

Research Project FR: Mid-term Evaluation Comments Sheet

*This evaluation occurs in the second year of Research Project Full Research.

Project Title	Mapping the Environmental Impact Footprint of Cities, Companies, and Household
Abbreviated Title	Supply Chain Project
Project Leader	KANEMOTO Keiichiro
Project Period	5 years Full Research
Affiliated Program	Research Program 2 : Fair Use and Management of Diverse Resources

General advice and comments of the EREC:

The Committee was satisfied with the steady progress of the project activities and impressed with the publications in reputable journals, including timely work on COVID-19 and previously planned analyses of the carbon footprint of cities and households and of biodiversity impacts. The project thus provides important data for understanding the linkages between production and consumption worldwide at the city, company, and household levels in terms of environmental impacts such as greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity decline.

At the same time, the Committee asked what is needed for this important research to contribute to real-world change? There is not a single best answer to this question. The interaction with the PL during the EREC meeting, in which developing a smartphone app for consumers was mentioned, suggests that one possible direction could be to aim for consumer-level behavior change. Alternatively, the project might target company behavior or city- and/or national level policy processes with the insights from the research. In that case, the question might be how to formulate findings so that they are relevant and understandable to decision makers and through what channels to disseminate them? Regardless of what direction is taken, it will be necessary for the project to strategically think about its desired impact and plan for it, including allocation of time and budget and perhaps member composition.