sustainability and Wisdom in East Asia for the Future”

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/topics/2011/e-topics_111109_10.html

- **Planet under Pressure-New Knowledge towards Solutions**, March 26-29, 2012 (London)

RIHN Sessions:

1. Asian Vision on Transdisciplinary Sustainability Development and Environmental Research
(Day 2, Theme: Transforming our Way of Living)

2. Water: Integrated Assessment, Governance and Management in Changing Conditions at Global, Regional and Transboundary Levels (Day 2, Theme: Meetings Global Needs)

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/topics/2012/e-topics_120326-29.html

Recent Events

- **The 9th RIHN Regional Collaboration Seminar**, June 12 (Hokkaido University, Hokkaido)
“Looking at Eurasia: 20 Years after the Collapse of Soviet Union and Environmental Problems”.

- **RIHN participated to 2011 Stockholm World Water Week**, August 21-27 (Sweden), with our booth in exhibition area during the week and side event “Building Resilience to Tsunami Disaster in Asian Coastal Regions” (August 22).

- **RCC Workshop**, October 1 (RIHN, Kyoto)
RIHN hosted the Third Regional Climate Change (RCC) Workshop with collaboration of STS Forum Secretariat, IGES and RITE.

Volume Special:

2011 RIHN Open House: Science-Society Interaction



We gladly opened our doors to our neighbors, children, university students, researchers and other individuals who would like to know more about RIHN on August 5, 2011. This first Open House was organized by the Center for Coordination, Promotion and Communication with collaboration of all currently running research projects and administration department. Main purpose was to share a

typical day of RIHN with our guests and raise public awareness on environmental issues and how we can collaborate with society on environment by emphasizing our research focus on humanity-nature linkages. The program included a kids seminar on tropical rain forests and ecosystem, public seminar on real ground of research and researchers of RIHN, special project visits where guests enjoyed brief seminars and joint performances as well as experiments with project researchers, RIHN tour, stampary quiz on integrated environmental studies and environmental issues, wish tree on what kind of nature you would like to have in future and open space to meet RIHN researchers in their natural environment. Though it was a rainy day with just half-a-day organization, we were able to welcome 432 guests during our first Open House. <http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn/openhouse/index.html>

Research at RIHN

Human Impacts on Urban Subsurface Environments (Leader: Prof. Makoto Taniguchi, 2006-2010)

This project assessed the effect of human activities on urban subsurface environments, an important but largely unexamined field of human-environmental interactions. Subsurface conditions merit particular attention in Asian coastal cities where population numbers, urban density and use of subsurface environments have expanded rapidly. The goals of this project were to evaluate the subsurface environments of seven Asian coastal cities for such problems as subsidence, groundwater contamination and thermal anomalies, and to suggest how they can be addressed or avoided. Please check the project homepage for research results and publications.

→ **Recent publication:** *Groundwater and Subsurface Environments, Human Impacts in Asian Coastal Cities* (Taniguchi, ed., Springer, 2011)

<http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/USE/index-e.html>

Notice Board

Project Applications

- If you are interested in initiating a research proposal at RIHN, you can first apply with your proposal to be evaluated for Incubation Study.

Deadline for this application is usually end of March or beginning of April. For further details on research project application procedures and exact deadlines, please contact our office.

Contact: RIHN Research Cooperation Section, kenkyou@chikyu.ac.jp

Job Openings

- Please check our homepage for the recent and updated job openings.

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/index_e.html

Recent Publications

- RIHN Leaflet 2011

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/documents/leaflet/index_e.html

- RIHN Prospectus 2011

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/brochure/2011/index_e.html

- RIHN Annual Report 2009

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/annual_report/index_e.html

- RIHN Book Series: Global Environmental Studies

Island Futures: Conservation and Development Across the Asia-Pacific Region (Baldacchino and Niles, eds., Springer, 2011)

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/archive/publication/rihnseries_e/index_e.html