



Research Institute for
Humanity and Nature

大学共同利用機関法人
人間文化研究機構

総合地球環境学研究所

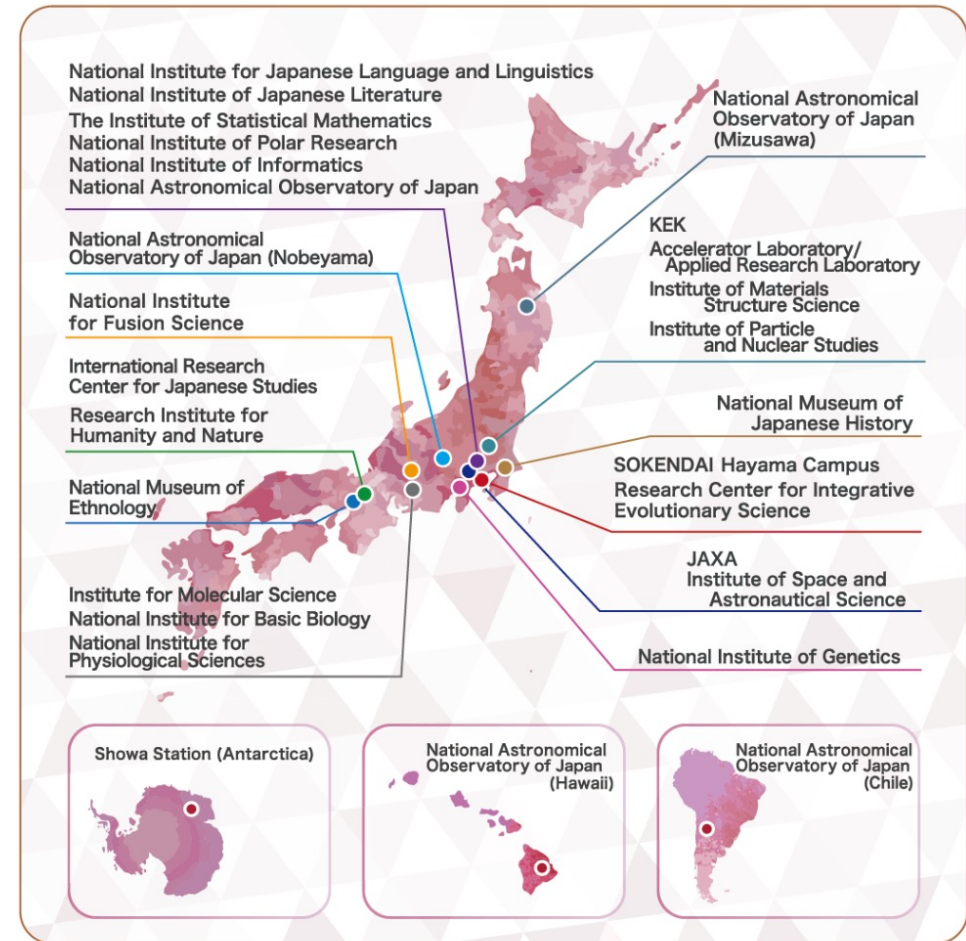
(Sōgō Chikyū Kankōgaku Kenkyūjo; RIHN; Chikyūken)



- Established in Kyoto in 2001 as a national **inter-university research institute** of Japan, under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)
- A constitutional member of the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU)
- **Conducting inter- and transdisciplinary projects** to address socio-environmental problems through a lens of **humanity and nature interactions**
- Launched a PhD program at SOKENDAI in 2023
- Visit <https://www.chikyū.ac.jp/> for more information.

Inter-university research institutes: Japan's unique research institutions

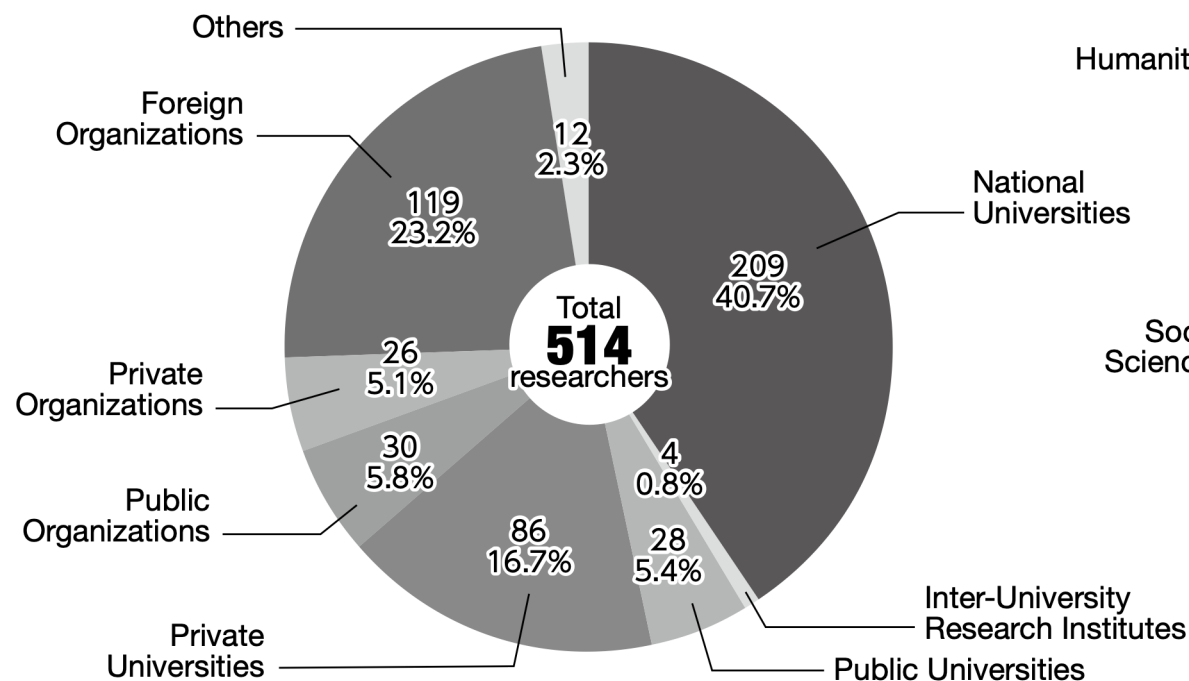
- Provide researchers from universities across Japan with resources that are not available in ordinary universities;
- Play a leading role in advancing scientific research in Japan through joint research; and
- Ally for graduate education at The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI.



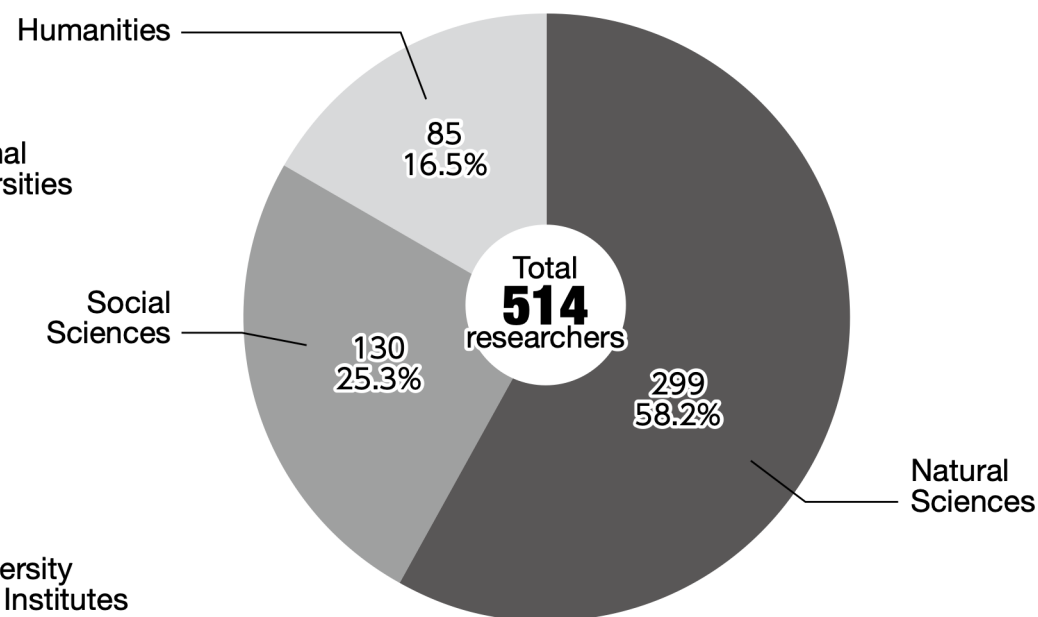
S O K E N D A I

<https://www.soken.ac.jp>

RIHN: Number of collaborative researchers (as of March 2025)



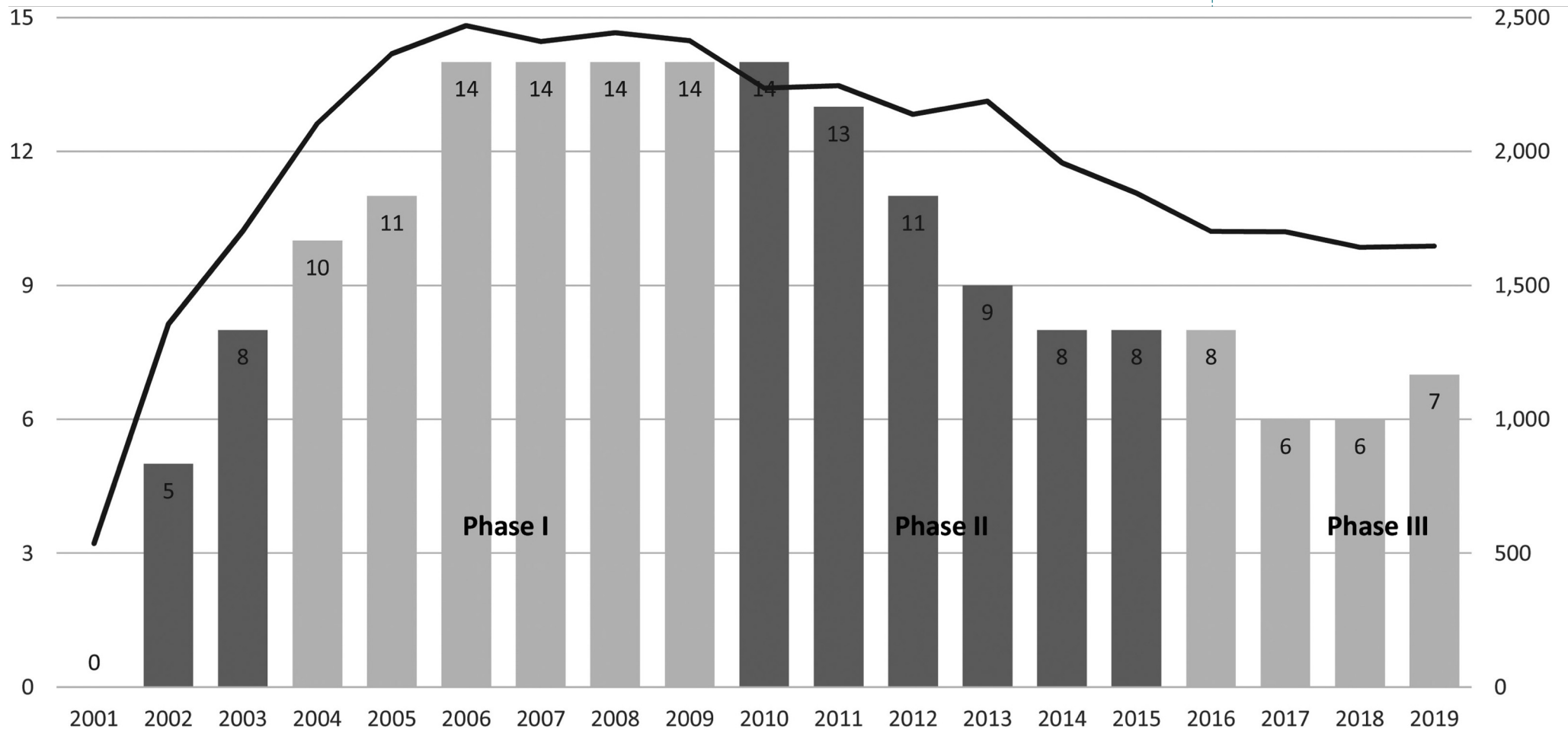
Affiliations



Research Areas

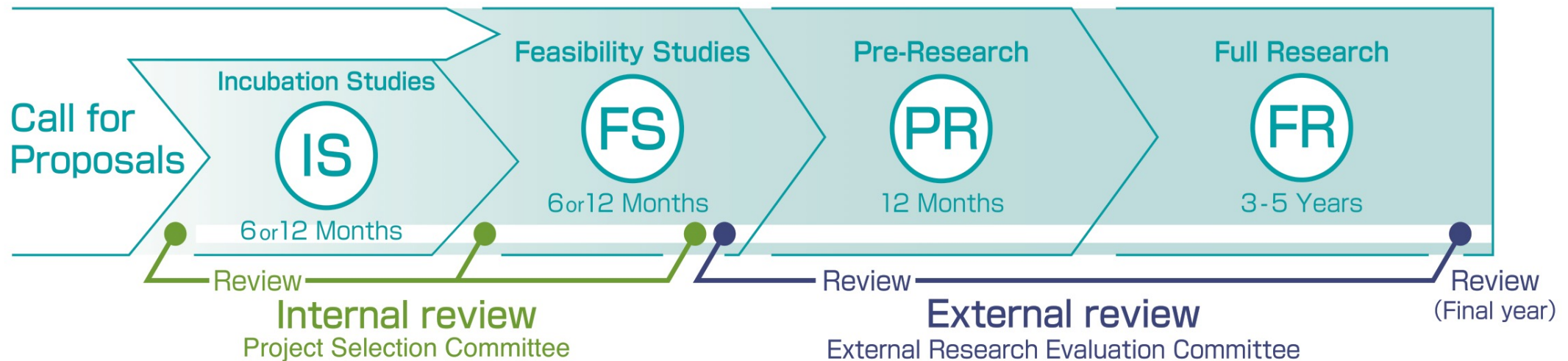
RIHN: Budget and number of ongoing projects per year

Income FY2025
JPY 1,426M (~EUR 7.66M)



Kondo et al. 2022 in Vienni-Baptista & Klein (eds.) <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003129424>

RIHN's current stage-gate system for project selection and evaluation



RIHN's ongoing transdisciplinary research projects

RIHN leaflet 2026

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Global Environmental Culture Program

Program Director: **MATSUDA Motoji**

Towards solving global environmental crises, this program strives to change our behaviors and values not only by advanced science and technology but also by combining science and culture.

Organic Material Circulation Project 2024-2028 **FR3**

Building up organic material circulation system among urban and rural area: Toward the integration of local perception and scientific knowledge

Project Leader: **OYAMA Shuichi**

Main Field Sites

Japan (including Kyoto and other regions),
Africa (Niger, Uganda, Zambia, Ghana, Djibouti)



Pearl millet growth by fertilizing sewage sludge. (Republic of Niger)



SceNE Project 2024-2028 **FR3**

High-resolution reconstruction of resilient indigenous lifestyle in environmental changes to future collective knowledge deduced from the fusion of science and arts

Project Leader: **WATANABE Tsuyoshi**

Main Field Sites

Japan (Kikai Island, the Amami Islands)



Performances of plays produced in this project. (Kikaijima)



Fashloks Project 2025-2029 **FR2**

Fair and Sustainable Hunting Management through Dialogues between Local Knowledge and Science

Project Leader: **HONGO Shun**

Main Field Sites

Cameroon, Colombia, Malaysia (Sabah), Gabon, Congo



An Indigenous hunter in Amazon, shouldering his shotgun as he traverses the rainforest. (Colombia)



Combining Knowledge for a Fundamental Innovation of Land Use Program

Program Director: **SHOBAYASHI Mikitaro**

This program, with interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, strives to fundamentally change land use in order to mitigate and adapt to the impacts on the global environment caused by socio-economic activities and changes in land use.

SATOCNN Project 2025-2028 **FR2**

Satoyama Reconnections: Engaging Communities in Resilient, Nature- and Climate-positive Land Use Futures

Project Leader: **DWYER, Janet**

Main Field Sites

United Kingdom, Europe (Portugal, Sweden),
Switzerland, Japan



Landscape of a project study site, showing enclosed inbye farmland and common moorland. (Chagford, Dartmoor)



Pluriverse Project 2026-2030 **FR1**

Pluriversal Land Use: Exploring Institutions, Values and Worldviews

Project Leader: **TAMURA Norie**

Main Field Sites

Japan (Kyoto, Hyogo, Tokushima, Ehime, Nagano, Shiga)



Concept graphic for the Pluriverse Project "A paddy landscape where all life co-exists and thrives"
© AOI Landscape design



※ **FR1** Indicates the first year of FR (Full Research)

Since its establishment in 2001, RIHN has carried out 53 research projects.

Some projects have involved more than 150 researchers. To date, more than 4,000 researchers have been involved in RIHN projects.

For detailed information on current and completed projects, please visit the RIHN website.

https://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn_e/activities/project/



Co-creation of the Earth-human System Program

Program Director: **TANIGUCHI Makoto**

This program strives to understand the various thresholds and linkages in the earth-human system, and to transform the relationship between humanity and nature for the sustainable future.

LINKAGE Project 2022-2026 **FR5**

Adaptive Governance of Multiple Resources Based on Land-Sea Linkages of the Water Cycle: Application to Coral Reef Island Systems

Project Leader: **YASUMOTO Jun**

Main Field Sites

Japan (Ryukyu Arc), Indonesia (Wakatobi Islands), Fiji



Investigating the environmental impacts originating from land-based sources. Field observation (Northeastern Viti Levu, Fiji)



Sustai-N-able (SusN) Project 2023-2027 **FR4**

Towards Sustainable Nitrogen Use Connecting Human Society and Nature

Project Leader: **HAYASHI Kentaro**

Main Field Sites

Japan and worldwide



Introducing the nitrogen issue at a public event in Miyakojima City, Japan



ECOIP Project 2026 **PR**

Towards an Ethical Economy: Addressing the Impacts of Commodity Trade and Consumption on Indigenous Land and Survival

Project Leader: **NGUYEN, Tien Hoang**

WEDiEA Project 2026 **PR**

A World Ecology of Disasters in Development in East Asia: Integrating Values into Decision-Making by Shifting Worldviews

Project Leader: **ITO, Takeshi**

Interviews to 9 completed projects revealed...

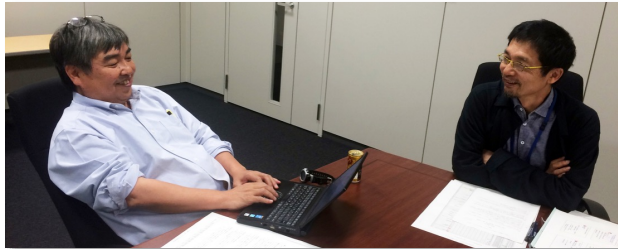


TABLE 12.5 Key factors of intellectual development extracted from the interviews

<i>Key factors</i>	<i>Project number (Table 12.3)</i>								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Setting boundary objects (3.1)	+			+	+	+		+	
Multifaceted viewpoints (3.2)	+						+		
Empowerment of early-career researchers (3.3)		+			+				
Scalable organization (3.4)			+		+				
Transition from IDR to TDR (3.5)								+	+

この地球で、どのように生きるのか



国立科学博物館 × 総合地球環境学研究所
共同企画展

どうする、 ニッポン

研究の現場から
地球の未来を問う

What Shall We Humans Do?
Rethinking earth's future
from research on the ground

07.31 FRI — 09.23 WED

国立科学博物館 (東京・上野公園) 日本館1階企画展示室および中央ホール
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE (UENO PARK, TOKYO)