Interim FR evaluation (FR2)

March 18, 2008

Title of the Project	Human Impacts on Urban Subsurface Environments
Project Leader	Makoto TANIGUCHI

General advices and comments of PEC:

The project is proceeding well. The enormous amount of interesting and unique data should be analyzed to the extent that suffices the goal of the project. It is also recommended to safeguard the data raised in this project, by properly archiving them, so that they will not get lost, and also they can help other scientists with similar interest in the future.

The Project Evaluation Committee members made the following comments:

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Since the topic of the project is interesting and important, and the research design, implementation and achievement are so far outstanding, the project is expected to be conducted as planned. However, it is necessary to define the developmental stages of cities when you compare and synthesize the findings obtained from a plural number of examples.

［2］

This project has progressed successfully. In the coming years, more intensive comparison of the data sets between the cities is expected. If possible, the perceptions of the inhabitants about subsurface environmental conditions should be studied more.

［3］

This project group has good analytical skills for understanding human impacts on urban surface environments. Is it possible to use the analytical data on CFCs in water as an indicator of developmental stages? If so, it would be interesting to discuss relationships between CFCs and other constituents.

［4］

So far the research has been successfully conducted. The point of this research project is, however, to produce only a set of solid, comparable data for mega-cities in Asia. What further analyses can be developed from such data? The group needs to develop some strategic plan to enjoy forwarding their studies!

［5］

This program is very important for revealing changes in subsurface conditions from the

viewpoints of water, heat and material circulation. It will be also interesting to include studies on changes in subsurface oceanic conditions in the coastal zone. The underground footprint of the global warming signal was very impressive.

［6］

The hypothetical model of the relationship between load on the subsurface environment and developmental stage of the city studied should be brushed up. If urban development is carried out in an environmentally-sustainable way, the environmental loads to subsurface environments should be reduced. Policy and institutional aspects of urban development should be taken into account in order to explain differences in this relationship.

［7］

Well thought-out project, which seems to be progressing well.

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This is a well conceived project, managed also very well. But it will be very difficult to define a general scale for the developmental stage of any city.

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This is an excellent project with a high level of analytical achievement. It fits well within the aims of RIHN.

［10］

Fascinating, promising and useful. I have no specific comments.

［11］

A very interesting project, that has already obtained a number of valuable results. This project should have very high potential to contribute to understanding of global environmental change from the specific aspect of the sub-surface environment. This project can be expanded to study sub-surface environments in other areas underlying the surface, apart from cities, if we have such data.

Chairman Atsumu OHMURA

Signature

Members (as attached)