Proposal of the Global Startup Campus Initiative

Provisional translation

Expert Panel on the Global Startup Campus Initiative (November 2023 – May 2024)

Mission of the GSC Initiative

Become a "hub for the world's best innovation ecosystem."

- ♦ Create a comprehensive, global-standard research and innovation environment
- ♦ Drive behavioral change at universities and companies by boosting startups

Four functions of the flagship campus

I Research and development in the deep tech field

- Focus on the field of deep tech, which will create a strong social impact, although this will require time and money
- Set innovative research themes to attract talented young researchers and investors from around the world
- Provide young researchers with access to unrestrictive research environments, research capabilities of universities and financial power of companies

Realize a research incubation environment able to attract the world's best

Implement frontrunner initiatives

II Incubation and acceleration

- Ensure market feedback is gathered from companies and investors from the research phase; Provide support for turning R&D into intellectual property and businesses with an eye to social implementation
- Formulate an intellectual property strategy for maximizing social impact
- Strengthen middle/later stage funding by attracting overseas VCs

III Development of human resources

◆ Implement hands-on fellowship programs in collaboration with overseas institutions to develop researchers with an entrepreneurial mindset, human resources able to provide support for turning R&D into intellectual property and businesses, and VC investors

IV Community building

Invite deep tech researchers, startups, mentors, business stakeholders, VC professionals and Japanese professionals working on a global stage to build communities where ideas, experience and expertise, etc. are naturally shared

Provide support to set up a welcoming living environment for foreign researchers, etc. and a welcoming business environment for foreign entrepreneurs, etc. (utilize bold regulatory and system reforms such as the National Strategic Special Zones); Assign IP and legal experts; Make English the official language; Provide a research management system of a global standard

Conduct pilot research in the deep tech field; Disseminate information at international conferences, etc.; Develop human resources and foster international exchange through fellowship programs

Independent and sustainable operation

Top/Team structure

- Top management with experience and skills encompassing research, startup creation, and scaling-up after business launch, as well as global networks for raising funds from diverse sources
- A global support team comprised of researchers, business executives and directors with global practical experience

Operating organization

- Fund-raise from diverse sources, and set flexible and elastic research themes
- Flexible and dynamic governance that harnesses the power of the private sector

Facility

- The world's most advanced research and incubation function
- Attractive facility that is well-designed and highly convenient
- An interactive place where various kinds of encounters and exchanges are fostered