

Comment Form 【FR3】

February 8, 2018

Title of the Project	Biodiversity-driven Nutrient Cycling and Human Well-being in Social-Ecological Systems		
Research Term	FR3	Project Leader	Okuda Noboru
General advice and comments of the EREC:			
<p>The project has shown excellent progress in the past year. The presentation formed a strong and coherent articulation of the project's goals, strategies and concrete research activities, elucidating the linkages between ecosystem services and human- and community wellbeing. The community-level action research is important and progressing well.</p>			
<p>At the same time, the communities live and operate in a wider socio-economic and ecological context – an open system – that requires more attention. The community-level approach as such is not particularly novel and it would be useful to position this experience in the context of work by others on watershed management in Japan and beyond. Comparing systematically across the two sites would also help the research move towards a more global perspective and reveal the novelty of the project approach beyond the local sites. Does the local governance approach developed in Japan also yield good results in the Philippines? How to include stakeholders beyond the local scale – in the Lake Laguna site these are powerful and have significant impact. Effectively addressing questions such as these will eventually allow the project to connect to the bigger picture of worldwide mineral depletion and inequity in resource use.</p>			