

Interim FR Evaluation (FR2)

Title of the Project	A Study of Human Subsistence Ecosystems in Arab Societies: To Combat Livelihood Degradation for the Post-oil Era
Project Leader	NAWATA Hiroshi
General advice and comments of PEC: The significant progress is made in the past two years, in particular for well-organized field surveys of the multi-disciplinary groups consisted of Japanese and local scientists. However, the research regions and topics seem to be spread over, and it would be expected to integrate all various results into a clear message in relation to the “post-oil era paradigm”. More efforts should be paid to strengthen the logical extension of ecological concepts of “ecotone” and “key stone species” within the context of anthropology and humanities, which would help to create the key components of the message. In regard to these issues, the leader is expected to be more determined to manage a big group of researchers for successful accomplishment of the project.	