

Comment Form 【FR5】

February 8, 2018

Title of the Project	Human-Environmental Security in Asia-Pacific Ring of Fire: Water-Energy-Food Nexus		
Research Term	FR5	Project Leader	Endo Aiko
General advice and comments of the EREC:			
<p>The Committee noted with satisfaction that the project has made excellent achievements, working in the field in five countries, undertaking detailed fieldwork in Japan, making efforts at integrating very diverse efforts, and a producing a strong publication record. Progress has been particularly notable after the reorganization of the project some years ago. The project showed the value of visualizing the water-energy-food nexus, also in cases where connections among the elements occur underground and are thus usually invisible. It collaborated with local governments and other stakeholders, and developed scenarios that could eventually lead to policy options.</p>			
<p>The diversity of activities and the very wide scope of the project also have meant it has been challenging to integrate all the elements. The rationale for inclusion of cases was not always clear and comparison across the sites was relatively underdeveloped. The overall framing of the project was so broad that an entire program could be devoted to it. In most sites, the project explored the relationships between combinations of two of the three dimensions of the water, energy and food Nexus and thus the appropriateness of the overall Nexus framework was not always clear.</p>			
<p>Furthermore, despite the prominence of the WEF Nexus framework in the study, the concept remained somewhat vague and members commented on the need to define what is meant by nexus, reflecting international debates about these issues. A clear definition would have facilitated the measurement and operationalization of the concept in practice.</p>			