## **Comment Form [Core Project FS]**

## February 17, 2017

Title of the Project	Proposal and verification of the validity of isotope environmental traceability methodology in environmental studies		
Research Term	FS	FS Manager	TAYASU Ichiro

## **General advice and comments of the EREC:**

This project builds usefully on the facilities and experience at RIHN with regard to stable isotope research and has the potential to engage with several of the research projects at RIHN. The Committee noted that the proposal has matured considerably since last year and found it ready to go to the next phase. In doing so, the following comments should be taken into account.

At the center of the project is an interesting effort to explore the use of stable isotope research ("multi-isoscapes") in a transdisciplinary context. The role of stable isotope research should be further identified, i.e. the choice of this technique (and not some other technique) should be an organic element of the project. On the other hand, the team appears to be strong on the isotope side, but less so on the social science side. Care should be taken to engage social scientists in the work from the very beginning to ensure that transdisciplinary engagement with groups of stakeholders is based on solid grasp of social science insights and fieldwork techniques.