

**Comments on Ongoing Research Projects except for those  
subject to Mid-term or Final Evaluation**

Project Year	FR4	
Project Title	The Sanitation Value Chain: Designing Sanitation Systems as Eco-Community-Value System	
Abbreviated Title	Sanitation Project	
Project Leader	YAMAUCHI Taro	
Project Period	5 years Full Research	
Affiliated Program	Research Program 3 : Designing Lifeworlds of Sustainability and Wellbeing	

**General advice and comments of the EREC:**

The Sanitation Value Chain project raises a very important issue and addresses it in ways that provide concrete links with the Sustainable Development Goals. The project's approach is relevant in both low-income country contexts where access to sanitation as such is a problem and in post-growth situations where financial realities make the maintenance of elaborate infrastructures increasingly difficult. The Committee found the project well-presented and progressing well, with strong fieldwork now complemented by more comprehensive conceptualization of the project approach.

It was noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and the political and security situation in specific sites affected the fieldwork of the project at a crucial stage – its fourth year. Nevertheless the project seems to have been able to maintain its momentum, in part through intensive communication with overseas project partners using online tools.