

Social Contribution through Business

Policy on Initiatives Related to Management Support for SMEs (Basic policy concerning promotion of regional financing)

- ▶ As its corporate principles, the Bank strives to “Remain firm in self-driven sound management to develop in step with regional society by providing unwavering trust and superior comprehensive financial services.” By providing superior comprehensive financial services to regional customers, the Bank will work to contribute to the revitalization and continuous growth of regional society.
- ▶ To achieve this, in addition to its role as a provider of funds marked most significantly by loans, the Bank recognizes as an important issue the revitalization of regional economies through consulting that corresponds to the life stage of customers, which includes start-up and new business support, growth support, management improvement and business renovation support, and business continuity.
- ▶ The following three items have been defined as the “policy on initiatives concerning promotion of regional financing,” and the Bank will work to expand its activities in these areas.

Making Full Use of Our Consulting Function According to the Life Stage of Our Customers

- The Bank’s policy is to fully comprehend customer companies’ management challenges on business and financial terms by evaluating their commercial viability, and also to commit to fulfilling our consulting function in coordination with outside experts.
- In “supporting start-ups/new businesses, growth support such as development of sales channels and support for overseas expansion, and business continuity support,” we are strengthening our consulting functions through unified support from the start-up consideration stage until commercialization, various business meetings, and business matching, etc.
- In “management improvement and business rehabilitation supporting,” we further enhance our supporting activities for management improvement through integration among the Bank’s branches and headquarters to propose the right solutions at the right time, based on comprehension of the business content of our customers. In addition, we actively employ outside expert organizations such as REVIC and the Revitalization Support Council and various funds to provide more advanced methods of assistance in the management improvement and business rehabilitation supporting field.

Contributing to Regional Creation and Revitalization of Regional Economies

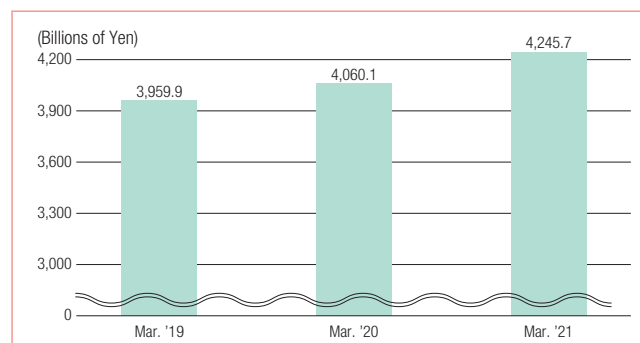
- By setting up a “Comprehensive Town, Person, and Work Creation Strategy Structure,” the Bank actively participates in each local government from the regional comprehensive strategic planning stage.
- In the strategy execution stage as well, the Bank continues to work in cooperation with local governments for regional creation via initiatives such as new business proposals and participation in business operation conferences that leverage its knowledge and networks.
- The Bank collects and analyzes various forms of information from the region, and actively promotes industry-academia-government-finance cooperation. In addition, the Bank is strengthening efforts to support the cultivation of growth fields and efforts to promote the region.

Actively Offering Information to the Regional Society and Our Customers

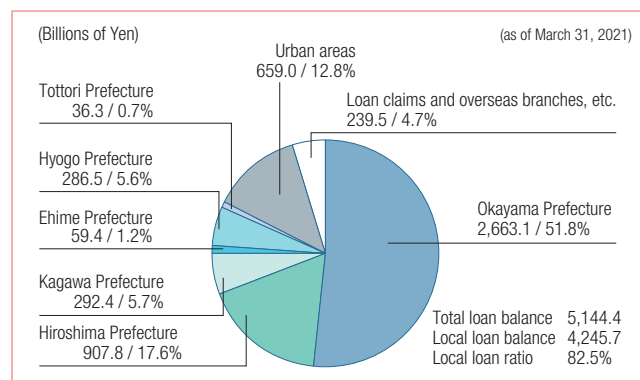
- The Bank actively offers information about specific activities and their results with regard to efforts related to community-based financial services. We will strive to improve our services even further in order to earn the trust and support of our regional customers.

Loan Balance to Regionals

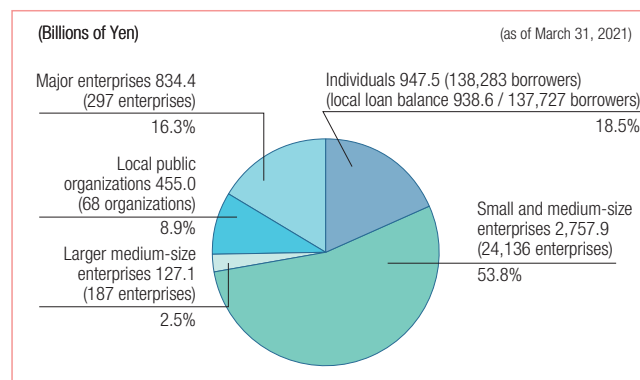
The Bank will take on risks proactively to meet the financing needs of customers.



Breakdown of Loans to the Regional Community



Loan Balance by Type and Number of Borrowers



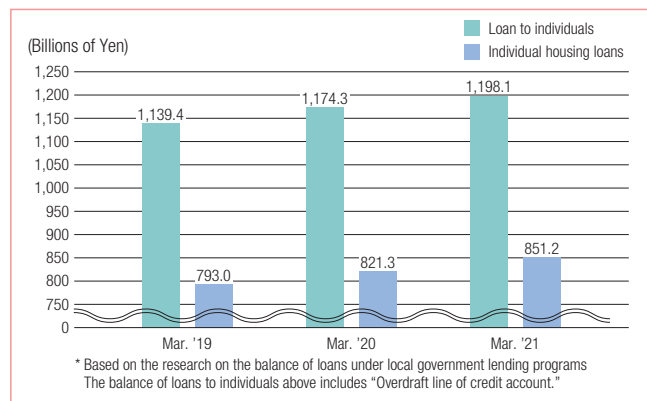
Loans to Individuals

The Bank has a lineup that includes many types of loans to individuals, including housing loans, as well as card loans, automobile loans and student loans, corresponding to various life events of individual customers.

Furthermore, we have established a Life Plan Center Loan Center in each branch to provide support for financing plans based on the customer’s life plan, while also strengthening our remote channels, such as transactions over the internet using a smartphone or a personal computer and our call center.

As a result of these efforts, the balance of loans to individuals for the year increased ¥23.8 billion from the end of March 2020, to ¥1,198.1 billion.

Loan Balance to Individuals



Wide-reaching Social Contribution beyond Business

The Bank is engaged in a wide range of activities to contribute to the regional community.

These activities include a think-tank run by the Group's Okayama Economic Research Center, and support for sports, culture, education, and community events, as well as providing time deposits in aid of the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA), parenting support, and environmental conservation activities.

Compliance System Overview

Compliance and morale take precedence over everything else.

Compliance and morale mean observing not only laws and regulations and internal rules of the Bank, but also socially-demanded codes of conduct and ethical behavior. All the officers and employees of the Chugoku Bank are aware of the social responsibilities that are required of us. We believe that a critical challenge in our operations is strengthening our compliance framework to meet the expectations of our local customers and stockholders. This is seen as one of our CSR activities.

Some of our compliance activities are as follows:

1. We concrete measures such as the enactment of the Corporate Code of Conduct as the basis for ethical conduct in the course of management and operations; the Guidelines for the Conduct of Bank Clerks, which bank clerks should observe in the course of their duties; the Compliance Manual which are the reference manuals for compliance at the Bank.
2. We establish the Compliance Committee and assign Legal Compliance Supervisors at the various branches and offices.
3. We try to ensure that an awareness of compliance permeates the organization by various types of seminars.
4. We create a Compliance Program each year as a plan for the practical implementation of compliance and verify the progress on and degree of achievement on a regular basis.
5. With the objective of preventing inappropriate behavior by bank staff and facilitating the early detection of unethical activities, we have adopted a system wherein employees may report any wrongdoing directly to top management.
6. The Chugoku Bank Group is taking a firm stance against anti-social forces that threaten social order and safety and prevent the development of a sound economy and society. As an organization, we also collaborate with external bodies with expertise in this area, such as the police, in dealing with inappropriate demands by such anti-social forces.

The Bank takes the approach of giving compliance and morals the highest priority and is emphasizing compliance within its corporate culture.

Guidelines for Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

As global threats of nuclear weapons, missiles, and terrorism continue to increase, cutting off financial sources leading to criminals and terrorists is an issue that needs to be addressed jointly by the Japanese and international communities, and measures to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing now bear greater importance.

The Financial Services Agency established and released the Guidelines for Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism which outlines the basic approach that financial institutions should take in implementing effective countermeasures. In such climate, the Bank formulated the following policy and takes measures to prevent the flow of funds to criminal syndicates, to maintain safe and convenient financial services, and to create an environment making it difficult for criminal syndicates to engage in activities.

Policy on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

The Chugoku Bank, Limited
The Chugoku Bank Group (hereinafter, the "Group") recognizes that measures for anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (hereinafter, "AML/CFT") is a priority task required not only domestically but also from the rest of the global community. Based on this recognition, the Group shall take the initiative in establishing the management system in which it shall execute agile and effective responses to ever-changing international situations and the risks facing the Group, and set forth the following policy as a basis for execution of operations.

1. Management Policy

In order to execute agile and effective responses to changes in international situations, the Group shall take proactive steps to establish and maintain the management system based on the concept of "risk-based approach," in which it shall identify and assess its money laundering and the financing of terrorism (hereinafter, "ML/FT") risks in a timely and appropriate manner and take mitigation measures that are proportionate to the risks.

2. Organizational Structure and Officer

The Group shall define AML/CFT as one of its critical management agenda and shall clarify the internal roles and responsibilities for that purpose.

The Group shall appoint the officer in charge of the Compliance and Risk Management Department of the Chugoku Bank as the supervisory manager for AML/CFT. A dedicated division shall be newly established within the Compliance and Risk Management Department of the Chugoku Bank to provide the centralized function of ensuring the execution of measures for AML/CFT.

3. Measures for AML/CFT under Laws and Regulations

The Group shall establish an internal system capable of carrying out timely and appropriate measures for AML/CFT under laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, verification at the time of transaction, retention of transaction records, confirmation of sanctions including freezing of assets, and notification of suspicious transactions.

4. Administration of Customer Information and Policy for Handling Customers

The Group shall establish an internal system for making appropriate investigations about the basic information of customers in the course of the transactions with them and for carrying out measures that are proportionate to their attributes.

Furthermore, the Group shall determine and carry out required risk mitigation measures by way of making periodic investigations and analyses on the history of transactions with customers.

5. Transaction Monitoring and Screening

The Group shall determine and carry out required risk mitigation measures by way of investigating and analyzing the status of transactions by the use of reports submitted by its branches or detection made by its computer systems for any unusual transactions or transactions subject to sanctions.

6. Management of Correspondent Banks

The Group shall endeavor to collect sufficient information about its correspondent banks, conduct an appropriate assessment on them, and carry out appropriate measures that are proportionate to the risks involved.

No relationship shall be established or maintained with any shell banks without a physical presence or operations.

7. Development Training of Directors and Employees

The Group shall continually conduct training or other programs for all of its Directors and employees to deepen their understanding and raise their awareness of AML/CFT, in an effort to develop and retain human resources having expertise and fitness for the given roles.

8. Verification of Status of Compliance

The Group shall inspect the status of compliance with regard to AML/CFT, and based on the results of such inspections, shall continually make efforts to improve its risk management system against ML/FT.