

## **Comments on the Core Program**

The process for advice will be broadly guided by the following criteria:

- The program has clear objectives, strategy and identity;
- The program provides individual projects with a sense of identity by offering novel perspectives beyond each project, and by seeking synergy between them;
- The program contributes to the implementation of RIHN mission through collaboration between programs and with other sections of RIHN community.

## **Core Program Comments Summary**

The Committee noted with approval that the Core Program has been progressing well and that, in spite of the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Open Team Science project was successfully completed and the Co-creation project has started. It emphasized that the core project themes are important for RIHN and pointed out that the projects should be well-resourced in terms of funding and time.

Beyond the individual Core projects, it was felt that the overall conceptual framing of the Core Program itself can still be further strengthened. With a stronger conceptual base, the Program could play a more active role in synthesizing RIHN research, in addition to developing methodologies. There was an expectation that the Program might catalyze discussions on new projects and project development and in order to do so, the Program's capacity might also need to be further strengthened.