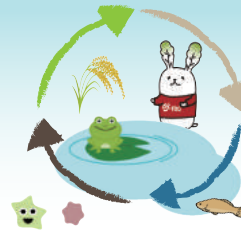


About Research Area

We conduct research in **Lake Biwa**, Japan, which is considered a biodiversity hotspot and **Laguna de Bay**, Philippines, where lake eutrophication is a serious problem.

What's **e-rec** ?

"e-rec" is an abbreviation for **ecological recycling**, defined as nutrient recycling driven by living things within the ecosystem.



e-rec

Biodiversity-driven Nutrient Cycling and Human Well-being in Social-ecological Systems



Southwest of Laguna de Bay is the Silang - Santa Rosa subwatershed, an area experiencing rapid economic development.

Domestic and industrial wastewaters flow into the river.

In the downstream area, the population density is high. Solid waste, eutrophication and biodiversity loss are some of the issues.

Chemical fertilizers from agriculture also seep into the ground and there are concerns about pollution in groundwater used for drinking.

In cooperation with local stakeholders and other researchers, we are working on pollution issues in rivers and groundwater.



Conservation of holy spring

In the midstream of the watershed, we are currently assisting the local community of Carmen Village for the conservation of Malindig Spring, a sacred place providing various services and many blessings to the local community.



Visit our website for further information!

http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/e-rec/index_eng.html



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Let's link community activities from local to watershed levels and with the **next generation!**



The **e-rec** project is cooperating with diverse stakeholders such as governments and researchers in the empowerment of local communities for conservation of familiar nature and sharing its values in order to realize a healthy watershed.

Lake Biwa

We are co-working with local communities to conserve familiar nature based on wise use and local knowledge.

We are trying to deepen human-nature relations as well as to strengthen community bonding through the conservation activities, which leads to enhancement of community-based well-being.



Conservation of familiar nature* can be important for enhancement of biodiversity and its ecological function to drive nutrient cycling in the watershed.

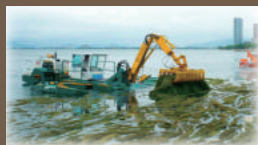
This project aims to make our watersheds healthy and vibrant with life through community activities, where participants feel worthwhile and satisfied through sharing values of familiar nature and expansion of these activities.

To sustain a healthy watershed for the future, it is important for human-nature relations to be interdependent, like gears.

* nature that is meaningful for live and livelihood of local communities

In the Yasu River Watershed of Lake Biwa, five community activities are supported for conservation of familiar nature from upstream through downstream to coastal areas.

Macrophyte Composting ⑤



Formation of a new community to recycle debris of overgrown macrophytes as local resources in coastal urban areas.

④ Lagoon restoration in Shina



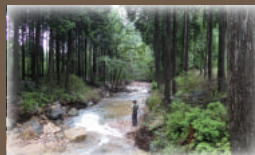
Conservation of lagoon landscape and rehabilitation of habitat networks between lagoons and the lake basin.



① Forest conservation in Oh-hara



Conservation of upstream forests in cooperation with downstream communities to establish link among forests, rivers and the lake basin.



③ Nursery rice Paddy in Suhara



Rehabilitation of habitat networks between downstream rice paddies and the lake basin to facilitate fish spawning migration.

② SATOYAMA conservation in Kosaji



Conservation of wetland biodiversity in terraced rice paddies through the practice of traditional eco-friendly farming.

⑤

Lake Biwa

Downstream ③

Yasu River

② Midstream

① Upstream



Our Activities

