

March 31, 2023

Company Name: The Chiba Bank, Ltd.
Representative: Tsutomu Yonemoto, President
Stock Exchange Listing: Tokyo (code: 8331)

Chiba Bank Announces Formation of Green Loan for Overseas Local Subsidiary of Abalance Co., Ltd.

March 31, 2023 - The Chiba Bank, Ltd. (President and CEO: Tsutomu Yonemoto) (“Chiba Bank” or “the Bank”) today announced the formation of a Green Loan based on the Green Loan Framework established by Abalance Co., Ltd. for their Vietnam-based consolidated local subsidiary Vietnam Sunergy Joint Stock Company (“VSUN”).

VSUN, the recipient of the loan, is a solar panel manufacturing firm owned by Abalance Co., Ltd., a comprehensive green energy company listed on the Standard market segment of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The funding provided will be exclusively used to acquire new solar panel manufacturing plants and the project is expected to contribute to the reduction of CO² emissions across society through the sale and operation of solar panels produced at these plants. This loan has also obtained a second-party opinion from Rating & Investment Information, Inc. regarding its adherence to the Green Loan Framework.

The “Tsubasa Alliance”^{*1} is a large-scale regional bank partnership framework that seeks to promote initiatives designed to contribute to solutions for social and environmental issues through the business operations of its member banks based on the “Tsubasa SDGs Declaration”. Chiba Bank’s Hong Kong Branch formulated this loan based on the standby L/C issued by the Bank and Daishi Hokuetsu Bank, Ltd (President and Representative Director: Michiro Ueguri). **This is the first time the two banks have collaborated on a financing project for a Vietnam-based local subsidiary.**

In addition, Chiba Bank has established “sustainable financing”^{*2} targets and pledged to invest 2 trillion yen (including 1 trillion yen of environmental financing) from 2019 to 2030. The entire Chiba Bank Group will continue to further promote sustainable financing initiatives while sharing knowledge with its partner financial institutions.

^{*1} Large-scale regional bank partnership framework consisting of 10 banks: Chiba Bank, Daishi Hokuetsu Bank, Chugoku Bank, Iyo Bank, Toho Bank, North Pacific Bank, Musashino Bank, Shiga Bank, Bank of the Ryukyus, and Gunma Bank.

^{*2} Financing intended solely to contribute to solutions for environmental and social issues, including financing designed to support the ESG and SDGs initiatives of the Bank’s customers.

<Reference> Chiba Bank Integrated Report 2022 (Annual Report)
URL: https://www.chibabank.co.jp/english/ir/library/annual_report/

CHIBA BANK NEWS

【Project Outline】

Borrower	Vietnam Sunergy Joint Stock Company (Vietnam-based consolidated local subsidiary of Abalance Co., Ltd.)
Loan agent	Chiba Bank Hong Kong Branch
L/C Issuers	Chiba Bank Kisarazu Branch, Daishi Hokuetsu Bank Tokyo Branch
Execution date	Friday March 31, 2023
Third-party assessment	Rating & Investment Information, Inc.
Loan amount	10 million U.S. dollars
Use of funds	Capital investment for solar panel manufacturing plants (located in Vietnam)

【Loan Scheme Overview】

