

【Abstract of 2009 Grant – in – Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas
(Research in a proposed research area)】

Title of project	Pan Pacific Environmental Changes and Civilizations
Head Investigator Name	AOYAMA Kazuo, Ibaraki University, Faculty of Humanities, Professor
Abstract of Research Project	This project intends to construct a new historical paradigm “Pan Pacific Environmental Changes and Civilizations.” The objective of this project is to make a diachronic comparison of the rise and fall of non-Western Pan Pacific civilizations, including Mesoamerica, the Andes, the Pacific islands, and Southeast Asia. The environmental annual history and the rise and fall of Pan Pacific civilizations will be investigated by means of the study of annually laminated sediments, in order to bring to light their historical lessons and their implications for the modern world. The results of this innovative project will have important contributions to reconstruct not only non-Western centric but also the more global history of mankind and lead to a better understanding and amelioration of contemporary problems.
Term of Project: 2009–2013	