

## Coordination

### Knowledge Networks

RIHN maintains a wide national and international research network, and utilizes various modes of collaboration with national and international research institutions. In addition to establishing the MOUs necessary to facilitate research collaborations, RIHN also provides opportunity for overseas researchers to contribute directly to the RIHN research community as either Invited Scholar or Visiting Researcher.



## RIHN Invited Scholar Program & RIHN Visiting Research Fellow Program

### Opportunities for Overseas Researchers to Spend Time at RIHN

RIHN has established two programs to enable overseas researchers to spend several months at the Institute, engaging in research and interacting with other RIHN researchers. The basic idea is that such visits benefit both the researcher and the Institute. The programs are open to researchers based outside of Japan (including those with Japanese nationality) and researchers based in Japan with a nationality other than Japanese. Candidates for both schemes are selected competitively.



- The RIHN **Invited Scholar Program** enables overseas researchers to spend between one and three months at RIHN and to contribute to the development of the Institute's intellectual foundations and strategic directions. Invited Scholars should be widely recognized in their fields and able to provide a strategic overview of the relevance of their disciplinary or interdisciplinary studies to RIHN's engagement in global environmental studies. Invited Scholars are selected based on nomination by RIHN faculty members who act as their host. Invited Scholars are employed by RIHN during their stay and receive a stipend.

- The RIHN **Visiting Research Fellow Program** brings overseas researchers to the Institute for periods of two to six months to engage in specific research in the context of one of the RIHN Programs, Projects or RIHN Center Divisions. Visiting Fellows are not employed by RIHN, but their travel, accommodation and daily expenses are covered by an allowance. Visiting Fellows are selected based on applications from the candidates themselves. RIHN faculty members act as hosts during the stay and candidates are required to identify and consult with potential hosts before applying.



## Science Communication

As a national research institute, RIHN is expected to conduct exemplary science. It also must communicate its research agenda and results to the public and contribute to public awareness and discussion of contemporary environmentalism. A number of public symposia, seminar series, and publications are designed to reach specialist and general audiences. Recent activities and publications include:

### The Earth Forum Kyoto and the Earth Hall of Fame Kyoto Award

The Earth Forum Kyoto invites world-renowned experts and activists to discuss the environmental and cultural bases of more responsible human societies. The Earth Hall of Fame Kyoto Award is given to those who have made exemplary contributions to the protection of the global environment. Organizers of the event are the International Institute for Advanced Studies, the Kyoto International Conference Center, and RIHN.

The 2019 recipients of the Earth Hall of Fame Kyoto Award were Ms. Mary Robinson (Former President of Ireland, Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights) and IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). The 2020 event was cancelled due to Covid-19, and the 2021 event is now under consideration.



### RIHN International Symposium

An annual symposium at RIHN exploring the key concepts of RIHN Research Programs.

RIHN 15th International Symposium was held via Zoom, while active discussions were conducted simultaneously via Slack. With adjustments to the symposium schedule to accommodate different time zones, this shift to digital platforms allowed many more people to participate in the symposium as speakers, and expanded the international audience considerably.



### Transitioning Cultures of Everyday Food Consumption and Production: Stories from a Post-growth Future

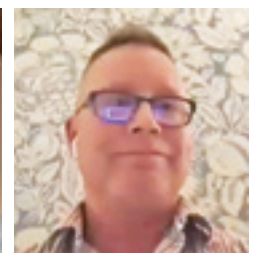
13-16 January 2021

#### Keynote Address

Overcoming the Problem Bias – Researching and Learning Sustainable Food Economy Solutions  
Arnim WIEK (Arizona State University)

Limits, Degrowth and Environmental Justice  
Giorgos KALLIS (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

Food Journeys: Encounters that Engender Empathy across Difference  
Michael CAROLAN (Colorado State University)





## RIHN Public Seminars

Public seminars are held throughout the year at RIHN or in the city center. Due to Covid-19, in 2020 it was impossible to hold any events for the general public.

## RIHN Seminars

This seminar series is oriented towards researchers at RIHN, inviting a wide range of visiting scholars to present their most current research. Seminars in 2020 were largely conducted via digital platforms, and included:

### Developing Transdisciplinarity for Sustainable Livestock Farming: A Cross-Fertilization of Concepts and Methodologies, with a Practical Application for the Water-Energy-Livestock Nexus

Cyrille RIGOLOTT, RIHN Visiting Research Fellow/UMR Territoires  
7 October, 2020

### Our Earth: A Planet Created by Life. Rethinking of "How Human-Nature Relation Ought to Be?"

YASUNARI Tetsuzo, RIHN  
6 November, 2020

### Another Asian Drama: Growth, Resource Use and the Responsibility for Global Sustainability

SUGIHARA Kaoru, RIHN  
11 December, 2020

### Is There Something Like a Kyoto (RIHN) "School" of Transdisciplinarity? Impressions from a Three Months Investigation

Cyrille RIGOLOTT, RIHN Visiting Research Fellow/UMR Territoires  
15 December, 2020

### Thinking About Human Evolution and Culture from Primatological Viewpoints

YAMAGIWA Juichi  
25 December, 2020

### Human-Environmental System: From Local to Global Sustainability

Chuluun TOGTOKH, RIHN Invited Scholar/Institute for Sustainable Development, National University of Mongolia  
6 January, 2021

### Future Design: Bequeathing Sustainable Natural Environments and Sustainable Societies to Future Generations

SAIJO Tatsuyoshi, RIHN  
19 January, 2021

### Living on the Planet of Water

TANIGUCHI Makoto, RIHN  
12 February, 2021

### How We Can Solve the Issues on the Fair-Use of Multi-Resources with Multi-Stakeholders

NAKASHIZUKA Tohru, Tohoku University  
26 February, 2021

### Sustainable Development for People and Planet

Chuluun TOGTOKH, RIHN Invited Scholar/Institute for Sustainable Development, National University of Mongolia  
11 March, 2021

## RIHN Regional Community Seminars

RIHN Regional Community Seminars take place in, and address specific environmental issues pertaining to, a particular part of Japan. Due to Covid-19, in 2020 it was impossible to hold any events for the general public.

## Other Events



**4th APSAFE Symposium** Supporting Sustainable Food Systems: Quality Food and Ethical Consumption  
December 3 - 16 2020  
ONLINE Individual Presentation via Slack & Google Meet  
Keynote Speech via Google Meet  
We cordially welcome researchers, students, policy makers, community activists, and practitioners! **Admission Free!**

Presentation and Discussion via Slack | 2 Weeks for Networking Opportunities | New Knowledge and Ideas on Food Ethics

Rebuilding and restructuring food production methods is inevitable if we hope to make food systems more sustainable. New technologies in agriculture, aquaculture, animal husbandry, and food processing have many potentials, and research results from various perspectives such as agroecology, resilience, human-animal relationships, drought, gender, and food sovereignty have many visions for future. However, none of them are a panacea. To tackle the wicked problems of the food system in each place, we need a platform for transdisciplinary mutual learning. We hope that APSAFE 2020 will be one of those opportunities to create such platform.

<https://www.apsafe2020.online/>

3 Opening Plenary  
Karl O. Thompson, Texas National University  
3-16 Individual Presentation  
Keynote Speech  
Paul & Thompson (Invited Presentation), Wei-Chi Chang (Invited Presentation), Steven McGreevy (Research Institute for Humanity and Environment), Ming Lam (University of Hong Kong)  
16 Closing Plenary



**食の未来**  
2020年 11月9日(月) 13:15~20:15  
つくば市役所  
コミュニティ・青年センター (地域連携推進センター12  
(京成つくば駅南口徒歩1分))

**食ベトーク (食と環境についておしゃべりしよう)**  
**つくばから食と環境を考える**

食料生産は必要不可欠な要素です。しかし、私たちの食生活は気候変動や水不足、食料不安などの課題に直面しています。食料生産と環境の両方を同時に実現するために、持続可能な食料の生産と消費についてお話しします。

開催に際しては持続可能な食料の生産と消費についてお話しします。

定員30名 (応募多数の場合は抽選)  
下記のウェブサイトからお申し込みください  
申し込み締め切り: 10月15日(木)

イベントウェブサイト  
<http://www.apsafe2020.org/>  
event@t2020.org (123226.html)

主催: 食の未来推進センター、食の未来推進センター、食の未来推進センター、食の未来推進センター  
共催: つくば市、食の未来推進センター

プログラム  
● 開会挨拶・趣意説明  
● 特別発表 (食の未来推進センター)  
● おいしい食と環境について  
● 食の未来 (食の未来推進センター)  
● 地域内の食に関する考え方のグループワーク  
● ロスを生かす食 (ロス削減推進センター)  
● 食の未来 (食の未来推進センター)  
● 持続可能な食についてグループディスカッション  
● 閉会

※ 新型コロナウイルスの感染拡大防止のため、オンライン開催となる可能性があります。

開催趣意書・問い合わせ先  
食の未来推進センター 食の未来推進センター 食の未来推進センター  
〒305-8604 茨城県つくば市東谷3-1-3  
E-mail: toba-tohku@naffrc.go.jp



**The 1st Workshop**  
**Food Life History of the North:**  
*Traditional and Current Issues in Preservation/Storage Practices Using Natural Freezing Energy in Japan, Siberia, and Alaska*

Dates and Times:  
Day 1: Siberia and Japan Sessions  
Nov 12 Thu 12:00~17:10, JST/Yakutsk (Nov 11 Wed 18:00~23:10 AKST)  
Please register in advance for the meeting to receive the Zoom link  
<https://alaska.zoom.us/join/register/1Zwtf-ivpkiE9R/AsnYhJNjOG4grof1X1C>

Day 2: Alaska Session  
Nov 13 Fri 9:00~13:00, JST/Yakutsk (Nov 12 Thu 15:00~19:00 AKST)  
Please register in advance for the meeting to receive the Zoom link  
[https://alaska.zoom.us/join/register/1ZAkceupzkiHtyn63\\_jipH6ub55j0c1s2](https://alaska.zoom.us/join/register/1ZAkceupzkiHtyn63_jipH6ub55j0c1s2)

Contact Kazuyuki Saito for further information  
ksaito@jamstec.go.jp

An underground cache near Yakutsk

## Environmental Isotope Study

As an Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, RIHN maintains state-of-the-art laboratories, with a central emphasis on stable-isotope analysis.

In 2012, RIHN established the “Environmental Isotope Study” cooperative research program that promotes understanding of the utility of stable isotope analysis in contemporary environmental studies and enables collaboration with researchers from other universities and research institutes. RIHN's laboratories are widely used by external researchers and students, and more than one hundred universities or research institutes within and outside of Japan have utilized our up-to-date isotope research facilities so far. We hold an annual training course in August, and organize an annual symposium on environmental isotope study in December in order to create a national and international research network for the next generation and support environmental isotope studies around the world.

From 2020, we started a follow-up project (Post Core Project) entitled “Applied research platform based on environmental traceability” to apply the methodology to environmental research, collaborating with various stakeholders.

The tenth symposium was held online under the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Future Earth

RIHN hosts the Future Earth Asia Regional Center (<https://asiacenter.futureearth.org/>), that supports development of Future Earth in the region, helps connect researchers and other stakeholders, and facilitates the formation of regionally relevant and credible governance structures for the initiative. The Center has convened a Regional Advisory Committee to accelerate the regional development of Future Earth and collaborated in supporting various Future Earth programs focused in Asia: Monsoon Asia Integrated Research for Sustainability – Future Earth (MAIRS-FE), Sustainability Initiative in the Marginal Seas of South and East Asia (SIMSEA) and Health Investigation and Air Sensing for Asian Pollution (Hi-ASAP). The Center supports the Knowledge-Action Network on “Systems of Sustainable Consumption and Production” (<https://sscp.futureearth.org/>), hosts the TERRA School, a course on Transdisciplinarity for Early career Researchers in Asia and facilitates Science-Based Pathways for Sustainability initiatives in the region.



TERRA School participants went through lectures and interactive group works using Miro and other online platforms. On the last day of the program, each group presented a proposal for a transdisciplinary research project.



Future Earth Asia Regional Centre Website: A map of the Future Earth Community in Asia has been developed. This map shows people and institutions in the region that are actively engaged in Future Earth activities. (<https://asiacenter.futureearth.org/>)

The Future Earth KAN-SSCP International Mini Conference “COVID-19 and Sustainability Transitions” was held online on 27 May 2020. More than 150 researchers and practitioners participated from all over the world.

## Environmental Education

This unit promotes environmental education for public school students from primary to secondary levels. It coordinates school tours to RIHN, where students visit laboratories and research project workspaces, and can speak directly with lab technicians and scientists of many different disciplines and specializations. It also conducts teacher-training activities in order to convey updated perspectives and methods in environmental science.

The practice of environmental education also stimulates RIHN to revisit its own practices in global environmental science. Environmental education therefore plays an important part in RIHN's mission to work with different social actors—from individual students and teachers, to entire schools and school districts, and beyond—to develop knowledge that enhances public understanding of and engagement with the contemporary environment.



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## RIHN Open House

Each summer RIHN holds an annual Open House in which RIHN research rooms and laboratories are opened to the public. Research projects and Institute staff develop games and exercises for both children and adults in order to invite creative thought about contemporary environmental issues. The RIHN Open House has proven particularly attractive to families with young children, with up to 900 people from the surrounding community participating on average each year. In 2020 it was impossible to hold an open public house under corona conditions, so the Open House was held online for the first time. Though it was a challenge to reorganize the event for virtual platforms, RIHN has turned the pandemic conditions into the opportunities to have gained valuable experience in the new approaches to community engagement required.





## Ecohealth

### New Development of Ecohealth Research in Asia

This project is a collaboration with the National Museum of Ethnology and the National Institute of Japanese Literature, supported by the National Institutes for the Humanities. It adopts an Ecohealth approach that places human health in a wider ecosystem context and explores the linkages among livelihoods, food and subsistence, ecological environment and demographic and social change in Asia.



Through historical examination of concepts of health in East Asia and contemporary fieldwork in communities in Laos, China and Japan experiencing rapid demographic change, the project aims to move beyond disease-oriented understandings to a holistic and positive appreciation of health in specific contexts and places.

2nd Asia Forum on Ecohealth Research  
(Organized by NIHU Multidisciplinary Collaborative Project Ecohealth Research, Hainan Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Eco-health & Human Ecology Committee, the Ecological Society of China in Hainkou City, China, Nov 2019)

## Interactive Communication Initiative

This NIHU-RIHN initiative seeks to improve environmental communication through creative visualization projects. It uses transdisciplinary methods to develop a range of visualization exercises and techniques, including videos and exhibitions, that improve bi-directional communication

about the nature of environmental problems. Visualizations thus provide an opportunity to improve the methods of transdisciplinarity, and to co-design sustainable futures based on a holistic understanding of people, societies, and the natural environment.



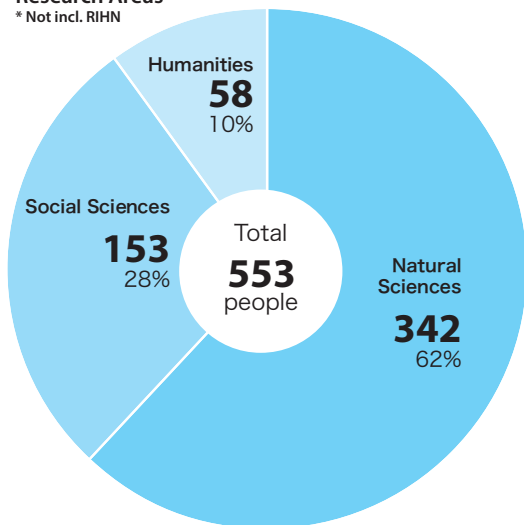
A model of a school lunch of the year 2050 (courtesy of Maximilian SPIEGELBERG).



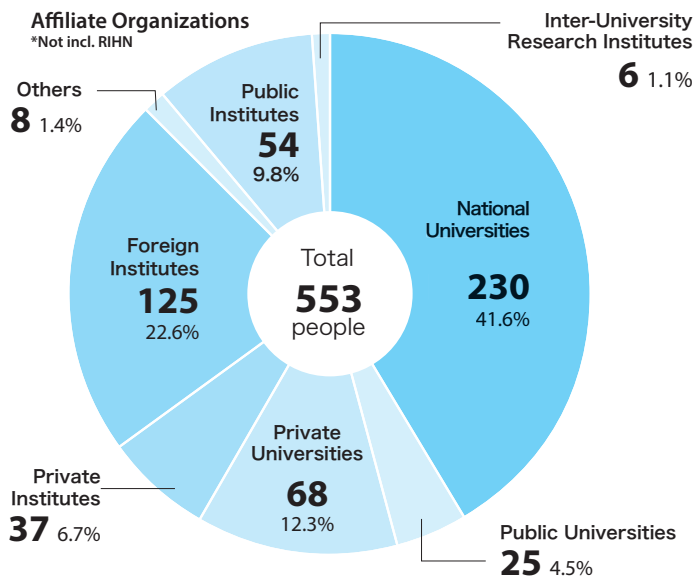
A short movie titled *Mountains, Water and People* (courtesy of YOSHIDA Takehito and Mikhail LYLOV)

## Collaboration

**Research Areas**  
\* Not incl. RIHN



**Affiliate Organizations**  
\*Not incl. RIHN



\*As of March 31st, 2021

### Collaboration in Japan \*As of May 1st, 2021

#### Research Institutions

Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University  
 Doshisha University  
 Nagasaki University  
 Kyoto Sangyo University  
 Tottori University of Environmental Studies  
 Kyoto University  
 Center for Environmental Remote Sensing, Chiba University  
 Institute of Nature and Environmental Technology, Kanazawa University  
 Faculty of Engineering, GI-CoRE, Faculty of Health Sciences, Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University  
 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo  
 Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University  
 Faculty of Collaborative Regional Innovation, Ehime University  
 Kyoto Seika University  
 The Institute of Statistical Mathematics  
 Nara Women's University  
 University of the Ryukyus

#### Municipal Governments and Other Agencies

Saijo City (Emime Prefecture)  
 Kyoto Municipal Science Center for Youth  
 Food and Agricultural Materials Inspection Center (FAMIC)  
 Ono City (Fukui Prefecture)  
 Kameoka City (Kyoto Prefecture)  
 Kyoto Prefectural Hokuryo Senior High School  
 Kyoto Prefectural Rakuho Senior High School  
 Miyazaki Prefecture  
 Noshiro City (Akita Prefecture)  
 Kyoto City, ICLIEI Japan, Kyoto Environmental Activities Association  
 Kyoto Institute, Library and Archives  
 Oshino Village (Yamanashi Prefecture)  
 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto City

### International Collaboration \*As of May 1st, 2021

#### AUSTRIA

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

#### BHUTAN

College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan

#### BURKINA FASO

l'Association des Jeunes pour la Protection de l'Environnement et d'Elevage

#### CAMEROON

Association Tam-Tam Mobile mutcare  
 Association Okani

#### CHINA

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

#### GERMANY

Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies

#### INDONESIA

Indonesian Institute of Sciences  
 Institut Teknologi Bandung  
 Research Center for Biology, Indonesian Institute of Sciences  
 The State University of Gorontalo  
 Universitas Riau  
 University of Lampung

#### LAOS

Lao Tropical and Public Health Institute, Ministry of Health

#### MYANMAR

Network Activities Group  
 Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation,  
 Environmental Conservation Department

#### NETHERLANDS

Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University

#### OMAN

Sultan Qaboos University

#### SWEDEN

Stockholm Resilience Centre at Stockholm University

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

University of California, Berkeley

#### ZAMBIA

University of Zambia



## Institutional Research Unit

The Institutional Research (IR) Unit supports the RIHN Council of Research Strategy in developing and coordinating RIHN's research, education, and coordination strategies. The IR Unit collects and analyzes a wide range of data relating to research results, research quality, research organization, education and capacity building,

contribution to society and international collaboration and dissemination. Based on this, the IR Unit develops decision support tools for RIHN, analyzing current research trends and methods, and developing new research evaluation indicators tailored to the evaluation of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research.

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## Public Relations Unit

The Public Relations (PR) Unit supports the dissemination and sharing of RIHN research methods and results. In collaboration with RIHN researchers, it engages the general public in a range of public events, including the RIHN Open House. It runs the RIHN website and social media, and issues press releases and organizes press conferences. The PR Unit also produces a range of publications,

including the RIHN Prospectus and Newsletter, as well as two book series in Japanese for specialized and general public audiences. In fostering a lively two-way communication between the research community and the general public, the PR Unit strives to contribute to the RIHN identity and to the maintenance of an open institute.

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## International Publications Unit

The International Publications Unit (IPU) promotes non-Japanese language publications that convey RIHN's approach to contemporary environmental research in high-visibility fora. RIHN has partnered with SpringerNature and established the Global Environmental Studies book series. Titles in the series reflect the full breadth of RIHN scholarship and, with the help of the IPU, one new volume

has been published in 2021 and there is more to come. The IPU also has special interest in the journal *Global Sustainability* (Cambridge University Press), with two RIHN professors, as Section Editors, in charge of the collection of "Humanities and Global Sustainability". In addition, it helps promote the journal's connections with Asia.



Above: ABE Ken-ichi, Waiting for a flock of sheep, Cévennes, France

Bottom: WIN THIRI KYAW, Health assessment: Checking "Babinski reflex" to a miner, Myanmar