

Preface

The Project ICCAP - Impacts of Climate Change on Agricultural Production System in Arid Area - is one of the research projects launched in April 2002 by the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN). We held the Kick-off Meeting for ICCAP in Adana, Turkey, in July 2002 to share common recognition of the objectives and policy of the project. Its outcomes had been published as the official proceedings and adopted to the activities after that meeting.

After the Kick-Off Meeting, we have been playing on the ICCAP pitch. In Turkey, the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) had decided to coordinate the research activities in Turkey, which is referred to the ICCAP-Turkey, and it was officially authorized as the RIHN-TUBITAK joint research project with the exchange of MOU. TUBITAK had organized the Turkish Team and is going to provide financial supports to the sub-research groups of it. This authorization of ICCAP in Turkey had enabled the Japanese groups to carry out the field observations in the Sayhan River Basin and other relevant sites in 2002-2003.

With the progress of ICAAP in Turkey, we held the International Workshop on ICCAP in the closing period of the first year, in Kyoto, the hometown of RIHN, on January 22 and 23, 2003, inviting many collaborators from Turkey, Egypt, Israel and the Japanese research team. Its objectives were to have research proposals from the foreign collaborators, to have interim reports of field studies of the Japanese team, to examine the implementation plan of ICCAP, and to discuss timetable of the joint research program in 2003-2004. This volume contains the papers presented at the Workshop.

In ICCAP, we have almost established the research framework and organization, especially for the ICCAP-Turkey. It is time to perform exact research activities in the established framework, or to play on the well-organized pitch. In the opening of the Workshop, I asked all participants to shift the ICCAP gear 'from framework to actual studies', 'from ideas to practices', and 'from well-organized to fantastic'. I appreciate not only the expected outcomes, but also something interesting, something exciting, and something unexpected. I believe the outcomes of the Workshop will surely contribute to continuous growing of the ICCAP.

Finally, I would like to express my special thanks to all participants in the meeting. My thanks should be extended to my colleagues of RIHN for their local secretary works for organizing the meeting and the field study tour in Shiga Prefecture and editing this volume.

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