

**Comments on Ongoing Research Projects except for those  
subject to Mid-term or Final Evaluation**

Project Year	FR4	
Project Title	Toward the Regeneration of Tropical Peatland Societies: Building International Research Network on Paludiculture and Sustainable Peatland Management	
Abbreviated Title	Tropical Peatland Society Project	
Project Leader	KOZAN Osamu	
Project Period	5 years Full Research	
Affiliated Program	Research Program 1 : Societal Transformation under Environmental Change	

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

While the Peatland Project's fieldwork was negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee found the project to be a very active one, with a wide range of activities in several places. The research is spanning multiple disciplines including history and anthropology in addition to engineering and natural science and a range of data collecting methods is employed. The investigation of land tenure was noted with approval. It seems that engaging local people around the issue of peat fires helped the team to assume a role as local facilitator. The team made good use of the time freed up by the inability to travel to Indonesia by working on data analysis and writing,

The project is now nearing its final year and attention needs to turn to synthesis, summing up lessons, and dissemination. What concrete results on the ground can be expected by the time of completion (fire control, rewetting, peatland restoration, etc.)? How will the project integrate findings across the disciplines and how to draw out lessons relevant to other places or higher scales? These are some of the questions for the coming year.