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Japanese Bankers Association

Revision of Japanese Bankers Association's key initiatives for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals

We, the Japanese Bankers Association (JBA), hereby announce that the revision of JBA's key initiatives for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (last revised on October 18, 2018) was approved by the the Board of Directors today.

1. Background and objective of revising the key initiatives

- In FY2018, JBA focused on activities to raise awareness across member banks, such as conducting member surveys on SDGs/ESG, releasing a survey report on loan policies and TCFD recommendations, holding a SDGs symposium and launching a SDGs report.
- The roles and responsibilities expected of the banking industry to resolve social issues are becoming increasingly important, as our society faces growing awareness over countermeasures of climate change such as effectuation of the Paris Agreement and TCFD Recommendations, and over aging society represented by discussion on the future of financial services at the Financial System Council's "Market Working Group." The banking industry, therefore, needs to further enhance its efforts.
- In light of the background noted above, JBA revised the key initiatives for achieving the SDGs and will implement them as FY2019 initiatives to further encourage efforts of the banking industry to resolve social issues.

2 . Specific initiatives (goal numbers referenced in the main items below represent the 17 SDGs)

Issues (main items)	FY2019 specific initiatives	
Issues (sub-items)		
1. Assessing the progress of initiatives implemented by member banks and providing various types of support measures for devising investment and lending policies (Common to all Goals)		
Responsible body: Working Committee on SDGs/ESG		
(1) Ascertain and assess JBA's initiatives (e.g., Surveys on SDGs/ESG)	➤	Assess the progress of member banks' initiatives by conducting surveys on SDGs/ESG considerations.
	➤	Prepare and publish a JBA SDGs Report 2019-2020.
(2) Reviews and research on investment and lending policy formulation	➤	Conduct research and surveys of domestic and overseas examples of investment and lending policy formulation relating to the environment and human rights, etc.
2. Promoting and expanding of financial literacy education (Goal 4)		
Responsible body: Working Committee on SDGs/ESG		
Promote and expand financial literacy education	➤	Ascertain and publicize updates on the progress of member banks' initiatives by conducting surveys on financial literacy education.
	➤	Strengthen activities geared at young people by using mobile apps and websites (conduct mass advertisement).
	➤	Continue with the implementation of lecturer dispatch on a nationwide basis.
	➤	Share current practices of member banks that may contribute to solving children's poverty problems, consider model practices of financial literacy education, and hold a study session.
3. Improving customer convenience and security through advanced payment systems and Fintech, etc/ (Goal 9)		
Responsible body: Working Committee on Payment and Transaction Banking, Working Committee on Efficiency of Tax and Public Service Payment		

Issues (main items)	FY2019 specific initiatives
Issues (sub-items)	
(1) Transition to XML message format	➤ Implement activities to increase the awareness of the Zengin EDI System, and to promote the use of financial EDI.
(2) 24/365 Operation of the Zengin System	➤ Implement an activity to promote the use of “Moretime System”.
(3) Open APIs Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consider updating the outcome of the “Study Group for the promotion of Open APIs”. ➤ Ascertain the actual initiatives for implementing Open APIs at financial institutions and provide information to member banks.
(4) Promotion of the Digitization of Bills and Checks Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement monitoring activities of the progress of digitization of bills and checks. ➤ Conduct dissemination and public relations activities related to the digitization of bills and checks.
(5) Deliberation on efficiency improvements in the collection and payment of taxes and public dues	➤ Conduct dissemination and public relations activities for improving the efficiency of collection and payment of taxes and public dues.
<p>4. Researching on and responding to the TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures) Recommendations and other environmental issues towards realization of a de-carbon society (Goals 12, 13 and 14)</p> <p>Responsible body: Working Committee on SDGs/ESG</p>	
(1) Conduct a research on efforts relating to TCFD recommendations, etc.	➤ Provide information to member banks in light of developments related to TCFD recommendations, etc. undertaken by the Japanese and overseas banking sectors.
(2) Implement efforts related to environmental issues such as climate changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to conduct follow-up surveys on the “Commitment to a Low Carbon Society” and the “Voluntary Action Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society.” (electricity consumption units, recycled paper and eco-friendly paper purchase rate, and paper recycling rate). ➤ Ascertain the progress of member banks’ initiatives related to long-term

Issues (main items)	FY2019 specific initiatives	
Issues (sub-items)		
		<p>global warming countermeasures and support their initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ascertain the progress of member banks' initiatives related to the goal for plastic waste. ➤ Continue holding contests on eco-wall newspapers.
<p>5. Implementing measures to prevent financial crimes and money laundering, and actions to meet FATF recommendations(Goal 16)</p> <p>Responsible body: Working Committee on Financial Crimes, Working Committee on Money Laundering Issues</p>		
(1) Efforts to prevent financial crimes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to conduct "Surveys on Internet Banking Security Measures." ➤ Continue educational activities for the eradication of bank transfer scams.
(2) Measures to accommodate the FATF 4th round of mutual evaluations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Actions to respond to the FATF 4th round mutual evaluations. ➤ Support member banks to establish a framework through the AML/CFT Measure Support Division. ➤ Enhance public and private sector collaboration through the "Public and Private Sectors Liaison Meeting on Advanced Measures against Money Laundering". ➤ Implement public relations activities for customers on starting new customer due diligence measures.
<p>6. Promoting human rights including gender equality (Goals 5 and 10)</p> <p>Responsible body: Working Committee on Equal Rights and Working Committee on SDGs/ESG</p>		
Human rights measures including the promotion of gender equality		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hold lectures on human rights, contests and awards of human rights maxims. ➤ Prepare training materials related to human rights, and disseminate information related to human rights to member banks. ➤ Continue to conduct surveys on member banks' initiatives for promoting the workforce participation of persons with disabilities and publish the results of these surveys. ➤ Share information on best practices and efforts undertaken by individual

Issues (main items)	FY2019 specific initiatives	
Issues (sub-items)		
	member banks	
7. Implementing activities for regional economic revitalization and local invigoration (Goal 8)		
Responsible body: Working Committee on Balanced Lending Strategies		
Promotion of efforts at local invigoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct surveys on best practices and efforts undertaken by individual member banks and release related information. ➤ Collect information and provide necessary information to member banks through the public and private collaboration platform on the local community revitalization SDGs. 	
8. Promoting wider access to finance and financial services for the elderly and other users (Goal 8)		
Responsible body: Working Committee on SDGs/ESG, Working Committee on Financial Industry-related Laws and Public Finance Institutions, Working Committee on Equal Rights and Working Committee on Administrative Procedures for Deposits, etc.		
Promotion of efforts for wider access to finance and financial access services for the elderly and other users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement dementia supporter training courses. ➤ Hold lectures on related themes, etc. ➤ Prepare financial literacy educational materials for the elderly related to the extension of asset life expectancy and the adult guardianship system, etc., and implement dissemination activities. ➤ Communicate opinions from banking industry on the future of financial services in the aging society made by relevant ministries and agencies such as the Financial System Council (Working Group on Financial Markets) and provide information to member banks. ➤ Add new versions of different languages of the communication board. 	

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