Comment Form [Core Program]

February 15, 2019

Title of the Program	Core Program
Program Director	Taniguchi Makoto
Program commonts summarias of the FRFC.	

Program comments summaries of the EREC:

The Committee found that the Core Program has made remarkable progress in the past year. Two Core Projects are now well underway, their leaders are doing well and are overcoming earlier limitations.

The Core Program is designed to play a critical role in RIHN and there may be room to strengthen its role in data collection and sharing. Furthermore, the EREC would like to see the Core Program play a more prominent role in mapping and synthesis of findings from present and past projects and thus contribute to developing the RIHN research agenda and exploring new areas of research. Perhaps the synthesizing role could be embodied in a separate Core Project that reviews past projects and reflects on ongoing and future projects. It was remarked that the Core Program is more than a program: in a way it represents the spirit of RIHN. However, it may be better to separate the Core Program from the identity building process of the Institute. Given their central role at RIHN, the Core Projects should be more closely linked in with the Program's agenda and reflect future plans.

The Core Program should look at transdisciplinarity differently: interrogate it, developing the methods and concepts. Transdisciplinarity is important for RIHN, but there is no need to emphasize transdisciplinarity for all Core Projects. For example, the Traceability Project might focus on isotope technology development. More broadly, it is challenging for the Core Projects to at the same time engage in reflection and develop methodology as well as do research themselves.