Second-Party Opinion

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework



Evaluation Summary

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG) Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework is credible and impactful, and aligns with the Green Bond Principles 2018 (GBP), the Social Bond Principles 2018 (SBP), and the Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018 (SBG). This assessment is based on the following:





USE OF PROCEEDS The eligible categories for the use of proceeds – (i) Green Buildings, (ii) Renewable Energy, (iii) Healthcare, (iv) Education, (v) Employment Generation/Preservation, and (vi) Affordable housing – are aligned with those recognized by the GBP, SBP and SBG. Sustainalytics considers that MUFG's eligible green and social projects/loans will lead to positive environmental and social impacts and to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 7, 8, and 11.



PROJECT EVALUTION / SELECTION MUFG's eligible projects/loans will be respectively evaluated and selected by MUFG Bank's Solution Products Division, Corporate Finance & Strategic Advisory Division, Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japanese Corporate & Investment Banking Business Planning Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, and MUFG's Office of the CFO. The final decision will be given to MUFG's Office of the CFO. Sustainalytics views this process as aligned with market practice.



MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS Proceeds of green, social, and sustainability bonds will be tracked using MUFG Bank's internal loan management system, which will be monitored by MUFG. Pending full allocation, MUFG will invest an equal amount of its unallocated proceeds in cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities. This process is in line with market practice.



REPORTING MUFG intends to publish allocation and impact reporting annually on its website. The allocation reporting will include the amount allocated and unallocated. MUFG intends to report impact reporting using quantitative metrics for all eligible green and social categories. Moreover, MUFG is committed to receiving an annual review from Sustainalytics as an external review provider after the bond issuance. Sustainalytics considers MUFG's reporting commitments along with annual review to be in line with market best practice.

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Alignment with Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the MUFGs Green Bond Framework is in line with the Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020. The guidelines communicate what an issuer is expected to do to issue a credible green bond. Sustainalytics assessed the alignment between the green bond framework and the 'should' items outlined in the Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020.



Introduction

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG or the "company") is the largest Japanese bank holding company providing financial services in Japan and internationally, and is one of the world's largest financial institutions. MUFG operates several business segments including Retail & Commercial Banking Business Group, Japanese Corporate & Investment Banking Business Group, Global Corporate & Investment Banking Business Group, Asset Management & Investor Services Business Group and Global Markets Business Group.

MUFG has developed the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework (the "Framework") under which it intends to issue green, social and/or sustainability bonds and use the proceeds to finance or refinance projects and/or loans that provide environmental and social benefits in and outside Japan¹. The Framework defines eligibility criteria in two green and four social areas:

Green eligible categories:

- 1. Green Buildings
- 2. Renewable Energy

Social eligible categories:

- 1. Healthcare
- 2. Education
- 3. Employment Generation/Preservation
- 4. Affordable housing

MUFG engaged Sustainalytics to review the Framework dated May 2020² and provide a second-party opinion on the Framework's environmental and social credentials and its alignment with the Green Bond Principles 2018 (GBP), Social Bond Principles 2018 (SBP), Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018 (SBG)³, and Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020. A summary overview of this Framework has been provided in Appendix 1 and 2.

Scope of work and limitations of Sustainalytics Second-Party Opinion

Sustainalytics' Second-Party Opinion reflects Sustainalytics independent⁴ opinion on the alignment of the reviewed Framework with the current market standards and the extent to which the eligible categories are credible and impactful.

As part of the Second-Party Opinion, Sustainalytics' assessed the following:

- The Framework's alignment with the ICMA Green Bond Principles 2018, the ICMA Social Bond Principles 2018, the ICMA Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018 and Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020
- The credibility and anticipated positive impacts of the use of proceeds
- The alignment of the issuers sustainability strategy and performance and sustainability risk management in relation to the use of proceeds

¹ MUFG intends to finance green buildings, renewable energy, healthcare, education and employment generation/preservation projects located in and outside Japan and affordable housing located in England

² MUFG had engaged with Sustainalytics in August 2019 to provide a second party opinion (SPO) on its Framework and has reengaged to revise a previous SPO (dated October 2019) in May 2020. This SPO has been updated to incorporate new information provided by the company on the eligibility criteria and impact reporting. Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the changes do not have a material effect on the impact of the intended use of bond proceeds or the Framework's alignment with the GBP, SBP and SBG.

³ The GBP, SBP and SBG are administered by the International Capital Market Association and are available at

https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/green-bond-principles-gbp/

https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/social-bond-principles-sbp/

https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/sustainability-bond-guidelines-sbg/

⁴ When operating multiple lines of business that serve a variety of client types, objective research is a cornerstone of Sustainalytics and ensuring analyst independence is paramount to producing objective, actionable research. Sustainalytics has therefore put in place a robust conflict management framework that specifically addresses the need for analyst independence, consistency of process, structural separation of commercial and research (and engagement) teams, data protection and systems separation. Last but not the least, analyst compensation is not directly tied to specific commercial outcomes. One of Sustainalytics' hallmarks is integrity, another is transparency.



For the use of proceeds assessment, Sustainalytics relied on its internal taxonomy, version 1.3.1⁵, which is informed by market practice and Sustainalytics expertise as an ESG research provider.

As part of this engagement, Sustainalytics held conversations with various members of MUFG's Office of the CFO, Financial Planning Division to understand the sustainability impact of their business processes and planned use of proceeds, as well as management of proceeds and reporting aspects of the Framework. MUFG's representatives have confirmed (1) they understand it is the sole responsibility of MUFG to ensure that the information provided is complete, accurate or up to date; (2) that they have provided Sustainalytics with all relevant information and (3) that any provided material information has been duly disclosed in a timely manner. Sustainalytics also reviewed relevant public documents and non-public information.

This document contains Sustainalytics' opinion of the Framework and should be read in conjunction with that Framework.

Any update of the present Second-Party Opinion will be conducted according to the agreed engagement conditions between Sustainalytics and MUFG.

Sustainalytics' Second-Party Opinion, while reflecting on the alignment of the Framework with market standards, is no guarantee of alignment nor warrants any alignment with future versions of relevant market standards. Furthermore, Sustainalytics' Second-Party Opinion addresses the anticipated impacts of eligible projects expected to be financed with bond proceeds but does not measure the actual impact. The measurement and reporting of the impact achieved through projects financed under the Framework is the responsibility of the Framework owner.

In addition, the Second-Party Opinion opines on the intended allocation of proceeds but does not guarantee the realised allocation of the bond proceeds towards eligible activities.

No information provided by Sustainalytics under the present Second-Party Opinion shall be considered as being a statement, representation, warrant or argument either in favour or against, the truthfulness, reliability or completeness of any facts or statements and related surrounding circumstances that MUFG has made available to Sustainalytics for the purpose of this SPO.

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⁵ Sustainalytics relied on its internal taxonomy, version 1.1 for the use of proceeds assessment on the previous SPO (dated October 2019).



Sustainalytics' Opinion

Section 1: Sustainalytics' Opinion on the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework

Summary

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the Framework is credible and impactful, and aligns with the four core components of the GBP, SBP and SBG. Sustainalytics highlights the following elements of the Framework:

Use of Proceeds:

- MUFG intends to invest in green and/or social projects and loans under the six eligible use of proceeds categories (i) Green Buildings, (ii) Renewable Energy, (iii) Healthcare, (iv) Education, (v) Employment Generation/Preservation(through financing businesses that contribute to reconstruction after natural disasters and small and medium-sized enterprises and sole proprietors that have been affected by the spread of infectious diseases such as COVID-19), and (vi) Affordable housing, are recognized as impactful by the GBP, SBP and SBG. Sustainalytics believes MUFG's use of proceeds will contribute to climate change mitigation and provide social benefits. For additional information, please see Section 3 for Sustainalytics' assessment on the use of proceeds.
- MUFG's green use of proceeds includes green buildings as well as solar and wind power generation projects. Sustainalytics views positively the solar and wind power generation projects will contribute towards increasing the global share of renewable energy production and consumption, limiting the output of GHG emissions. Additionally, in the green building category, MUFG uses credible third party international and Japanese certification standards such as LEED, BREEAM, CASBEE and the DBJ Green Building Certification with a focus on the top two levels of certification. Sustainalytics views that the top two levels of certification as in line with market best practice. For an overview and comparison of green building certification schemes, please refer to Appendix 3.
- With respect to social uses of proceeds, the Framework has defined target populations, as recommended by the SBP. Sustainalytics views positively the following targeting of social projects/loans, limiting financing to:
 - [Healthcare] Hospitals operated by Social welfare corporations⁶ in Japan which aims to serve the needs of vulnerable groups such as the elderly, people with disabilities, and infants.
 - [Healthcare] Hospitals operated by Social medical corporations⁷ in Japan whose main areas of businesses are defined to serve the needs of those in vulnerable situations; emergency care, medical care in disasters, remote medical care, perinatal care, and pediatric medical care.
 - [Healthcare] Medical product manufacturers, with the use of its loan funds for manufacturing or remodeling of existing equipment to produce, health and safety equipment and sanitary supplies that aim to prevent and/or treat infectious and widespread diseases such as COVID-19.
 - [Healthcare] Medical facilities and pharmaceutical companies which intend to use the loan funds for research and development as well as manufacturing of tests and vaccine to prevent and/or treat infectious and widespread diseases including COVID-19, as well as pharmaceuticals that aim to alleviate symptoms of the diseases.
 - [Healthcare & Education] Public hospitals and schools. Sustainalytics views the Framework is sufficiently targeted while MUFG is committed to financing public

⁶ Social welfare corporation system was founded in accordance with the Social Welfare Law of 1951 in Japan, with the aim of carrying out social welfare programs. More information available on the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare website at:

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/hukushi_kaigo/seikatsuhogo/shakai-fukushi-houjin-seido/01.html (Japanese only)

⁷ Social medical corporations are defined to serve as the substitutes of public medical corporations and its system including the purposes of business is regulated by the Medical Care Act in Japan. More information available on the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare website at: https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryou/iryou/igyou/about_nintei.html (Japanese only)



- institutions that will ensure accessibility to low-income groups for all healthcare and education projects.
- [Employment Generation/Preservation] Businesses contributing to reconstruction of areas affected by natural disasters in Japan, with priority given to the ones using the relevant Japanese government schemes; 'Compensation for Interest Rates on Special Zones for Reconstruction' ⁸ and 'Tsunami & Nuclear Disaster Area Employment Creation Business Siting Subsidy'⁹.
- [Employment Generation/Preservation] Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)¹¹and sole proprietors in Japan who have been adversely affected by the spread of infectious diseases such as COVID-19, with the aim of supporting to preserve employment. MUFG has confirmed to Sustainalytics that the company excludes the financing to companies with weapons, tobacco, and fossil fuel operations for environmental and social risk mitigation.
- [Affordable housing] Social housing providers who are registered with the Regulator of Social Housing in England.¹¹ Allocation of housing and rent setting will be conducted based on England's regulations where reasonable preference defined by Housing Act¹² is given to vulnerable groups including people who are homeless and people who need to move on medical or welfare grounds (including any grounds relating to a disability), and accommodation will be available for rent below market rate.
- MUFG intends to refinance projects with a maximum lookback period of two years for eligible green projects/loans and of three years for eligible social projects/loans. Sustainalytics views MUFG's look-back periods as aligned with market preferences.

· Project Evaluation and Selection:

MUFG's project selection and evaluation process will be executed by MUFG Bank's Solution Products Division based on green and social eligibility criteria for projects/loans for renewable energy, green buildings as well as projects/loans for public hospitals outside Japan, education, and affordable housing. Projects/loans for healthcare including public hospitals in Japan, hospitals operated by Social welfare corporations or Social medical corporations and pharmaceutical companies and medical device/produce manufactures, and employment generation will be respectively evaluated and selected by Corporate Finance & Strategic Advisory Division, Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japanese Corporate & Investment Banking Division. Moreover, the final decision to select the eligible projects/loans will be made by MUFG's Office of the CFO, Financial Planning Division. MUFG's process in evaluating and selecting eligible green/social projects/loans is aligned with market practice.

Management of Proceeds:

 Proceeds of the green, social, and sustainability bonds will be monitored by MUFG and traceability of the net proceeds will be secured through MUFG Bank's internal loan management.
 Pending full allocation, MUFG will invest an equal amount of its unallocated proceeds in cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities. Sustainalytics views MUFG's management of proceeds process to be aligned with market practice.

⁸ Special Zones for Reconstruction is defined as the regions affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, occurred off the Pacific coast of the Tohoku region on March 11, 2011. More information on compensation available at the Reconstruction Agency's website at:

https://www.reconstruction.go.jp/topics/main-cat1/sub-cat1-13/20190412152225.html (Japanese only)

⁹ More information available on the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry at:

https://www.meti.go.jp/information/publicoffer/kobo/2019/k190218002.html (Japanese only)

¹⁰ MUFG has confirmed to Sustainalytics that the company will apply criteria for SMEs (companies with capital of less than 0.3 billion yen and with under 300 employees) defined by the national legislation - Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Basic Act in Japan.

¹¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-registered-providers-of-social-housing

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/52/section/166A



· Reporting:

- MUFG commits to reporting annually the allocation of proceeds as well as impact indicators on its website, until full allocation. The company also intends to disclose assertion regarding proceeds allocated to eligible projects/loans, from its management.
- The allocation reporting will include the amount allocated by project category and amount of unallocated proceeds in the event the total or part of the proceeds of the green, social or sustainability bonds are unallocated.
- MUFG's environmental and social impact indicators cover all eligible categories, including CO₂ emissions reduced by green building and renewable energy projects, renewable energy power generation, number of employment generated by and of loans provided to businesses contributing to reconstruction of areas affected by natural disaster, number of employment generated/preserved by and of loans provided to businesses affected by the spread of infectious diseases, number of patients and/or hospital beds, number of students, number of affordable housing provided, number of research and development activities financed, number of manufacturing facilities financed, and number of medical machines financed, and number of medical instruments, sanitary, vaccines / pharmaceuticals supplied through the financing.
- MUFG intends to receive an annual review by Sustainalytics as an independent external provider annually until full allocation of proceeds, after the bond issuance.
- Sustainalytics views MUFG's commitments on allocation and impact reporting along with the
 independent external review as aligned with market best practice, considering that it will further
 enhance the bond's transparency.

Alignment with Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles, and Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018

Sustainalytics has determined that the Framework align to the four core components of the GBP, SBP and SBG. For detailed information please refer to Appendix 4: Sustainability Bond/Sustainability Bond Programme External Review Form.

Alignment with Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020

Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020¹³ communicate what an issuer should do to issue a credible green bond, and also highlight what an issuer is recommended to do. Sustainalytics assessed the alignment between MUFG's green bond framework and the 'requirements of' items outlined in the Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020.

ICMA Green Bond Principles 2018 and Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020	Alignment with GBP and with Japan's Green Bond Guidelines	Sustainalytics' comments on alignment with Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020
1. Use of Proceeds	Yes	MUFG's eligibility criteria, green buildings and renewable energy, are clearly recognized as green projects with clear environmental benefits in the Japanese green bond guidelines. Additionally, the information on the green bond proceeds, green project categories as well as the process to mitigate negative impacts are all described in the framework for

¹³ Green Bond Guidelines, 2020, Ministry of the Environment, Japan: http://www.env.go.jp/policy/guidelines_set_version_with%20cover.pdf



		investors. MUFG has confirmed to Sustainalytics that it will not refinance an asset that requires long-term maintenance when issuing multiple green bonds.
2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection	Yes	MUFG, through its CSR objectives, clearly targets the reduction of greenhouse gases by supporting green building and renewable energy development. Furthermore, MUFG ensures that projects are evaluated and selected by MUFG Bank's Solution Products Division. Eligible Projects will be selected based on eligibility criteria aligned with the above-mentioned LEED, BREEAM, CASBEE, DBJ Green Building Certification levels (for green building projects) and the Equator Principles (for renewable energy projects). Additionally, JREITs that opt to be assessed by MURC's ESG evaluation methodology for J-REIT and achieve a top three rating may have their loans for green buildings prioritized as "ESG evaluation loans for J-REIT" to green bond allocations.
3. Management of Proceeds	Yes	MUFG's framework clearly explains that the proceeds will be tracked and managed by using MUFG Bank's internal loan management system at least yearly and that the unallocated proceeds will be invested in cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities, in which MUFG will explain all the relevant information to the investors.
4. Reporting	Yes	MUFG has confirmed that its reporting on the bond will be released annually and will include an overview of the green bonds, an annual review from Sustainalytics, management assertions with regards to the allocation of green bond proceeds, CO2 emissions reduction data for green buildings and renewable energy projects, and kWh of power generated from renewable energy sources.



Section 2: Sustainability Performance of the Issuer

Contribution of Framework to Issuer's sustainability strategy

MUFG's sustainability approach is underlined through its mission "to be a foundation of strength, committed to meeting the needs of our customers, serving society, and fostering shared and sustainable growth for a better world". Based on this mission, the company commits to addressing environmental and social issues through its core financial businesses while setting out the following policies, targets, and initiatives;

- MUFG outlines the following environmental and social issues as priority topics to address through its business: (i) aging population & low birth rate, (ii) business incubation & job creation, (iii) social infrastructure & town planning, (iv) global warming & climate change, (v) financial innovation, (vi) workstyle reforms, (vii) cross-sectoral environment and social issues.¹⁴
- In the MUFG Environmental Policy Statement,¹⁵ MUFG is committed to taking actions to mitigate climate change, by supporting its clients renewable energy business, and supporting climate change related international agreements and initiatives such as the Paris Agreement, and Recommendations of Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).
- With the aim of supporting the sustainable development of society and contributing to the achievement of the SDGs, MUFG has set Sustainable Finance Goals where the target of sustainable finance (including loans) is a total of 20 trillion JPY between FY2019 to FY2030. The company intends to provide 8 trillion JPY of finances to the environmental area, which include renewable energy and green buildings.¹⁶ Sustainalytics highlights that MUFG has provided the largest amount of finance to the renewable energy sector as an arranger in the global private financial sector for three consecutive years since 2016. In 2018, MUFG provided approximately 3.9 billion USD, equivalent to the market share of 5.8%, to 59 renewable energy projects.¹⁷
- Within the MUFG's target for sustainable finance, the remaining amount (12 trillion JPY) is planned
 to be financed in the social area such as regional revitalization programs, businesses contributing to
 job creation, and fundamental service businesses which include projects for essential services (e.g.
 hospitals and schools).¹⁸
- MUFG has supported reconstruction in areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake by providing financial assistance. By using the national interest subsidy program, MUFG offered a total amount of ¥33.8 billion to 46 projects in the disaster areas as loans as of March 2019.¹⁹

Sustainalytics is of the opinion that MUFG's sustainability strategy and actions demonstrate the importance the company places on achieving positive environmental and social impacts. Sustainalytics also believes that MUFG's green and/or social use of proceeds are aligned with the company's overall sustainability commitments and efforts.

Well positioned to address common environmental and social risks associated with the projects

While MUFG's use of green and social proceeds intends to generate environmental and social benefits, Sustainalytics recognizes that these projects may expose developers to negative environmental and social risks, which may damage MUFG's reputation as a lender to projects. Those risks mainly relate to biodiversity loss from construction and infrastructure for large renewable energy projects, workers' health and safety, and community relations related to renewable energy and green building projects. Moreover, social projects/loans may have the risk of increasing inequality if not well targeted at vulnerable populations. Sustainalytics considers MUFG is well prepared to manage environmental and social risks related to the use of proceeds based on the following:

 MUFG's Environmental and Social Policy Framework which is applied to all new finance including loans, sets out restrictions and exclusionary criteria for businesses that MUFG considers to be exposed to severe environmental and social risks. In accordance to this framework, for business

https://www.mufg.jp/english/vcms_lf/news/pressrelease-20190515-001-e.pdf.

¹⁴ MUFG, "Our Responsibility", at: https://www.mufg.jp/english/csr/groupcsr/.

¹⁵ MUFG, "MUFG Environmental Policy Statement", at https://www.mufg.jp/english/csr/policy/

¹⁶ MUFG, "MUFG Sets Sustainable Finance Goals and Revises Environmental and Social Policy Framework", at:

¹⁷ MUFG, "MUFG's continuing commitment to finance clean energy ranks first worldwide", at: https://www.mufg.jp/english/pickup/201903_03/index.html.

¹⁸ MUFG, "MUFG Sets Sustainable Finance Goals and Revises Environmental and Social Policy Framework", at: https://www.mufg.jp/dam/pressrelease/2019/pdf/news-20190515-001_en.pdf.

¹⁹ MUFG, "Emergency Disaster Assistance", at: https://www.mufg.jp/english/csr/contribution/disaster_support/



applicable to the restriction list, such as transactions with impact on high conservation value areas or involved in land expropriation leading to involuntary resettlement, financing to sectors related to forestry, palm oil sector, coal fired power generation, and coal mining, additional due diligence on client's risk management approach is to be performed, and finance will be permitted only when meeting the circumstances stated in the framework. Moreover, through the framework, MUFG commits to prohibiting finance to cluster munitions manufacturing companies, and transaction involving the use of child labor or forced labor.²⁰

- MUFG intends to finance loans for green building, applying Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting's ("MURC") ESG evaluation methodology for J-REIT as loan prioritization. Sustainalytics views positively this application as it prioritizes eligible loans that undergo an ESG risk assessment screen while the methodology considers overall aspects of their environmental social and governance risks. (For the overview of the MURC ESG methodology for J-REIT, please see Appendix 2.)
- MUFG's core banking unit, MUFG Bank has been a signatory to the Equator Principles since 2005, a globally recognized risk management framework to manage environmental and social risks in project finance. Due diligence in accordance with the Equator Principles standards, is performed on all large-scale projects including real-estate development and the construction of electric power plants, and providing finance to projects that do not comply with the standards is prohibited. Results of the assessment is disclosed and undergoes external assurance on an annual basis.²¹
- Additionally, while MUFG's social eligible projects/loans are limited to healthcare, education, employment generation/preservation and affordable housing, the company's target populations are defined by applying third parties' criteria as well as by setting restrictions including company size (Please refer to Section 1 for details).
- MUFG has further confirmed to Sustainalytics that lending to SMEs and sole proprietors under the
 employment generation/preservation category, will exclude companies related to fossil fuel, tobacco,
 and weapons operations to manage environmental and social risks associated with the projects in
 its project selection process.

Given the context above, Sustainalytics believes that MUFG is well positioned to mitigate potential environmental and social risks associated with the projects funded by the green, social, and sustainability bonds.

Section 3: Impact of Use of Proceeds

All six use of proceeds categories are recognized as impactful by the GBP and the SBP. Sustainalytics has assessed the categories below where the impact is especially relevant in local context.

Importance of the renewable energy generation and green buildings in Japan

Following the 2011 Great East Japan earthquake and the subsequent Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident, Japan's government issued its fourth Strategic Energy Plan in April 2014²² introducing safety among its key objectives of energy policy along with energy security, economic efficiency and environmental protection, and supporting the acceleration of renewable energy production in order to rebalance its energy mix. Japan's Fifth Strategic Energy Plan²³ approved by the cabinet in July 2018 reconfirmed Japan's newly adopted position towards renewable energy by identifying renewable energy generation as a primary measure for supporting Japan's intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) formulated in accordance with the Paris Climate Agreement in which the country committed to reduce its GHG emissions by 26% by 2030.²⁴ Furthermore, in the Long-Term Strategy Under the Paris Agreement as Growth Strategy, approved by Japan's Cabinet in June 2019, the government sets out its long-term goal of cutting GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 and achieving zero GHG emissions as early as possible in the second half of this century.²⁵ Sustainalytics holds a positive view of MUFG's provision of loans to renewable projects given alignment with Japan's policy to support clean

²⁰ MUFG, "Environmental and Social Policy Framework", at: https://www.mufg.jp/english/csr/policy/.

²¹ MUFG, "The Equator Principles", at: https://www.mufg.jp/english/csr/environment/equator/index.html.

²² Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Strategic Energy Plan (2014)", at:

http://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/en/category/others/basic_plan/pdf/4th_strategic_energy_plan.pdf.

²³ Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Strategic Energy Plan (2018)", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/pdf/0703_002c.pdf.

²⁴ UNFCCC, "Submission of Japan's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC)", at: https://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/2030indc_mat01.pdf.

²⁵ Ministry of the Environment, "The Long-term Strategy Under the Paris Agreement", at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/The%20Long-term%20Strategy%20under%20the%20Paris%20Agreement.pdf.



energy generation and the rebalancing of its energy mix. MUFG's loans for renewable energy projects will expand Japan's low-carbon energy generation capacities and help to advance safe energy generation, in line with the government's policies.

Separately, Japan's buildings account for about 30% of the country's CO2 emissions, with the Commercial and Other sector comprised mainly of office and retail buildings accounting for 17.4% and the Residential sector accounting for 15.6% of all CO2 emissions in FY2017.26 Furthermore, Japan's Fifth Strategic Energy Plan sets out a target to reduce the national final energy consumption by 14% in 2030 compared to 2013, to achieve Japan's 2030 energy mix, while indicating that buildings have much room for energy conservation. In order to enhance energy efficiency in buildings, the government has been promoting various measures such as the introduction of the Act for the Improvement of the Energy Saving Performance of Buildings²⁷ in 2015 which mandates compliance with energy conservation standards for non-residential buildings. 28 Sustainalytics is of the opinion that MUFG's proposed investments in green buildings certified with above-average ratings ensure a strong framework for the company to contribute to Japan's decarbonization efforts.

Importance of medical service and educational infrastructure in Japan

Japan provides universal healthcare coverage with relatively low cost-sharing compared to OECD nations. As a result of good access to healthcare and high quality of care, the country has achieved favorable health outcomes, such as the highest life expectancy.²⁹ In terms of resources, Japan has the highest number or beds per capita in the OECD nations,30 but confronts a shortage of doctors with doctors per capita below OECD average.31 As Japan faces a rapid aging population, growing demand is seen in medical services, and the country is expected to face challenges related to aging. The number of elderly population (ages 65 and above) which was 34.0 million in 2015, is predicted to increase to 36.6 million in 2025 and reaches its peak at 2042 to 38.8 million.32

Separately, with respect to educational institutions, though the enrolment rate of primary and secondary school students (5-14 year old) in Japan is one of the highest among OECD nations, the funding by the government for educational institutions (including secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education) is relatively low. 33 While over 90% of the funding on primary and secondary schools is publicly sourced, tertiary schools heavily rely on private funding sources (68% of expenditure is privately funded, which indicates over twice the OECD average of 30%).34

Sustainalytics believes that MUFG's offering of loans to hospitals and schools will further improve the country's healthcare to adequately meet the rising demand of medical services, as well as education institutions to ensure equal educational opportunities including tertiary education.

Impact of supporting businesses affected by natural disasters and the spread of infectious diseases in Japan

Due to climate and topography characteristics, Japan is vulnerable to natural disasters and prone to earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, heavy snow, flooding, landslides, and volcanic explosion. While Japan's surface area occupies only 0.25% of the world, the country experienced 19% of earthquakes with a magnitude of six or higher in the world and accounted for 17.5% of the world's total amount of financial damage caused by natural disasters.³⁵ Among the experienced disasters, the largest damage was caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred in 2011. The magnitude 9.0 earthquake and the ensuing tsunami caused the

²⁶ Ministry of the Environment, "Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Fiscal Year 2017 (Final Figures)(Japanese only)", at : https://www.env.go.jp/earth/ondanka/ghg-mrv/emissions/results/honbun2017-2.pdf.

²⁷ Overview of the Act on the Improvement of Energy Consumption Performance of Buildings, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan: https://www.mlit.go.jp/common/001134876.pdf

²⁸ Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Strategic Energy Plan (2018)", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/pdf/0703_002c.pdf

²⁹ OECD, "Health at a Glance 2017: OECD Indicators", at: https://www.oecd.org/japan/Health-at-a-Glance-2017-Key-Findings-JAPAN-in-English.pdf.

OECD, "Hospital beds", at: https://data.oecd.org/health-eqt/hospital-beds.htm.

³¹ OECD, "Health at a Glance 2017: OECD Indicators", at: https://www.oecd.org/japan/Health-at-a-Glance-2017-Key-Findings-JAPAN-in-English.pdf.

³² Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, "Projections of Elderly Populations", at:

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/hukushi_kaigo/kaigo_koureisha/chiiki-houkatsu/dl/link1-1.pdf.

³³ OECD, "Japan Overview of the education system (EAG 2018)" at

http://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=JPN&treshold=10&topic=EO

³⁴ OECD, "Education at a Glance 2018" at https://www.oecd.emb-japan.go.jp/files/000398873.pdf

³⁵ Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, "Disaster Risks that Japan Faces (Japanese only)", at: http://www.mlit.go.jp/river/bousai/library/pdf/kokudo.pdf.



Fukushima Daichi Nuclear Power Plant accident, which resulted in a meltdown and release of radioactive materials. As a result of this complex disaster, more than 15,000 deaths, 2,500 missing, 120,000 buildings fully destroyed, and 280,000 buildings half-destroyed was reported.³⁶ The World Bank estimated that the financial damage from the disaster could reach up to USD 235 billion.³⁷ In response to the disaster, the Japanese government have set out a timeframe for 10 years as the reconstruction period, and as of July 2019, construction of public housings for disaster survivors and relocation of communities to safer locations, recovery of transportation systems have almost completed.³⁸ Furthermore, the government implemented the System of Special Zones for Reconstruction, and has provided a range of incentives applied for approved municipalities, such as grants, tax benefits, and interest subsidy for reconstruction projects, and deregulation.³⁹ Nevertheless, 50,000 people are still evacuating,⁴⁰ and revitalization of local industries, rebuilding the livelihoods of disaster-affected people, and other challenges are needed to be addressed from a long-term perspective.

Separately, in January 2020, World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), and further declared it as a pandemic in March 2020.⁴¹ Japan's prime minister declared a state of emergency in April 2020,4243 and urged people to reduce contact and stay home except for essential tasks initially until May 6, and was extended until May 31.44 In order to address financial challenges that SMEs are facing due to the prevention measures of COVID-19, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan introduced Guarantees Related to Emergencies, 45 targeting SMEs with a 15% decrease or higher in sales compared to the same period in the previous year. 46 Furthermore, as of March 06, 2020, METI announced 40 industries negatively affected by the coronavirus for No.5 Safety Nets for Financing Guarantee, targeting the SMEs in specific industries with more than a 5% decrease in sales compared to the same period in the previous year. 47 METI plans to announce 316 additional industries 48 severely disrupted by COVID-19.

MUFG intends to provide loans to businesses that contributes to reconstruction of the areas hit by natural disaster including the Great East Japan Earthquake. Sustainalytics is of opinion that the use of proceeds will contribute to employment generation while leading to the reconstruction of the disaster-hit areas including the Tohoku-region in Japan. Additionally, MUFG will provide loans to SMEs and sole proprietors adversely affected by the spread of infectious diseases including COVID-19, and towards hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and medical device/produce manufactures that intend to use the loan funds for measures against infectious disease. Sustainalytics views that the use of proceeds will contribute to prevent and alleviate unemployment attributed to the spread of infectious diseases and increase accessibility to healthcare services and equipment, as well as facilitating research and development essential to address and mitigate symptoms of infectious virus.

Importance of expanding affordable and social housing in England

³⁶ Reconstruction Agency, "Great East Japan Earthquake", at: https://www.reconstruction.go.jp/english/topics/GEJE/index.html.

³⁷ The World Bank, "The recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan: implications for East Asia", at:

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEAPHALFYEARLYUPDATE/Resources/550192-1300567391916/EAP_Update_March2011_japan.pdf.

Reconstruction Agency, "Progress of reconstruction of public infrastructure (Japanese only)", at: https://www.reconstruction.go.jp/topics/main-cat1/sub-cat1-2/20190830 FukkoShihyo.pdf.

³⁹ Reconstruction Agency, "Outline of the System of Special Zone for Reconstruction", at:

http://www.reconstruction.go.jp/english/topics/outline_of_Special_Zone_for_Reconstruction.pdf.

⁴⁰ Reconstruction Agency, "Numbers of Evacuees (Japanese only)", at: https://www.reconstruction.go.jp/topics/main-cat2/sub-cat2-1/20190809_hinansha.pdf.

⁴¹ World Health Organizaion, "WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 - 11 March 2020", at:

https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020 Prime Minister's Ofice of Japan, "Press Conference by the Prime Minister Regarding the Declaration of a State of Emergency", at: https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/202004/_00001.html
43 Prime Minister's Ofice of Japan, "Press Conference by the Prime Minister regarding the Novel Coronavirus", at:

https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/202004/_00002.html 44 Prime Minister's Ofice of Japan, "Press Conference by the Prime Minister regarding the Novel Coronavirus", at:

https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/202005/_00001.html 45 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Guarantees Related to Emergencies (Japanese only)", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/03/20200311007/20200311007-1.pdf

⁴⁶ Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Measure to be Taken to Support SMEs Affected by Novel Coronavirus Disease", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2020/0311_004.html

⁴⁷ Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Overview of No.5 Safety Nets for Financing Guarantees", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/03/20200311007/20200311007-2.pdf

⁴⁸ Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Industries additionally designated as those subject to No.5 Safety Nets for Financing Guarantees", at: https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/03/20200311007/20200311007-3.pdf



In England, "social housing" is defined by the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008, as accommodation made available for rent below the market rate, or for occupation in accordance with shared ownership schemes, which are targeted for people whose needs are not adequately served by the commercial housing market. ⁴⁹ In allocation of housing, the Housing Act 1996 mandates local housing authorities to establish an allocation scheme that ensures reasonable preference is given to vulnerable populations such as people who are homeless, living in insanitary or overcrowded housing conditions, and in need to move on medical or welfare purposes. ⁵⁰ The government statistics show that in FYE 2018, 30% of new lettings of social housings were allocated to households given the aforementioned preferences. Furthermore, in FYE 2018 the median household income (including pensions and benefits) for social housing (GBP 221 per week) was about an equivalent to 40% of the national median household income (GBP 545 per week). ⁵¹⁵² These figures demonstrate that social houses are provided to those in need, the low-income and vulnerable populations in particular.

Between 1981 and 2015, the population grew by 8 million, or 17% in England. However, while the housing stock in the private sector increased during this period, the number of social rented homes fell from 5.5 million in 1981 to 4 million in 2015.⁵³ This resulted in the proportion of people living in social houses to decrease to 17% in 2018⁵⁴, almost half of its peak of around one-third in 1981.⁵⁵ In 2018, 1.1 million households were listed on the waiting list for social houses, ⁵⁶ indicating the strong demand for the increase of supply for social housings.

Given this affordability challenges in England, Sustainalytics is opinion that MUFG's planned financing to Registered Social Landlords will create clear social benefits by improving the supply of social housing and providing access to housing for low-income and vulnerable populations.

Alignment with/contribution to SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were set in September 2015 and form an agenda for achieving sustainable development by the year 2030. MUFG's green, social, and/or sustainability bond advances the following SDG goals and targets:

Use of Proceeds Category	SDG	SDG target
Green Buildings	11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management
Renewable Energy	7. Affordable and Clean Energy	7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
Healthcare	3. Good Health and Well- Being	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and

⁴⁹ "Housing and Regeneration Act 2008", at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/17/part/2/chapter/1/crossheading/social-housing.

April 2017 to March 2018, England", at:

⁵⁰ "Housing Act 1996", at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/52/section/166A.

⁵¹ National median household income (GBP/week): National median household income 28,400 (GBP/year) ÷52.14 weeks.

Office for National Statistics, "Average household income, UK: Financial year ending 2018", at:

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/bulletins/householddisposableincomeandinequality/yearending2018.

⁵² Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, "Social Housing Lettings: April 2017 to March 2018, England", at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/759738/Social_Housing_Lettings_April2017_to_Marc h2018_England.pdf.

⁵³ Department for Communities and Local Government, "Housing in England: overview", at: https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Housing-in-England-overview.pdf.

⁵⁴ Ministry of Hosing, Communities & Local Government, "Social Housing Lettings:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/759738/Social_Housing_Lettings_April2017_to_Marc h2018_England.pdf.

⁵⁵ Institute for Fiscal Studies, "Social Housing in England: A Survey", at: https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/publications/bns/BN178.pdf#page=9.

⁵⁶ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, "Local Authority Housing Statistics:

Year ending March 2018, England", at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/773079/Local_Authority_Housing_Statistics_England_year_ending_March_2018.pdf.



		access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
Education	4. Quality Education	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
		4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
Affordable Housing	11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums
Employment Generation/Preservation	8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

Conclusion

MUFG has developed Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework, under which it is planning to issue green, social, and/or sustainability bonds. The proceeds will be used to finance or refinance projects and loans under the six eligible categories; (i) Green Buildings, (ii) Renewable Energy, (iii) Healthcare, (iv) Education, and (v) Employment Generation/Preservation (through financing businesses contributing to reconstruction of areas affected by natural disasters, and SMEs and sole proprietors negatively affected by infectious diseases such as COVID-19), and (vi) Affordable housing. Sustainalytics considers that the eligible projects described in the framework will lead to decrease GHG emissions and provide social benefits while contributing to MUFG's sustainability commitments as well as the advancement of the SDGs, specially 3, 4, 7, 8, and 11.

Furthermore, MUFG displays market practices in (i) MUFG's project evaluation and selection processes respectively executed by MUFG Bank's Solution Product Division, Corporate Finance & Strategic Advisory Division, Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japanese Corporate & Investment Banking Business Planning Division of Budget Planning & Control Office and MUFG's Office of the CFO, with the final approver of MUFG's Office of the CFO, Financial Planning Division, and (ii) its management of proceeds tracked by MUFG using MUFG Bank's internal loan management system, and market best practice in MUFG's allocation and impact reporting along with independent external annual review.

Based on the above, Sustainalytics is of the opinion that the Framework is credible and transparent, and aligned with the Green Bond Principles 2018, Social Bond Principles 2018, Sustainability Bond Guidelines 2018, and Japan's Green Bond Guidelines 2020.



Appendices

Appendix 1: Framework Overview

For the purpose of issuing green, social, and/or sustainability bonds, MUFG developed the following framework which addresses the four key core components of GBP, SBP, and SBG: use of proceeds, project evaluation and selection process, management of proceeds, and reporting, originally in August 2019 and updated in May 2020. The framework belongs to MUFG, and a summary overview has been provided below.

1. Use of proceeds

The proceeds of the green, social and/or sustainability bond will be allocated towards the financing or refinancing of projects that meet one or more of the following eligibility criteria:

1.1 Green Eligible Categories

Criterion 1 - Green Buildings

- Proceeds of the green bonds may be allocated towards new and existing loans from MUFG Bank to eligible green buildings owned by J-REITs (Japanese Real Estate Investment Trusts)
- The eligible green buildings are buildings which have received or will receive at least one of the following classifications within 24 months preceding the green bond issuance or reporting dates:
 - LEED: Platinum or Gold (confined to buildings of which the CO2 emissions are trackable)
 - BREEAM: Outstanding or Excellent (confined to buildings of which CO2 emissions are trackable)
 - CASBEE: S Rank or A Rank (confined to buildings of which the CO2 emissions are trackable)
 - DBJ Green Building Certification: 5 Stars or 4 Stars (confined to buildings of which the CO2 emissions are trackable)

Criterion 2 - Renewable Energy

- Proceeds of the green bonds may be allocated towards new and existing eligible renewable energy projects, such as solar thermal power generation, solar photovoltaic power generation and onshore and offshore wind farm projects
- All projects must meet the following eligibility criterion:
 - Expenditures related to the development construction, operation, or expansion of facilities for new and existing solar thermal power generation, solar photovoltaic power generation and onshore and offshore wind farm projects that are (i) determined as Category B or Category C in accordance with the Equator Principles, and (ii) signed within 24 months preceding the date of the green bond issuance or after the issuance.

As per the Equator Principles, Category A projects have potential significant adverse environmental and social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible or unprecedented. Category B projects have limited adverse environmental and social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible and readily addressed through mitigation measures. Category C projects have minimal or no adverse environmental and social risks and/or impacts.⁵⁸

1.2 Social Eligible Categories

Criterion 1 – Projects/loans of MUFG Bank that contributes reconstruction and recovery from economic damage and adverse impacts caused by disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons and the spread of infectious diseases including COVID-19

⁵⁷ The DBJ Green Building Certification Scheme only specifies the certification date by year without indicating the day/ month of the certification received. MUFG clarified that the green bond allocation may therefore target assets with DBJ Green Building Certification dates longer than 24 months, but no longer than three years.

⁵⁸ The Equator Principles: http://equator-principles.com/.



Project categories

- [Employment generation: Natural disasters] Employment generation through financing businesses contributing to reconstruction of areas affected by natural disasters (priority to be allocated to loans to operators using the Scheme for Compensation for Interest Rates on Special Zones for Reconstruction or Subsidy Program for New Business Establishment in the Areas Recovering from Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster towards Employment Creation)
- [Employment preservation: Infectious diseases spread] employment preservation through financing/refinancing loans for small and medium-sized enterprises and sole proprietors adversely affected by the spread of infectious diseases including COVID-19

Target populations

- [Employment generation: Natural disasters] Businesses operating in the affected area and residents in the area
- Infectious diseases spread SMEs and solo properties

Criterion 2 – Projects/loans of MUFG Bank for medical facilities as well as pharmaceutical companies and medical device/product manufacturers

Project categories

- [Medical facilities] Affordable basic infrastructure and access to essential services: Medical institutions to which MUFG Bank may make loans must be those providing medical services accessible to low-income people, specially, the loans in this category are meant for overseas institutions limited to public hospitals as well as domestic institutions limited to public hospitals, and hospitals run by a social medical care corporation or a social welfare corporation
- [Pharmaceutical companies and medical device/produce manufactures] measures for the spread of Infectious diseases including COVID-19 through loans for research and development of new infectious disease test / vaccine, other medicines for alleviating symptoms of those infectious virus as well as manufacture of health and safety equipment and sanitary goods, remodeling of existing machinery and / or production or improvement of production. Loans in this category are for pharmaceutical companies and medical device/produce manufactures

Target populations

- General public" and living below the poverty line

Criterion 3 - Projects/loans of MUFG Bank for schools

Project category

Affordable basic infrastructure and access to essential services: schools to which MUFG Bank may make loans must be those accessible to low-income people. Loans in this criterion are for public schools

Target populations
 General public" and "living below the poverty line

Criterion 4 – Projects/Ioans of MUFG Bank to public housing suppliers that are registered in England⁵⁹

Project category
 Affordable basic infrastructure" and "access to essential services

⁵⁹ UK government lists the current registered providers of social housing (applies to England) at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/current-registered-providers-of-social-housing.



Target populations
 General public" and "living below the poverty line

The look-back period for refinanced social projects will be 36 months prior to the date of the social and sustainability bond issuance.

2. Process for project evaluation and selection

2.1 Application of Eligibility and Exclusionary Criteria in Project Selection

2.1.1 Green projects/loans

With regards to the selection of eligible green buildings, MUFG Bank's Solution Products Division, will select projects complying with Criterion 1, green buildings which have received the above-mentioned LEED, BREEAM, CASBEE, or DBJ Green Building Certifications. Furthermore, new loans, including refinancing to J-REITs, may be prioritized if they are made to J-REITs that have requested an assessment using an ESG evaluation methodology developed by MURC (See Appendix 2). In particular, new loans for green buildings of J-REITs which have achieved the top three ratings of MURC's ESG evaluation methodology for J-REIT may be given priority compared to others in the project evaluation and selection process when applying loans as "ESG evaluation loans for J-REIT". All renewable energy projects financed using green bond proceeds will be selected based on compliance with Criterion 2 by the Solution Products Division of MUFG Bank. Additionally, eligible renewable energy projects will be evaluated against the Equator Principles by the Sustainable Business Team of MUFG Bank's Solution Products Division. This process includes the selection of those projects categorized as Category B or C, which have limited or minimal adverse environmental and social risks and impacts. The final decision to select the eligible projects will be made by MUFG's Office of the CFO, Financial Planning Division.

2.1.2 Social projects/loans

- Loans to be selected from among those meeting one of the criteria for use of proceeds
- The loans must have been executed during the three years preceding the payment or reporting date or must be executed in the future.
- The teams responsible for selection and determination of projects in each of the categories are as follows. The responsible team checks and selects the projects for the use of proceeds based on the eligibility criteria, and the final decision to select the eligible projects will be made by the Office of the CFO of the Financial Planning Department of MUFG.

Project type	To be selected by
Employment	Corporate Finance & Strategic Advisory Division (Natural
Generation/Preservation	disasters), Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion
	Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japanese
	Corporate & Investment Banking Business Planning Division of
	Budget Planning & Control Office (Loans for SMEs and sole
	proprietors adversely affected by Infectious diseases spread)
Healthcare	Solution Products Division (Medical facilities outside Japan:),
	Office of the CFO, Financial Planning Division (Medical facilities
	in Japan) Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion
	Division of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japanese
	Corporate & Investment Banking Business Planning Division of
	Budget Planning & Control Office (pharmaceutical companies
	and medical device/produce manufactures)
Education	Solution Products Division
Affordable housing	Solution Products Division

2.2 Environmental and Social Objectives

In line with the company's mission statement "to be a foundation of strength, committed to meeting the needs of our customers, serving society, and fostering shared and sustainable growth for a better world", MUFG has a group-wide CSR Committee whose goal is to contribute to solve environmental and social issues through our core financial businesses as well as fulfilling the company's mission as the foundation of society. To this end, MUFG have determined priority issues to be addressed and set a cumulative total of 20 trillion yen in Sustainable Finance Goals (of this, 8 trillion yen is for the area of environment) between FY2019 and FY2030.



MUFG is a signatory to the UN Global Compact, the United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative (UNEPFI), the Principles of Responsible Investment (signed by Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of MUFG), CDP, the Principles for Responsible Banking and MUFG Bank is a signatory to the Equator Principles.

2.2.1 Environmental Objectives

MUFG Group is actively pursuing its environmental objectives through (i) adherence to the Equator Principles, (ii) the promotion of consulting services related to climate change measures, (iii) the issuance of green bonds and (iv) the dissemination of products and services for reducing environmental impacts. MUFG views the financing of renewable energy as a way to help reduce greenhouse gases and to integrate the CSR pillar of responsible finance into its business operations, in line with MUFG's newly adopted Environmental Policy Statement and Environmental and Social Policy Framework.⁶⁰

2.2.2 Social Objectives

MUFG aims to contribute to social development through financing, the primary function representing its business operations. In particular, we provide services unique to MUFG to address such issues as the "aging population & low birth rate", "business incubation & job creation", and "social infrastructure & town planning" among priority issues to be addressed by MUFG.

2.3 Process to Mitigate Environmental and Social Risks

2.3.1 Green projects/loans

For Green Buildings MUFG Bank will select all eligible green buildings based on a clear set of external third-party green building certification levels (LEED, BREEAM, CABSEE and DBJ Green Building Certification). Additionally, J-REITs have the option of being assessed by MURC's ESG evaluation methodology for J-REIT, which assess their management of sustainability issues. For renewable energy projects, to address environmental and social risks related to renewable energy projects, MUFG Bank categorizes projects as A, B or C, as per the Equator Principles, based on its internal environmental and social risk assessment process. As a part of this process, MUFG Bank evaluates a project for minimal, limited or significant potential adverse environmental and social impact based on the International Finance Corporation (IFC)'s eight Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability. For each Performance Standard where limited or significant risk is identified, MUFG Bank's internal process requires the Solution Products Division to work in partnership with its clients to assess and manage these environmental and social risks and impacts. The final project categorization awarded through this process is reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers Sustainability LLC. The most recent PricewaterhouseCoopers Sustainability Assurance Report will be published on the MUFG website.

2.3.2 Social projects/loans

In order to reduce potential risks, the teams responsible for selection check applicability with the following external criteria, etc. as specified in the eligibility criteria.

Project type	External criteria, etc.
Employment Generation/Preservation	 Priority given to operators using the "System for Provision of Compensation for Interest Rates on Special Zones for Reconstruction" or "Subsidy Program for New Business Establishment in the Areas Recovering from Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster towards Employment Creation" loans for businesses related infectious disease to be lent to only SMEs and sole proprietors adversely affected by the spread of infectious diseases including COVID-19
Healthcare	Hospitals Overseas facilities: Public hospitals Domestic facilities: Public hospitals, or hospitals run by a social medical care corporation or a social welfare corporation

⁶⁰ MUFG adopted the Environmental Policy Statement and the Environmental and Social Policy Framework in May 15th, 2018 and revised the Environmental and Social Policy Framework in May 15th, 2019. The document is available at:



	 Pharmaceutical companies and medical device/produce manufactures The use of loan funds to be exclusively for the spread of infectious disease measures including COVID-19
Education	Public schools
Affordable housing	Registered Social Landlord with the UK government agency

3. Management of Proceeds

MUFG will monitor and track the allocation of proceeds to eligible green and social projects/loans using MUFG Bank's internal loan management system at least yearly. While the bond will be issued by MUFG, proceeds will be loaned to MUFG Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MUFG. As soon as MUFG receives the proceeds of the bond, MUFG will remit an amount equivalent to the proceeds to MUFG Bank, based on a loan agreement made between MUFG and MUFG Bank. Pending allocation of an amount equal to the net proceeds to eligible green and social projects/loans, MUFG Bank is expected to invest an amount equal to any unallocated balance of such net proceeds in cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities.

4. Reporting

Allocation Reporting

MUFG has confirmed that it will, at least annually until full allocation and in a timely manner, in case of material developments, provide information on below:

- Allocation of the net proceeds by the project category and amount of unallocated proceeds

Assertions by management with respect to the allocation of green, social, and sustainability bond proceeds will be provided annually until full allocation, along with an annual review from Sustainalytics. The allocation reporting will be made on the company's website within three months by June from the fiscal year end of March.⁶¹

Impact Reporting

MUFG has committed to publishing an impact report annually, throughout the term of the bond, containing the following impact metrics:

Green projects/loans:

- CO2 emission reduction for green building projects and renewable energy projects
- kWh of power generated for renewable energy projects

Social projects/loans:

- For employment generation/preservation projects, the "number of employments created" and "number of loans provided to businesses including ones using the 'System for Provision of Compensation for Interest Rates on Special Zones for Reconstruction' or 'Subsidy Program for New Business Establishment in the Areas Recovering from Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster towards Employment Creation', and for the projects related to measures against the spread of infectious disease measures including COVID-19 that aim to secure employment, the "number of loans provided to businesses" as well as the "number of employees of the businesses" will be used as KPIs.
- For healthcare projects, the "number of patients receiving the medical services", or the "number of hospital beds", as well as the "number of R&D", the "number of manufacturing facilities" or the "number of medical machines" and "number of medical instruments, sanitary, vaccines / pharmaceuticals supplied" will be used as KPIs.
- For education projects, the "number of students receiving the educational services" will be used as KPIs.
- For affordable housing projects, the "number of residences provided" will be used as KPIs.

The reporting will be made on the company's website.

⁶¹ Allocation reporting will be made available at: https://www.mufg.jp/



5. Annual Review

Before the first anniversary of the green, social, and sustainability bond issuance, MUFG will engage Sustainalytics to review the projects/loans financed by MUFG's green, social and sustainability bond in order to assess compliance with the Framework. This review will be conducted annually until full allocation of the net proceeds from MUFG's green, social, and sustainability bond. Sustainalytics will provide a report of the review, which MUFG will publish on its investor relations website. In the unlikely event that the annual review identifies allocations made to activities that do not comply with the Framework, MUFG will allocate the corresponding amounts to different lending activities that are compliant with the Framework.



Appendix 2: Overview of ESG Evaluation Methodology for J-REIT

List of Ratings

S Rank	Outstanding
A Rank	Excellent
B + Rank	Good
B - Rank	Slightly poor
C Rank	Poor

List of ESG Issues

ESG Issues	Indicators	Sub indicators
		Top management commitment
	Management	Establishment of ESG management internal structure
Overall ESG	Vision and Policy	
	Management of Risks and Opportunities	Identification of materiality, risks and opportunities relevant to ESG/Sustainability
	Disclosure	
		Environmental vision, policy and quantitative targets
	Vision, policy and objectives	Long/mid-term CO2 emissions reduction targets
		Assessment for achievement of environmental targets
	Management of Risks and Opportunities	
	Stakeholder engagement	Promotion of environmental initiatives in collaboration with tenants, suppliers, and local communities
	External green building certifications	
Environment		Measurement of energy consumption
Environment		 Use of renewable energy
		 Measurement of Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions
	Climate changes	Obtaining external certification for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions
		Implementation of CO2 emission reduction activities
		Consideration of symbiosis with nature
	Resource management	Measurement and management of water consumption, waste consumption, and reduction for any environment relevant activities including water and waste consumption
Social	Vision and Policy	



	Stakeholder engagement	Tenant Health & Comfort, convenience, safety and satisfaction	
		Relationship with local communities	
		Employment (including disclosure of data for new employment, turnover, average length of service, reinstatement/retention after maternity leave)	
	Labor standard	Management of working hours	
	Laboi Standard	Implementation of initiatives for reducing working hours	
		Implementation of initiatives for increasing usage rate of paid holidays	
	Human rights		
		Establishment of ESG committee that involves executive level	
		Board effectiveness	
	Governance structure	Selection of board directors	
		Independence of top managements between investment corporations and asset managers	
		Soundness of assets	
Governance	Anti-corruption	Identification of corporate value, mission, and code of conduct	
		Implementation of employee training	
		Implementation of top management's initiatives for anti-corruption	
	Relationships with clients	Implementation of restraint of trade with the interested parties	
	Compliance	Compliance promotion structure	
	Compensation and incentive	Directors compensation and incentive	



Appendix 3: Overview and Comparison of Green Building Certification Schemes

	LEED ⁶²	BREEAM ⁶³	CASBEE Certification ⁶⁴	DBJ Green Building Certification Program ⁶⁵
Background	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a US Certification System for residential and commercial buildings used worldwide. LEED was developed by the non-profit U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and covers the design, construction, maintenance and operation of buildings.	BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) was first published by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) in 1990. Based in the UK. Used for new, refurbished and extension of existing buildings.	CASBEE (Comprehensive Assessment System for Built Environment Efficiency) represents a green building management system from Japan, evaluating and rating the environmental performance of buildings and the built environment. CASBEE is formed of four assessment tools tailored to different scales: housing, building, district and city.	DBJ Green Building Certification Programme was launched by Development Bank of Japan in 2011 and is operated together with Japan Real Estate Institute (JREI).The programme is recognized as one of regional standards.The certification is available for office buildings, logistics, residential & retail facilities.
Certification levels	Certified Silver Gold Platinum	Pass Good Very Good Excellent Outstanding	C (Poor) B- (Slightly Poor) B+ (Good) A (Very Good) S (Excellent)	1 Star (Properties with satisfactory environmental & social awareness) 2 Stars (Properties with high environmental & social awareness) 3 Stars (Properties with excellent environmental and social awareness) 4 Stars (Properties with exceptionally high environmental & social awareness) 5 Stars (Properties with the best class environmental & social awareness)
Areas of Assessment:		Management (Man) addresses various	CASBEE assesses two main factors:	Evaluation of DBJ Green Building
Environmental		aspects: project	inside and outside	Certification includes

⁶² More information on the LEED certification scheme at: https://new.usgbc.org/leed.

⁶³ More information on the BREEAM certification scheme at: https://www.breeam.com/.

⁶⁴ More information on the CASBEE certification scheme at: http://www.ibec.or.jp/CASBEE/english/.

⁶⁵ More information on the DBJ Green Building certification scheme at: http://www.dbj.jp/en/service/finance/g_building/outline.html.



Project Management		management, deployment, minimal environmental disturbance worksite and stakeholder engagement.	the building site, which translate into Q (Built Environment Quality) and, respectively, L (Built Environment Load).	construction specifications, environmental features as well as the following factors: - Disaster-prevention and anticrime measures; - Tenants' comfort and convenience; - Harmony with the surrounding environment; - Collaboration with stakeholders (including tenants and investors); and - Environmental Investor Relations activities.
Areas of Assessment: Environmental Performance of the Building	Energy and atmosphere Sustainable Sites Location and Transportation Materials and resources Water efficiency Indoor environmental quality Innovation in Design Regional Priority	Energy Land Use and Ecology Pollution Transport Materials Water Waste Health and Wellbeing Innovation	Energy Efficiency Resource efficiency Local environment Indoor environment	Assessment include three areas with some examples of following subcategories: Ecology • Energy conservation • Water resources conservation • 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) • Use of renewable energy Risk management & amenities/diversity • Security & Safety of tenant users • Convenience of tenant users Community & partnership • Landscape • Biodiversity • Relation with the local community • Owner & stakeholder relationship
Requirements	Prerequisites (independent of level of certification) + Credits with associated points. These points are then added together to obtain the LEED level of certification	Prerequisites depending on the levels of certification + Credits with associated points This number of points is then weighted by	Score-based performance level CASBEE uses the BEE (Built Environment Efficiency) as its assessment indicator, which is calculated from Q	Score-based performance level Assessment structure composed of the following three pillars: 1. Areas of assessment The features and characteristics of the
			(Built Environment Quality) as the	green building will be classified into three



1				
	There are several different rating systems within LEED. Each rating system is designed to apply to a specific sector (e.g. New Construction, Major Renovation, Core and Shell Development, Schools-/Retail-/Healthcare New Construction and Major Renovations, Existing Buildings: Operation and Maintenance).	item ⁶⁶ and gives a BREEAM level of certification, which is based on the overall score obtained (expressed as a percentage). Majority of BREEAM issues are flexible, meaning that the client can choose which to comply with to build their BREEAM performance score. BREAAM has two stages/ audit reports: a 'BREEAM Design Stage' and a 'Post Construction Stage', with different assessment criteria.	numerator and L (Built Environment Load) as the denominator. Q and L are obtained through the classification and rearrangement of the four areas of assessment. Buildings may receive ranks ranging from C (poor) to S (excellent), in order of increasing BEE value. For authorization, a building must receive a report from the CASBEE Certification system, which is afterwards assessed by the local government.	main categories: ecology, risk management & amenities/diversity, and community & partnership. Each main area consists of five subcategories and has a full score of 100 points. The entire assessment consists of 58 questions. 2. Comprehensive assessment Among the conventional assessment points, some particular importance is attached to the owner operation of the property, such as, in the risk management part, disaster prevention & anticrime measures, and in the community & partnership part, local environment- awareness initiatives. 3. Innovation point system An additional point system An additional point system is adopted to reflect exceptionally innovative initiatives in each subcategory. Such initiatives need not fit in the scope of the respective questions. JREI will conduct on the ground review of building performance on the indicators above, and a committee set in JREI will decide the result of certification rank. ⁶⁷
Performance Display	CENTRED SSAED CHARLES FLATANM Strpades Strpades	Pass * * Custanding	00 S A B+ B R1-03 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	The second state of the se

⁶⁶ BREEAM weighting: Management 12%, Health and wellbeing 15%, Energy 19%, Transport 8%, Water 6%, Materials 12.5%, Waste 7.5%, Land Use and ecology 10%, Pollution 10% and Innovation 10%. One point scored in the Energy item is therefore worth twice as much in the overall score as one point scored in the Pollution item

67 DBJ Green Building, "Process of certification (Japanese only)", at: http://igb.jp/flow.html.



Qualitative considerations	Worldwide recognition and application	Worldwide recognition and application	In Japan, many local governments have made CASBEE assessment results mandatory for building permits compared to similar tools available.	In addition to LEED and CASBEE, DBJ Green Buildings Certification Programme is considered as one of the green building standards in Japan. According to its website, as of March 2019, 695 properties in Japan are certified by the programme.

⁶⁸ DBJ Green Building, "DBJ Green Building", at: http://igb.jp/en/index.html.



Appendix 4: Sustainability Bond / Sustainability Bond Programme - External Review Form

Section 1. Basic Information

Issuer name:	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.
Sustainability Bond ISIN or Issuer Sustainability Bond Framework Name, if applicable: [specify as appropriate]	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green Bond, Social Bond, and Sustainability Bond Framework
Review provider's name:	Sustainalytics
Completion date of this form:	13 May 2020
Publication date of review publication: [where appropriate, specify if it is an update and add reference to earlier relevant review]	

Section 2. Review overview

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The following may be used or adapted, where appropriate, to summarise the scope of the review.

The review assessed the following elements and confirmed their alignment with the GBPs and SBPs:

×	Use of Proceeds	\boxtimes	Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
\boxtimes	Management of Proceeds	\boxtimes	Reporting
ROLE	(S) OF REVIEW PROVIDER		
\boxtimes	Consultancy (incl. 2 nd opinion)		Certification
	Verification		Rating
	Other (please specify):		
	Note: In case of multiple reviews / different pro review.	viders	, please provide separate forms for each

Food security



EXI	ECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REVIEW and/or LINK	TO F	ULL REVIEW (if applicable)				
Plea	Please refer to Evaluation Summary above.						
Se	ction 3. Detailed review						
	riewers are encouraged to provide the information to explain the scope of their review.	n belo	ow to the extent possible and use the comment				
1. L	SE OF PROCEEDS						
Ove	erall comment on section (if applicable):						
(iv) reco proj		tion, a					
Us	e of proceeds categories as per GBP:						
\boxtimes	Renewable energy		Energy efficiency				
	Pollution prevention and control		Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use				
	Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation		Clean transportation				
	Sustainable water and wastewater management		Climate change adaptation				
	Eco-efficient and/or circular economy adapted products, production technologies and processes	\boxtimes	Green buildings				
	Unknown at issuance but currently expected to conform with GBP categories, or other eligible areas not yet stated in GBPs		Other (please specify):				
lf ap	oplicable please specify the environmental taxono	omy, i	f other than GBPs:				
Us	e of proceeds categories as per SBP:						
	Affordable basic infrastructure	\boxtimes	Access to essential services				
\boxtimes	Affordable housing	\boxtimes	Employment generation (through SME financing				

and microfinance)

empowerment

Socioeconomic advancement and

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework



	Unknown at issuance but currently expected to conform with SBP categories, or other eligible areas not yet stated in SBPs		Other (please specify):
If ap	pplicable please specify the social taxonomy, if	other	than SBPs:
	PROCESS FOR PROJECT EVALUATION AND erall comment on section (if applicable):	SEL	ECTION
Divi Divi Divi	ision, Corporate Finance & Strategic Advisory Dision of Budget Planning & Control Office, Japa	ivisio nese MUFC	ated and selected by MUFG Bank's Solution Products on, Retail & Commercial Banking Business Promotion Corporate & Investment Banking Business Planning B's Office of the CFO. The final decision will be given process as aligned with market practice.
Eva	aluation and selection		
\boxtimes	Credentials on the issuer's social and green objectives	\boxtimes	Documented process to determine that projects fit within defined categories
\boxtimes	Defined and transparent criteria for projects eligible for Sustainability Bond proceeds	\boxtimes	Documented process to identify and manage potential ESG risks associated with the project
	Summary criteria for project evaluation and selection publicly available		Other (please specify):
Info	ormation on Responsibilities and Accountab	ility	
\boxtimes	Evaluation / Selection criteria subject to external advice or verification		In-house assessment
	Other (please specify):		
	MANAGEMENT OF PROCEEDS		
Ove	erall comment on section (if applicable):		
mar amo	nagement system, which will be monitored by I	MUFC	ill be tracked using by MUFG Bank's internal loan G. Pending full allocation, MUFG will invest an equal alents or marketable securities. This process is in line
Tra	cking of proceeds:		
\boxtimes	Sustainability Bond proceeds segregated or tr	acke	d by the issuer in an appropriate
	Disclosure of intended types of temporary inventor	estme	ent instruments for unallocated



	Other (please s	pecify):			
Add	litional disclosu	re:			
	Allocations to fu	ture investments only	\boxtimes	Allocation investme	ns to both existing and future nts
	Allocation to ind	lividual disbursements		Allocation	n to a portfolio of disbursements
	Disclosure of pounallocated pro-	ortfolio balance of ceeds		Other (pl	ease specify):
4. R	EPORTING				
Ove	rall comment on	section (if applicable):			
inclu for a an com	ude the amount a all eligible green a independent ext imitments along v	Ilocated/unallocated. MUFG and social categories. Moreovernal provider after the bounder after the bounder annual review to be in lin	intend ver, M nd is:	ds to repor IUFG is co suance. S	on its website. The allocation reporting will timpact reporting using quantitative metrics ommitted to receiving an annual review from sustainalytics considers MUFG's reporting est practice.
Use	of proceeds rep	-		_	
	Project-by-proj	ect	\boxtimes	On a proj	ect portfolio basis
	Linkage to indiv	vidual bond(s)		Other (pl	ease specify):
	Information	reported:			
	\boxtimes	Allocated amounts			Sustainability Bond financed share of total investment
		Other (please specify):			
	Fre	equency:			
	\boxtimes	Annual			Semi-annual
	⊠	Other (please specify): and timely basis in case of mat developments		ı	
lmp	act reporting:				
	Project-by-proje	ect	\boxtimes	On a pro	oject portfolio basis
	Linkage to indiv	vidual bond(s)		Other (p	lease specify):

Frequency:

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Green, Social, and Sustainability Bond Framework



	×	Annual			Semi-annual
		Other (please specify): and timely basis in case of mate developments			
	Info	ormation reported (expected	d or e	ex-post):	
	\boxtimes	GHG Emissions / Savings			Energy Savings
		Decrease in water use			Number of beneficiaries
		Target populations		\boxtimes	Other ESG indicators (please specify):
Mea	ns of Disclosure				 kWh of renewable energy produced Number of employments generated by and of loans provided to business that contributes to reconstruction of disaster affected areas, Number of employments generated/preserved by and of loans provided to business affected by infectious disease, Number of patients or hospital beds treated, Number of R&D or manufacturing facilities, medical machines, and number of medical instruments, sanitary, vaccines / pharmaceuticals supplied Number of students treated by schools, Number of affordable housing supported
		ilished in financial report		Informat	ion published in sustainability
	Information pub	lished in ad hoc documents	\boxtimes	report Other (p	lease specify):MUFG website
	Reporting review	wed (if yes, please specify wh	nich p	arts of the	e reporting are subject to

Where appropriate, please specify name and date of publication in the useful links section.

external review):



USEFUL LINKS (e.g. to review provider methodology or credentials, to issuer's documentation, etc.)						
https://www.mufg.jp/english/index.html						
SPECIFY OTHER EXTERNAL REVIEWS A	VAILABLE, IF APPROPRIATE					
Type(s) of Review provided:						
☐ Consultancy (incl. 2 nd opinion)	☐ Certification					
□ Verification / Audit	☐ Rating					
☐ Other (please specify):						
Review provider(s):	Date of publication:					

ABOUT ROLE(S) OF REVIEW PROVIDERS AS DEFINED BY THE GBP AND THE SBP

- i. Second Party Opinion: An institution with sustainability expertise that is independent from the issuer may provide a Second Party Opinion. The institution should be independent from the issuer's adviser for its Sustainability Bond framework, or appropriate procedures such as information barriers will have been implemented within the institution to ensure the independence of the Second Party Opinion. It normally entails an assessment of the alignment with the Principles. In particular, it can include an assessment of the issuer's overarching objectives, strategy, policy, and/or processes relating to sustainability and an evaluation of the environmental and social features of the type of Projects intended for the Use of Proceeds.
- ii. Verification: An issuer can obtain independent verification against a designated set of criteria, typically pertaining to business processes and/or sustainability criteria. Verification may focus on alignment with internal or external standards or claims made by the issuer. Also, evaluation of the environmentally or socially sustainable features of underlying assets may be termed verification and may reference external criteria. Assurance or attestation regarding an issuer's internal tracking method for use of proceeds, allocation of funds from Sustainability Bond proceeds, statement of environmental or social impact or alignment of reporting with the Principles may also be termed verification.
- iii. Certification: An issuer can have its Sustainability Bond or associated Sustainability Bond framework or Use of Proceeds certified against a recognised external sustainability standard or label. A standard or label defines specific criteria, and alignment with such criteria is normally tested by qualified, accredited third parties, which may verify consistency with the certification criteria.
- iv. Green, Social and Sustainability Bond Scoring/Rating: An issuer can have its Sustainability Bond, associated Sustainability Bond framework or a key feature such as Use of Proceeds evaluated or assessed by qualified third parties, such as specialised research providers or rating agencies, according to an established scoring/rating methodology. The output may include a focus on environmental and/or social performance data, process relative to the Principles, or another benchmark, such as a 2-degree climate change scenario. Such scoring/rating is distinct from credit ratings, which may nonetheless reflect material sustainability risks.



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