Comment Form [Core FS]

February 5, 2020

Title of the Study	Methods and Tactics to Foster Knowledge Co-creation: A Practical		
	Framework for Implementing Transdisciplinary Research		
Research Term	Core FS	FS Manager	ONISHI Yuko

General advice and comments of the EREC:

The proposal addresses a topic of high relevance and importance to RIHN. It is based on a fairly comprehensive review of the literature on transdisciplinarity and during the Feasibility Study phase the project has also begun to engage with a number of past and ongoing RIHN research projects. The Committee emphasized the importance of reflection on transdisciplinarity for RIHN, as this has been a key element of the Institute's approach to research. There is a continuous need to build on RIHN experiences and to synthesize these in ways that enable further development and wide sharing of this approach. As such, this proposal fits well with the Core Program and can be expected to make an important contribution to the Institute. The connection with capacity building will facilitate continued application of the project's findings.

As the project will be mostly focusing on bringing together and summarizing existing knowledge (from the literature on transdisciplinarity and from the experience of RIHN projects), it was unclear where it will be making an original or innovative contribution. As the team becomes more familiar with transdisciplinary theory and practice, it is expected that more creative insights will also emerge. So far, the project is primarily based on analysis of published articles which may tend to draw a rather positive picture. There is also a need for learning from less successful examples.

The overall perspective of the project is largely academic and it views transdisciplinary engagement primarily from the researchers' angle, with the knowledge to be developed by the project to come mostly from academic publications and researchers' experiences. As the project gets started, it will be important to develop a more inclusive view of transdisciplinarity as co-creation based on mutual learning. In this process, knowledge and experience held by stakeholders should occupy a central place.

In sum, while noting that further conceptual development is still expected, the Committee recommends the project for selection as a Core Full Research Project.