

**Project Researcher or Senior Project Researcher [Contracted Employee],  
Sustain-N-able Project, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN), Kyoto  
1 position**

Work location

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, 457-4 Kamigamo Motoyama, Kita-ku, Kyoto-shi, Kyoto 603-8047 Japan

Job Description

The RIHN Project “Towards Sustainable Nitrogen Use Connecting Human Society and Nature” (Sustain-N-able) (Leader: Professor Kentaro Hayashi) aims at elucidating unknowns of natural nitrogen cycling, quantifying nitrogen loss to the environment and its impacts, evaluating benefits and threats of nitrogen use and effects of countermeasures and behavior changes, and designing our sustainable nitrogen use in the future. The successful candidate is expected to perform the following tasks.

- 1) In the Natural Cycling Unit (biogeochemistry, isotopic chemistry, soil science etc.), implementing research on nitrogen cycling in terrestrial water and coastal zone and impacts of human activities by means of field survey, laboratory experiments, and data analysis. Collaborative studies with the other three research units (Human Society, Economic Evaluation, and Future Design Units) are also conducted. The following are example of required activities;
  - Elucidation of nitrogen dynamics from forests to coasts: Implementing research on ecosystem functions related to nitrogen cycling in forest, lakes, and coasts (e.g., denitrification, nitrous oxide fluxes, primary production), impacts of human-induced nitrogen loads to the ecosystems, and watershed-scale nitrogen dynamics by means of field survey, laboratory experiments, and stable isotopic analysis, etc.
  - Collaborative analysis: Providing the necessary environmental information and data on the nitrogen cycling mentioned above (e.g., quantitatively evaluated the denitrification potential of sediments and soils usable for model parameters, materials to explain the natural cycling of nitrogen in an easy-to-understand manner) in collaboration with model analysis and outreach activities of the other three research units.
- 2) Promoting transdisciplinary studies with stakeholders relevant to the nitrogen issue.
- 3) Supporting symposiums, research meetings, and outreaching activities organized by the Sustain-N-able Project.

Qualifications

- 1) PhD or equivalent, having the ability to carry out research on his/her own.
- 2) Experience in survey and analysis in the field of the Natural Cycling Unit.
- 3) Data processing skills using data analysis software.
- 4) Willingness to engage in joint research with researchers in other fields and practical research with diverse entities in society and the community.
- 5) Desirable to speak, present, write papers, and communicate with overseas collaborators in English (and Japanese if possible).
- 6) Ability to cooperate with project members to promote smooth operation of the project and publication of research results.

Terms of Employment

From April 1, 2024 until March 31, 2025, renewable annually until March 31, 2028.

Working Hours

Based on the general working hours of Mon.–Fri. 8:30-17:00 (excluding the 12:15-13:00 lunch break), with discretionary employment system of professional work. Holidays: Japanese national holidays and 29 December–3 January.

### Salary

Daily Wage: 15,170 JPY (researcher position) or 19,220 JPY (senior researcher position).

### Other Allowances

Commuter Allowance, Rent Allowance, and Overtime Allowance (No other compensations, awards and termination benefits).

### Insurances

Health Insurance (Mutual aid association of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and the Employees' Pension Insurance, and the Labor Insurance (Employment Insurance and Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance) in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

### Application Materials

- 1) Curriculum vitae (with photograph, in the format of NIHU).
- 2) List of research achievements (categorized into theses, academic papers, books, awards, etc.; for co-authored papers, list all co-authors).
- 3) Reprints (photocopies are acceptable) of up to five major papers.
- 4) Experience and achievements in research and other activities related to the application conditions (Please include the fact that you meet the above application conditions. approx. 2,000 characters; if written in English, no more than one sheet of A4 paper; format is optional).
- 5) Describe your aspirations for the position (approx. 2,000 characters; if written in English, no more than one sheet of A4 paper; format is optional).
- 6) Names, affiliations, positions, and contact information (address, telephone, and e-mail address) of two people who can provide opinions about the applicant.

\*The above documents should be written horizontally on A4 size paper, and the names should be written on each separate sheet. In principle, we will not return the submitted documents. However, if you wish to have the research material 3) returned, please indicate so at the end of the list of research achievements 2).

\*The submitted documents will be used only for the purpose of employment screening. The submitted documents will not be disclosed, transferred, or loaned to any third party without a valid reason.

### Application Deadline

December 1, 2023 by 17:00 JST

### Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed based on the submitted documents. Based on the results of the application screening, interviews will be held at RIHN or online, scheduled on December 19, 2023 (December 20, 2023 as an optional extra day). Details of the interview will be provided to the selected candidates. Please note that we will not provide any travel expenses for the interview at RIHN.

### Address for application submission

Application materials be mailed to the address below. You can also submit via e-mail.

Address:

Kentaro Hayashi, Sustai-N-able Project, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature  
457-4 Motoyama, Kamigamo, Kita-ku, Kyoto, 603-8047, JAPAN

\*Please write "Enclosed: Application materials for the Researcher (*unit name applied*)" in red on the top side of the package and send it through recorded delivery mail.

E-mail:

kentaroh[a]chikyu.ac.jp ([a] should be substituted by @ when in use)

Please title your email as "Sustai-N-able Project, Researcher (*unit name applied*)".

\*When we receive it, we'll send you a confirmation e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail within 3 business days, please contact us via e-mail.

For any inquiry

E-mail : kentaro[h][a]chikyu.ac.jp ([a] should be substituted by @ when in use)

#### Others

\*The applicant who has excellent research achievements and is judged to play an important role in the project may be hired as a senior project researcher.

\*Travel cost (flight and per diem) will be provided for the relocation to Kyoto in accordance with the regulations of RIHN.

\*RIHN seeks to prevent passive smoking by prohibiting smoking in all our facilities except in designated areas.