[Evaluation and Comment Sheet (Institutional Collaboration FS)]

- Proposal for Feasibility Study –

February 27, 2015

Title of the Project	The Post Modern Sanitation –Sanitation value chain for human happiness		
	and resources management		
Research Term	FS	Principal Investigator	FUNAMIZU Naoyuki

General advice and comments of the PEC:

The PEC appreciated the engaging presentation and the focused approach to a well-defined problem. It was felt, however, that the somewhat magnificent framing of the work as "post-modern sanitation" may be giving rise to expectations that cannot be realized in the actual research.

The relatively high-level pitch of the presentation meant that much of the concrete proposed research remained relatively vague. The use of value chains was highlighted, but not really further explained. The specific technology to be used or developed was not really elaborated either, making it hard to assess the potential effectiveness. This includes issues such as potential health threats from re-used waste. Similarly, the local-level fieldwork needed to make the ideas of the project work was not really described, leaving an impression of potentially weak field engagement, with limited understanding of community dynamics, stakeholders, cultural attitudes towards waste, etc. Finally, the Japan case was not really described, making it hard to understand the applicability of the ideas in developed societies. Similarly, the economic and logistical feasibility of the approach in large urban areas needs to be further demonstrated.