

Basic Policies on Research Activities of the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

Management Board, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

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The following basic policies set forth the basic philosophy of the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (hereinafter referred to as the “Institute”) and policies and procedures on research and other activities undertaken by the Institute.

I. Basic Philosophy of the Institute

The Institute carries out the following activities in pursuit of the creation and development of a field of study within humanity and nature that contributes to solutions to global environmental problems:

- 1) Promoting global environmental studies that, based on the accumulation of research by the Institute and domestic and international research outputs in global environmental studies, elucidates the interrelationships that ought to exist between humans and nature and investigates possible future forms of human culture
- 2) Promoting solution-oriented global environmental research through close connections with the research community and diverse stakeholders
- 3) Contributing to solutions through participation in and support of the initiatives of diverse stakeholders in actual societal situations that utilize research outputs.

II. Research Activities in the Institute

In order to realize its Basic Philosophy, the Institute shall strategically formulate research themes that ought to receive preferential treatment, institutional links, and future plans, based on an understanding of trends in global environmental research. On such a foundation, in addition to carrying out Program and Project research, the Institute shall engage in various activities for the integration and communication of the outcome of such programs/projects, and roll-out various research activities.

1. Research Under the Program and Project System

- 1) In order to realize the Basic Philosophy, the Institute will carry out collaborative research under the Program and Project system.
- 2) The programs consist of Core Program and three Research Programs, defined individually in the supplementary tables. Core Program is comprised of multiple Core Projects, which are closely linked to research projects and aim to establish a cross-cutting theoretical and methodological basis for the pursuit of solutions to global environmental problems through collaboration with society. Research Programs are comprised of multiple Research Projects that aim to create and present a range of alternatives for concrete transformations in human awareness/values and society through academic research and collaboration with society in the pursuit of solutions to global environmental problems. Individual Research Projects are established through a process whereby research themes take shape through robust discussion among researchers and groups in a range of academic fields, and are investigated in terms of both feasibility and compatibility with the basic philosophy of the Institute. Furthermore, with regard to project selection, robust evaluation in line with the stage of the research

shall be carried out during the project by an External Research-Evaluation Committee (henceforth, “Evaluation Committee”) comprised of external domestic and international members, for research enhancement and in pursuit of transparency in research project selection. Specific evaluation implementation guidelines shall be set out separately by the Evaluation Committee.

- 3) Projects are the foundation of the research activities of the Institute. Rules regarding aspects such as the specific implementation process are established separately.

2. RIHN Center’s Research and Operations

The RIHN Center (henceforth, “the Center”) has been established by the Institute. The Center shall carry out the following research activities in the pursuit of the realization of the basic philosophy of the Institute:

- 1) Two-way connections with Core Program
- 2) Two-way connections with Research Programs and Projects
- 3) Two-way connections with academic communities in the form of inter-university research institute
- 4) Two-way connections with diverse stakeholders in society

3. Projects organized by the National Institutes for the Humanities

As a member organization of the National Institute for the Humanities (hereinafter NIHU), the Institute shall contribute to the creation of new academic disciplines concerning the humanities and proactively participate in the projects organized by NIHU to promote academic researches in general. Results of such projects shall be considered equivalent to the research outcome of the Institute.

4. Externally-funded research activities

The Institute shall acquire external funding for the purpose of enhanced research development and bridge-building towards social implementation in the pursuit of solutions to global environmental problems, provided that, any proposed research content must be designed so as to contribute to the realization of the Basic Philosophy of the Institute and efforts are made to utilize the outcome of such research activities for the broad range of research activities of the Institute.

Rules for implementation of externally-funded research activities shall be established separately.

III Co-Creation with Society and the Disclosure and Transmission of Research Findings

1. Co-Creation with Society and Social Implementation of Findings

Design and propose possible future societies with diverse stakeholders in society and utilize the research findings of such by engaging in implementation activities within society.

2. Human Resources Development

In the pursuit of solutions to complicated global environmental problems, human resources shall be developed that possess an academic perspective that integrates the arts and sciences and are able to lead initiatives involving collaboration across a range of fields, including public citizens, government administration, and industry. In the various locations working to tackle environmental problems, the Institute shall be a place for fostering professionals who independently drive sustainable activities and who possess broad knowledge in a wide variety of sectors in diverse regions, and who proactively drive the development of human resources within the Institute and support graduate education.

3. Disclosure and Transmission of Research Findings

For the purposes of planning and execution of Institute educational research and strategy, a range of data shall be collected from inside and outside the Institute and be subjected to analysis and visualization.

In addition to the disclosure of the activities and results of the programs and projects of the Institute, activities that enhance the public presence of the Institute shall be constantly pursued.

Core Program

<u>Core Program:</u> <u>Establishment, through collaboration with society, of theory and methodology for solutions for global environmental problems.</u>	<u>Closely linked with research projects, with the purpose of establishing a cross-cutting theoretical and methodological basis for the pursuit of solutions to global environmental problems through collaboration with society.</u>
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Research Programs

<u>Research Program 1:</u> <u>Transformation to a society capable of flexibly dealing with environmental changes</u>	<u>Propose concrete options in pursuit of transformation to a society capable of flexibly dealing with environmental change caused by human activity (including global warming and air pollution) and natural disasters.</u>
<u>Research Program 2:</u> <u>The fair use and management of diverse resources</u>	<u>Propose multidimensional options, which take into account relevant tradeoffs, to the diverse range of stakeholders involved in the production, distribution, and consumption of resources, in the pursuit of the realization of fair use, optimal management, and prudent balance of diverse resources, including water and ecological resources.</u>
<u>Research Program 3:</u> <u>Development of a sphere of everyday existence in which increases in wealth are realized</u>	<u>Work with government administration and citizens to propose a set of feasible alternatives for the improvement of living environments in the sphere of everyday existence, comprising urban and agricultural areas, and increasing wealth through mutual interaction between spheres of everyday existence.</u>