

# Introduction to the Special Issue: Theoretical Perspectives of the Natural Resource-based Economies

Shun'ichi TERANISHI

## Abstract

This Introduction to the Special Issue: Theoretical Perspectives of the Natural Resource-based Economies explains the aim and outline of the new research and education project at Hitotsubashi University on 'Natural Resource-based Economies (NRE)' sponsored by the Norinchukin Bank which has been launched since the fiscal year of 2009.

The main task of the project is 'Policy Research for Sustainable Development of the Natural Resource-based Industries and Communities'. In the project we propose to understand so-called 'primary industries' such as agriculture, forestry and fishery industries and their rural communities which are mainly dependent on 'primary industries' as the most important parts of NRE which are supported by various kinds of the natural ecosystem services. The goal of the project research is how to establish the sustainable governance of the NRE.