## Overview of Operations

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The Micro Business and Individual Unit (Micro Unit) acts as a community-based financial institution. It provides business loans to micro/small businesses and business start-ups, and educational loans to individuals who are in need of funds for school entrance fees and other educational expenses.

Small Loans to a Large Number of Micro Businesses

- Loans have been made to 0.93 million businesses.
- The average loan balance per business is 6.79 million yen, most of which were small loans.
- Approximately 90% of borrowers are businesses with nine or fewer employees, and approximately half are sole proprietorship.

Safety Net Financing

- Micro Unit provides Safety-Net Loans to support micro/small enterprises experiencing financing difficulties because of a changing business environment.
- Through loans and other means, Micro Unit supports the rehabilitation and reconstruction of micro/small businesses that have suffered damage at times of disaster such as earthquakes, typhoons and heavy snowfalls.

Supporting Business Start-ups and Business Reconstruction

- The number of loans made to business start-ups (consisting of those that have yet to start and those that are within 1 year of start-up) reached approximately 22,800 a year. It is estimated that about 84,000 jobs were created annually as a result.
- Supports businesses engaged in innovative businesses through subordinated capital loans (from March, 2013).
- Supports recovering micro and small businesses.

Supporting Social Businesses and Overseas Expansion, etc.

- Supports businesses engaged in social businesses which are engaged in solving community issues.
- Micro Unit supports micro/small businesses trying to expand overseas.

Collaboration with Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Societies of Commerce and Industry, and Environmental Health Trade Associations

- Micro Unit works in close collaboration with such organizations as Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Societies of Commerce and Industry, and Environmental Health Trade Associations to support the financial improvement of micro/small businesses, and help maintain or improve the sanitation level of environmental health-related businesses.
- Micro Unit proactively collaborates with regional financial institutions.

Support through Educational Loans, etc.

- Approximately 110,000 Educational Loans are made each year.

Breakdown of Loans (FY2013)

- Educational Loans: 6.8%
- Environmental Health Business (EHB) Loans (including Managerial Improvement Loans for EHB): 2.1%
- Managerial Improvement Loans: 8.1%
- General Loans: 5.5%
- Other Special Loans: 20.1%
- Special Loans: 77.1%
- Safety-Net Loans: 57.0%

Trends in Business Loans

Note: Results up to September, 2008 represent that of the National Life Finance Corporation.
Supporting Micro/Small Businesses

Business Loans were provided to 0.93 million businesses. Most of the loans are for small amounts, with an average loan balance per business of 6.79 million yen. Approximately 90% of the borrowers have nine or fewer employees, and approximately half of them are sole proprietorship. The percentage of all loans that are uncollateralized is over 70%.

### Number of Business Borrowers and Average Loan Balance per Business (as of end of FY2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Micro Business and Individual Unit</th>
<th>Total for credit associations (267 credit associations)</th>
<th>Total for domestic banks (139 banks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of business borrowers (million)</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>2.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average loan balance per business (million yen)</td>
<td>6.79</td>
<td>36.38</td>
<td>86.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1. Figures for Micro Business and Individual Unit are the total of General Loans and Environmental Health Business Loans.
2. Domestic banks include major commercial banks, regional banks, secondary regional banks, and trust banks.
3. Figures for credit associations and domestic banks do not include loans to individuals (loans for housing, consumption, tax payments, etc.), loans to regional public organizations, overseas yen-loans, or loans made to businesses in foreign countries in name of their domestic branches. Number of business borrowers for credit associations and domestic banks are based on the number of loans.

Source: Bank of Japan website

### Demonstrating Safety Net Financing

The number of Safety-Net Loans (including earthquakes) made in FY2013 to micro/small businesses experiencing financing difficulties because of a changing business or financial environment reached 138,106.

Furthermore, a special consultation service is immediately established in the event of an unforeseen event, such as a natural disaster or a major corporate bankruptcy, so that affected micro/small business owners can receive consultation to find ways to ease their loan and repayment terms.

Micro Unit supports the rehabilitation and reconstruction of micro/small businesses that have suffered damage at times of disaster such as earthquakes, typhoons and heavy snowfalls, by means of Disaster Loans that have more favorable repayment conditions than regular loans, such as a longer repayment period or a longer grace period for the principal.

Between March 11, 2011 when the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred and March 31, 2014 Micro Unit executed 205,552 loans related to the earthquake, amounting to 2,008.4 billion yen.

### Main Consultation Desks Currently In Operation (as of May 31, 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special consultation services</th>
<th>Date of establishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for the Great East Japan Earthquake</td>
<td>Mar. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for damage suffered as a result of Typhoon No. 12 in 2011</td>
<td>Sep. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for damage suffered as a result of heavy rain and severe storm that struck between June 8 and July 23, 2012</td>
<td>Jul. 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for damage suffered as a result of Typhoon No. 26 in 2013</td>
<td>Oct. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for damage suffered as a result of heavy snowfall that began on February 14, 2014</td>
<td>Feb. 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for countermeasures against increases in the cost of raw materials and energy</td>
<td>Feb. 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special consultation desk for overcoming deflation, etc.</td>
<td>Feb. 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trends in Loans for the Great East Japan Earthquake (Cumulative)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Billion yen)</th>
<th>Number of loans</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 11, 2011</td>
<td>76339</td>
<td>145361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 31, 2012</td>
<td>14413.2</td>
<td>191322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 31, 2013</td>
<td>191322</td>
<td>205552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 31, 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>20084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Loans for the Great East Japan Earthquake include Disaster Loans and Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Special Loans (cumulative).
Overview of Operations

Actively Supporting Business Start-ups

Support for Business Start-ups

Not a few start-ups and venture companies undertaking innovative new businesses face difficulties obtaining funding for such reasons as a short business history. Micro Unit actively provides loans to these companies to support their business activities.

The number of loans made to business start-ups (consisting of those that have yet to start and those that are within 1 year of start-up) in FY2013 totals approximately 22,800. It is estimated that about 84,000 jobs were created annually as a result.

8,483 businesses received loans under the New Start-up Loan program in FY2013. The program provides no-collateral, no-guarantor loans to start-ups that have not yet filed their tax returns for their second business year.

Setting up Business Start-up Support Desks

Business Start-up Support Desks are set up in 152 branches nationwide where specialist staff provide a range of useful information for business start-ups, such as advice on the creation of business start-up plans.

Supporting Collaboration between Industry and Academia

Micro Unit also supports collaboration between industry and academia by acting as an intermediary and referring technology-related inquiries from micro businesses to universities, and by providing loans to university-initiated venture companies.

Changes in Loans to Businesses Newly Established (Number of Companies) (FY2013)

- Before establishment and within one year after establishment
- New Start-up Loan program

**[Job Creation Effects]**

22,800 companies x average of 3.7 employees (Note) = 84,360

(Note) The average number of employees at time of business start, based on Survey on Business Start-ups in Japan (FY2013) by the JFC Research Institute.

Supporting Women, Youth and Senior Entrepreneurs

We are actively providing loans to those who are starting-up companies, enabling women to leverage their sensibilities, young people to exercise their ideas, and senior entrepreneurs to utilize their experience.

Loans Made to Women, Youth and Senior Entrepreneurs (Number of Companies)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>FY2012 (Number of companies)</th>
<th>FY2013 (Number of companies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>3,724</td>
<td>4,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (aged 30 and younger)</td>
<td>1,718</td>
<td>1,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors (aged 55 and older)</td>
<td>1,659</td>
<td>2,283</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Women who also qualify as youth or seniors are included in the Women category.

JFC Supports Businesses that Take on the Challenge of Innovative New Technologies

In March 2013, Capital Loans (Provision Scheme for Challenge Support and Capital Enhancement) was established to support businesses such as those conducting research using innovative new technologies.

In FY2013, the program provided loans to 101 companies. JFC actively supports companies such as research and development venture companies that have a large research and development debt burden but at the same time have a high degree of technological skill.

Actively Supporting Business Start-ups

Through the business reconstruction & business succession support fund, Micro Unit supports parties undergoing corporate reorganization through involvement of the Small and Medium Size Business Rehabilitation Support Co-operative, approval of reconstruction plans based on the Civil Rehabilitation Act, or collaboration with commercial financial institutions, and business succession.

With business support managers at 152 branches nationwide, Micro Unit flexibly responds to requests to have their repayment terms relaxed by temporarily extending principal repayment due dates or reducing monthly payment amounts. Micro Unit supports business owners working toward administrative improvement by offering support in creating administrative improvement plans and offering advice designed to solve administrative problems.

Number of loans to parties undergoing corporate reorganization or business succession: 199 loans (FY2013)
Supporting Social Businesses and Overseas Expansion

Supporting Social Businesses

Micro Unit supports Social Businesses (Note 1) engaged in solving community issues and which create stable and ongoing employment.

In FY2013, 4,987 loans were issued to Social Businesses totaling 44.9 billion yen. Of those, 740 loans (comparison with the previous year: 115.6%) were issued to NPOs totaling 5.8 billion yen (118.3%), and 4,759 (112.5%) were issued to nursing care and welfare businesses (Note 2) totaling 43.4 billion yen (108.2%).

(Note 1) A wide variety of social problems are surfacing in local communities, including environmental protection, nursing care and welfare services for the elderly and the disabled, support for child-raising, community revitalization, sightseeing, etc. Social businesses engage in utilizing business techniques to solve these social or community issues in collaboration with various participants such as citizens, NPOs, and corporations (except from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) website).

(Note 2) Companies involved in welfare and nursing care for the elderly, child welfare, welfare for the disabled, as well as other companies involved in social insurance, social welfare, and nursing care.

Supporting Overseas Expansion

Micro Unit works in cooperation with JETRO, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, and other specialized organizations that support overseas development to conduct consultation services. Through these relationship, we provide information that meets customer needs.

The number of loans provided through the Loans for Overseas Expansion totaled 522 in FY2013. Approximately sixty percent of these loans were issued to wholesalers and retailers. Customers include corporations/individuals working in fields that are popular overseas such as Japanese cuisine and local traditional crafts, the so-called "Cool Japan" fields.

Establishment of Business Start-up Support Centers and Business Support Plazas

Micro Unit has established Business Start-up Support Centers and Business Support Plazas throughout Japan to support a wide range of business start-ups and others attempting to start a second business (Note).

(Note) Companies diversifying or moving into a new business field.

[Business Start-up Support Centers]

- Centers are located in 15 regions of Japan from Hokkaido to Kyushu.
- Centers provide timely support to customers through collaboration with regional organizations that support start-ups.
- Centers organize diverse seminars targeted at customers in varying stages of their business cycle, both before and after starting business.

[Business Support Plazas]

- In six locations: Sapporo, Sendai, Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka, and Fukuoka.
- Appointments for consultation are available to persons who plan to start a new business and those who have never used JFC’s services.
- For those who cannot visit during regular business hours, weekend and evening appointments are also available (excluding national holidays).

Notes: 1. Sunday consultations are available on first and third Sundays of each month at Tokyo Business Support Plaza.
2. Night consultations are available at Tokyo Business Support Plaza (every Thursday) and Osaka Business Support Plaza (every second and fourth Tuesday).
Collaboration with Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Societies of Commerce and Industry, and Environmental Health Trade Associations

Collaboration with Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Societies of Commerce and Industry

Micro Unit works in close collaboration with regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and with Societies of Commerce and Industry throughout Japan to support business improvement of micro/small businesses such as through Managerial Improvement Loans (MARUKEI Loans) and consultation sessions.

Managerial Improvement Loans (MARUKEI Loans) are a program whereby micro/small businesses receiving management guidance, such as from Chambers of Commerce and Industry or Societies of Commerce and Industry, can utilize funds needed for managerial improvement without collateral or guarantors. Since the establishment of this program in 1973, approximately 4.88 million loans have been provided.

Collaboration with Environmental Health Trade Associations and Environmental Health Business Guidance Centers

Micro Unit works with such organizations as Environmental Health Trade Associations and Environmental Health Business Guidance Centers to support the maintenance and enhancement of the sanitation level of environmental health-related businesses. The majority of the borrowers of Environmental Health Business Loans are businesses with four or fewer employees. Approximately 80% are sole proprietorship, and approximately 50% have been in business for five years or less.

Holding of “One-Day JFC” Consultation Sessions at Chambers of Commerce and Industry and at Societies of Commerce and Industry

Consultation sessions called “One-Day JFCs,” where staff from Micro Unit consult on finance, are held at Chambers of Commerce and Industry and at Societies of Commerce and Industry. Every year, many micro/small businesses come to ask for advice.

Initiatives to Support Environmental Health-related Businesses

Micro Unit provides loans (Environmental Health Business Loans) and information to support businesses, such as restaurants, coffee shops, butcher shops, ice sellers, barbers, beauty salons, entertainment facilities, hotels, public baths, dry cleaners, etc. in their business development planning, management guidance, and environmental health management.

Collaboration with Regional Financial Institutions

Micro Unit is actively working to reinforce its collaboration with regional financial institutions that are working to strengthen their relationships with the local communities as providers of funds (“relationship banking”) mainly in the area of start-up support operations.
Educational Loans for School Entrance Fees and Related Expenses

The Micro Unit handles Educational Loans to lighten the financial burden of educational expenses on families and provide equal educational opportunities. Approximately 110,000 Educational Loans were provided in FY2013.

Utilized Primarily by Families with Large Educational Expenses

Educational Loans are primarily provided to families with university or technical college students, who incur large educational expenses.

Borrower Details by Type of Educational Institution (FY2013 general educational loans (direct loans))

- Universities: 48.3% (1.51 million yen)
- Technical colleges: 27.5% (1.48 million yen)
- High schools: 10.6% (1.00 million yen)
- Junior colleges: 5.7% (1.44 million yen)
- Higher professional schools, other: 6.9% (1.36 million yen)
- Overseas universities, etc.: 1.0% (2.10 million yen)

Note: Figures inside parentheses indicate the average loan amount.

Changes in Educational Loans (Number of Loans)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Thousands of Loans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2009</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2010</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2011</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2012</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2013</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expansion of National Education Loans

We have increased the maximum amount of funding available for national education loans, starting from April, 2014.

- Loan amounts
  - 3 million yen or less ⇒ 3.5 million yen or less per child

*When used to fund study abroad, the limit is 4.5 million yen

(Appplies to loans used for study at overseas junior colleges, universities, and graduate schools for 1 or more years. Includes loans other than those for study abroad)

Providing Loans Secured by Governmental Pensions or Mutual Pensions

Loans Secured by Governmental Pensions or Mutual Pensions, etc., are offered only by JFC (or the Okinawa Development Finance Corporation in Okinawa Prefecture) in accordance with the Act on Loans Rendered by Japan Finance Corporation Secured by Public Officers Pension. These loans can be used for a broad range of purposes, including home purchases and business funding.

Micro Unit Supports Developing Countries

Supporting Developing Countries via ODA (Official Development Assistance)

Since June 2011 we have provided technical cooperation to Lao Development Bank (LDB), the state-owned commercial bank in the Lao PDR, in the field of SME financing in conjunction with the Policy Research Institute (PRI) of Ministry of Finance (MOF) Japan.

The goal of this project is to improve the LDB’s human resources and its credit operations.

It is held both in Laos and Japan four times a year for approximately two weeks per seminar. Employees attend lectures on topics such as loan screening procedures, etc.

Laos is the third beneficiary country of these seminars after Vietnam and Malaysia.

A lecture being held as part of a seminar in Laos (Vientiane)
Through providing loans, etc. to businesses in agriculture, forestry and fishery industries as well as the food industry in Japan, the Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Business Unit (AFFF Unit) contributes toward strengthening of these industries while ensuring the stable supply of safe and high-quality foods.

**Loans**

The AFFF Unit provides long-term financing, taking into account the fact that the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors have unique business characteristics such as long investment recovery periods and unstable income caused by the effects of weather. Assistance is also provided to the food industry, which contributes to the stable supply of domestically produced agricultural, forestry and fisheries products, as well as helping to increase value-added levels.

**Diverse Management Support Services**

The AFFF Unit provides various services for supporting the operations of customers in the agricultural, forestry, fisheries and food businesses.

**Customer Call Center and Periodic Consultation Desk Services**

The AFFF Unit provides easily accessible consultation services at a customer call center and at the 48 branches nationwide where the Unit is permanently based, as well as at 123 consultation service sites that operate throughout Japan on a routine schedule.

**Management Support Provided through Collaboration with Management Advisors and External Networks**

Advisors in the fields of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries respond to consultation requests from customers concerning all aspects of their business management. We also cooperate with private financial institutions and external specialized agencies such as the Japan Professional-Agriculture total support Organization (J-PAO) and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) on matters concerning business cooperation in order to provide assistance with customer problems.

**Business Matching Support**

The AFFF Unit supports efforts by agricultural, forestry and fishery business operators as well as those in the food manufacturing and distribution industries to expand their own sales channels and customer base. It does this by means of the Agri-Food EXPO (an exhibit and business fair for domestically produced agricultural products) and JFC Internet Business Matching, leveraging its unique capabilities for wide-ranging support from the initial production of related products through to processing and sales.

**Provision of Information**

The AFFF Unit provides customers and relevant organizations with useful information through its AFC Forum and Agriculture & Food Business Support information magazines, various reports such as the Business Confidence Survey of the Agricultural Industry and the Survey on Movement of the Food Industry, and through press releases, the website and the email distribution service.

**Promoting Private Financing Support in Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Fields**

The AFFF Unit is working to build an environment that encourages private financial institutions to actively enter the agricultural, forestry, and fisheries fields by providing information on industry trends and assessment of agricultural credit risks (Agricultural Credit Risk Information Service (ACRIS)) and also offering financing and securitization support services.
Agriculture

By providing funds in line with the policies of the Basic Law on Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas, and those of the Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas, the AFFF Unit actively supports efforts of farmers to improve their management with drive and innovative ideas.

Supporting Persons Engaged in Agriculture through Long-term Loans

Through Super L Loan and other long-term financing, the AFFF Unit supports management improvements such as scale expansion, cost reductions and Sixth Industrialization (e.g., processing, sales, and other business undertaken integrally by agricultural, forestry, and fishery businesses to increase the added value of products) by diverse local farmers, including corporate-run rice growing, horticulture, livestock farming, and other operations, as well as large-scale family-run operations, new farmers, and companies entering the agriculture field.

Exercising Safety Net Functions following Disasters and Changes in Business Conditions

The AFFF Unit offers dynamic support in the form of long-term working capital loans to provide agricultural operators as a safety net function against short-term crises such as natural disasters including earthquake and typhoon, etc., contagious livestock diseases, falls in the price of agricultural products, and rises in feed prices.

The special loans (uncollateralized and unguaranteed) for livestock farming that began in January 2013 as a measure against rising compound feed prices saw greatly increased use during FY2013.

The AFFF Unit supported reconstruction efforts, primarily equipment funds, for agricultural businesses affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Forestry

By providing funds in line with the policies of the Basic Law on Forest and Forestry, the AFFF Unit actively supports the improvement of forest that has multifunctional roles, and the creation of structures to supply and process domestically harvested lumber.

Providing Financing to Forestry Operators Facing Difficulties in Procuring Loans

Given that it generally takes about 50 years for a forest to develop and so recovering any capital takes a very long time, many forestry operators face difficulties in securing loans from private financial institutions. For this reason, the AFFF Unit supports forestry operators by providing the ultra-long-term finance that is required until logging.

Supporting Increased Use of Wood Biomass

Wood biomass is an energy source linked to the prevention of global warming, and expanding its use has become a key component of Japan’s forestry policy.

The AFFF Unit supports the expansion of wood biomass utilization by providing loans for projects such as the construction of the power generation facilities that use forest and timber offcuts, and the introduction of sawdust-fired boilers.

### Super L Loans Provided

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Super L Loans</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of businesses</td>
<td>4,454 loans</td>
<td>6,420 loans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of loans</td>
<td>109.7 billion yen</td>
<td>151.3 billion yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of businesses</td>
<td>2,806 loans</td>
<td>4,383 loans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of loans</td>
<td>65.1 billion yen</td>
<td>97.7 billion yen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note) From FY2012 the “People and Agriculture Plan” established special Super L Loans (interest-free for the first 5 years) for people engaged in agriculture who are the leading business organizations in their communities.

### Breakdown of Loans by Lending Period (FY2013, Forestry (Note))

- **Within 15 years**: 75.8%
- **15-20 years**: 18.2%
- **Over 30 years**: 18.2%

(Note) Excluding agriculture, forestry and fisheries facilities loans (forestry)
**Fisheries**

By supplying funds in line with the policies of the Fisheries Basic Act, the AFFF Unit actively supports efforts to ensure a stable supply of marine products and the sustained use of marine resources.

### Supporting Principal Fishery Operators

The Fisheries Management Improvement Support Loan is a financing program that provides comprehensive support to fisheries operators wishing to improve their businesses. Since 2007, the AFFF Unit has participated actively in the G project, and the amount lent has remained steady.

In FY2013, loans to fisheries operators that suffered damage in the Great East Japan Earthquake decreased, and together with Fishing Boat Loans and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Facilities Loans, total loans for fishing vessels amounted to 10.6 billion yen.

(Note) G Project: The Fisheries Structural Reform Project (G Project) was launched by the national government in FY2007 to promote collaboration between fishery businesses and local communities for reform of entire production structures, from fish harvesting to product shipment, in an effort to raise profitability. The AFFF Unit not only provides funds for building and purchasing fishing vessels but also actively participates in joint projects with local communities to raise the profitability of fisheries by fishing boats.

### Exercising Safety Net Functions at Time of Disasters and Changes in Business Conditions

The AFFF Unit provides a safety net function to fisheries operators who suffer from the temporary deterioration of business conditions due to factors including natural disasters such as tsunami and red tide, falling prices of fisheries products, and rising fuel prices by delivering rapid and flexible assistance, for example, in the form of long-term working capital loans.

In addition, the AFFF Unit supported business continuity following the Great East Japan Earthquake by providing long-term working capital loans at the beginning to fisheries operators who suffered damage. In FY2013 the majority of loans were made for capital investment to support the reconstruction effort.

### Food Industry

Through providing funding to food manufacturing and distribution companies that deal in domestic agricultural, forestry, and fishery products, the AFFF Unit actively supports efforts for the stable supply of domestically produced raw materials and for improving added value.

### Helping to Increase the Use of Domestic Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products

Loans to the food industry are provided to businesses that use domestically produced raw materials, and are aimed at increased use of domestically produced agricultural, forestry and fishery products. An estimation of the effects of the loans made in FY2013 suggests that the transaction volumes of domestically produced raw materials will increase by approximately 126,000 tons over the next five years.

In particular, one of the requirements for the Hilly and Mountainous Areas Revitalization Loan and the Food Distribution System Improvement Loan is an increase in the volume of domestically produced agricultural, forestry and fishery products used. The requirement helps to promote collaboration between the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors and the food industry.

### Supporting Reconstruction of the Fisheries Product Processing Industry following the Earthquake

The AFFF Unit supports the reconstruction of fisheries product processing businesses following the Great East Japan Earthquake through such means as loans with zero real interest rates and other special financing programs. In FY2013, earthquake-related loans made to fisheries product processing operators was amounted to 5.1 billion yen, supporting local businesses as the reconstruction effort began in earnest.
Providing a Wide Range of Management Support Services

The AFFF Unit provides various suggestions and offers information for customers tailored to their needs and concerns at convenient locations. Such services include management improvement advice, business match-making, and referrals to experts.

Management Consulting Services

Consulting Services Provided at Locations Convenient for Customers

The AFFF Unit provides easily accessible consultation services at branches nationwide, a customer call center, and at 123 consultation service sites that operate throughout Japan on a routine schedule.

Business Matching Support

Agri-Food EXPO, Domestic Agricultural Product Exhibition and Business Fair Held

In FY2013 the AFFF Unit again hosted the Agri-Food EXPO, Japan’s largest agricultural product exhibition and business fair, in Tokyo (August 2013) and in Osaka (February 2014).

Held since FY2006, the Agri-Food EXPO is an exhibition and business fair for providing business matching opportunities that link farmers and food processors, who are looking for market expansion, together with buyers.

Farmers and food processors committed to local agricultural produce came to exhibit from all over Japan, and held lively business negotiations with the buyers in attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitors</td>
<td>644 (519 booths)</td>
<td>513 (383 booths)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>13,085</td>
<td>13,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of business</td>
<td>7,334</td>
<td>5,037</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Management Supports Such as Overseas Expansion, etc. through Collaboration with External Networks

The AFFF Unit collaborates with external networks (Japan Professional Agriculture total support Organization (J-PAO), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and other organizations) to support the business growth of its customers and respond accurately to the diverse management issues they face, such as the development of new sales channels, financial improvement, and productivity enhancement.

For example, J-PAO uses its members from a wide variety of types of businesses and its agriculture-support know-how to provide sales and commercialization support to customers. JETRO hosts an export business conference at Agri-Food EXPO Tokyo and Osaka, where it provides assistance in the form of matching with overseas buyers.

In FY2013, the “Trial Export Support Project” (preparations for exporting, exporting procedures, sales feedback from export destinations, etc.) was started in conjunction with export companies throughout Japan to provide support to customers exporting agricultural products, etc. for the first time.

Scheme of the Trial Export Support Project

1. Consultation and application
2. Subcontracting, Matching between Producers and Export companies
3. Shipping product
4. Passing customs and exporting
5. Feedback of sales situation
6. JFC

State of the Agri-Food EXPO in Tokyo

State of the Briefing on the Trial Export Support Project
Business Management Support by Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Management Advisors

Responding to requests from farmers for advice on taxes, labor, marketing, and other topics from experts who understand the unique characteristics of agriculture, the AFFF Unit created the Agricultural Management Advisor program in FY2005. As of March 31, 2014, examinations had been conducted 18 times and a total of 2,675 Agricultural Management Advisors now serve in all 47 prefectures. The AFFF Unit also conducted the Agricultural Management Senior Advisor program to develop staff with the skills to play a leading role in more advanced management issues. 32 people across Japan were registered through this program.

The Forestry and Fishery Management Advisor Program, created in FY2008 has produced 29 Forestry Management Advisors and 30 Fishery Management Advisors.

The AFFF Unit provides support for the business growth of its customers by utilizing staff members who have become Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Management Advisors. The Unit also provides comprehensive management support services in collaboration with non-JFC management advisors, including tax accountants and SME management consultants.

Supporting Management with New Financing Techniques

Efforts to Speed Up Loan Procedures

By introducing a loan screening process that uses the agricultural business version of a scoring model\(^\text{(Note 1)}\) in connection with loans to farmers, the AFFF Unit works speed up procedures.

As well, approved agricultural businesses requesting loans for up to 5 million yen from the Super L Loan who meet certain conditions are given a response within six business days as to whether or not they qualify for loans without the requirement of collateral or a guarantor.

Efforts Concerning Loans Not Relying Excessively on Real Estate Collateral

Since FY2008, as a means of financing that does not rely on real estate collateral, the AFFF Unit has promoted the dissemination of an asset-based lending (ABL) program in the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors and the food industry which uses livestock and so on as collateral. In FY2013, a total of 39 loans (totaling 2.2 billion yen) were provided to the beef cattle, pig and dairy farming sectors.

One new ABL agreement\(^\text{(Note 2)}\) was entered into, bringing the cumulative total to 53. The AFFF Unit will continue to promote management support for customers by working to spread the use of ABL.

(Note 1) A system independently developed by the AFFF Unit for assessing the creditworthiness of agricultural management on an individual basis, by taking into account the characteristics of the agricultural management, adding production-related data and qualitative information to financial data, and then combining these with the characteristics of each farming type.

(Note 2) The AFFF Unit has entered into ABL agreements with business operators engaged in livestock, meat and other sectors, to build cooperative arrangements such as those pertaining to the preservation and disposal of movable collateral.

Efforts for Business Recovery Support

The AFFF Unit provides customers with business recovery support which is essential for the maintenance and development of local agricultural, forestry and fisheries businesses.

Specifically, the Unit cooperates with commercial financial institutions, such as main banks, and external experts to provide support needed for the formulation of business improvement plans, and offers ongoing business consultation and guidance after plans have been implemented. In particular, the Unit works to aid business recovery for agricultural businesses—which are characteristically susceptible to natural disasters and market conditions—through means such as support by Agricultural Management Advisors with formulation of plans, assistance in locating sponsors using JFC’s network, and monitoring by experts in fields such as production technology.

In order to promote business rehabilitation for customers affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, the AFFF Unit is also committed to providing quick support for rehabilitation and reconstruction, by cooperating with industrial recovery consultation centers and other organizations in the affected areas.
Support for Private Financial Institutions in the Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Sectors

The AFFF Unit works to create an environment that encourages private financial institutions to actively provide financing to agricultural, forestry and fisheries businesses by providing information concerning risk assessments as well as by supporting financing and securitization.

Signing of Memoranda for Business Cooperation

Starting with the Kagoshima Bank in April 2004, the AFFF Unit has signed business cooperation memoranda with private financial institutions in order to support entry by private financial institutions into the market of lending to the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors. The support has included study sessions, joint operations and cooperative loans.

Agricultural Credit Risk Information Service

The Agricultural Credit Risk Information Service (ACRIS) is an agricultural scoring model designed by the AFFF Unit to facilitate the active entry by private financial institutions into the market of agricultural loans (a fee-based membership service).

The AFFF Unit positions ACRIS as a tool for stimulating agricultural lending, and is strengthening its business collaboration with ACRIS members such as financial institutions and tax accountants.

The accuracy of the model is examined annually, and improvements are made to reflect economic conditions and other factors if necessary.

Securitization Support

The AFFF Unit established a credit supplementation program (securitization support operation) to encourage private financial institutions to provide agricultural lending. This program has been in operation since October 2008. By using this program, private financial institutions can transfer credit risks worth up to 80% of the loan amounts or a maximum of 50 million yen to JFC.

As of the end of FY2014, a total of 82 financial institutions had signed a basic agreement with the AFFF Unit. Fifty of these financial institutions developed new loan products for farmers that incorporated credit supplementation under this program.

Providing Investment Support to Agricultural Corporations

Since FY2002, the AFFF Unit has invested in an investment and consultation company which invest in agricultural corporations in order to support the capital adequacy of agricultural corporations which is the bearer of agricultural communities. From FY2014 the AFFF Unit will start to invest in Limited Partnerships (LPS) which has received the approval of the business plan from the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Unit provides financial support by offering diverse services, which include loans and credit insurance, to SMEs and micro businesses, which are one of the sources of Japanese economic vitality and the cornerstone of regional economies, to help them grow and develop.

**Loan Programs**

The SME Unit provides in a stable manner funds that SMEs need for their business growth as well as long-term, fixed-interest business funds and supplements loans provided by private financial institutions.

- **Breakdown of Loans (FY2013)**
  - Loans for Environment and Energy Measures: 111.3 billion yen (5.9%)
  - Corporate Revitalization Loans: 269.4 billion yen (14.0%)
  - New Business Development Loans: 3,209.5 billion yen (3.8%)
  - Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Special Loans: 1,928.4 billion yen (61.4%)

- **Trends in Loan Amounts**
  - Amount 1,928.4 billion yen

  ![Trends in Loan Amounts](image)

Note: Loans include corporate bonds, but excluding loans to facility-leasing institutions and loans to Small and Medium Business Investment & Consultation Co., Ltd.

**The Roles and Scope of the SME Unit as Policy-based Financing**

Policy-based financing in Japan involves providing financial support based on the nation’s key policies. These fields include new business development, management innovation, business revitalization and overseas investment. These areas involve high risk that private financial institutions find it hard to support. The SME Unit quantitatively supplements the loans provided by private financial institutions whose lending attitudes may be affected by economic condition, etc.

Based on these policies, while supplementing private financial institutions as a policy-based financial institution specialized in SMEs, the SME Unit supports the growth and development of SMEs through its financial tools as well as serving as a safety net.

**Credit Insurance Programs**

To facilitate the smooth flow of funds to SMEs and micro businesses, these programs focus on the acceptance of insurance on Credit Guarantee Corporation (CGC) guaranteed liabilities associated with loans to SMEs and micro businesses.

- Insurance on Credit Guarantee Corporation (CGC) guaranteed liabilities involving loans to SMEs and micro businesses
- Loans to CGCs
- Special Insurance Programs for Mid-size Enterprises
- Transitional Operation of the Machinery Credit Insurance Programs

(Note): Excluding insurance that had been accepted up to the end of March 2003, the SME Unit currently pays on insurance money and receives recoveries based on insurance contracts that are already in force.

**Securitization Support Programs**

With the aim of facilitating the smooth supply of unsecured funds to SMEs, these programs support private financial firms and other institutions in their endeavors based on securitization methods. Securitization support methods consist of the "Purchase-type," "Guarantee-type" and "Securitization of Account Receivables."
Number of SME Unit’s Clients

SMEs and micro businesses account for 99% of all businesses in Japan, and are both the source of Japanese economic vitality as well as the primary force underpinning regional economies. The size and conditions of each SME and micro business differ, such as companies that sustain the regional economy with many employees, long-established companies with a history over one hundred years and family-owned private shops.

The SME Unit provides a wide range of support to meet the individual needs of each SME and micro business through its financial tools, Loan Programs, Credit Insurance Programs and Securitization Support Programs.

The SME Unit facilitates funds to 1.5 million SMEs and micro businesses (approximately 40%) and accounts for 15% of outstanding loans to SMEs and micro businesses.

Characteristics of SME Unit’s Clients

**Loan Programs** (direct loans)
- **Number of clients**: 47 thousand enterprises
  - Average loan for FY2013
    - Average loan amount per client: 107 million yen
    - Average term of loan: 7 years and 1 month
    - Average amount of capital per client: 46 million yen
  - Average number of employees per client: 73
- Approximately 80% of outstanding loans are loans to enterprises with more than 20 employees, and approximately 90% have capital of 10 million yen or more.
- Covers a wide range of industries particularly manufacturing (approximately 50% of outstanding loans as of end of FY2013)

**Credit Insurance Programs**
- **Number of clients**: 1.45 million enterprises
  - Average insurance for FY2013
    - Average amount of insurance acceptance per client: 17 million yen
    - Average term of insurance: 4 years and 9 months
  - Average number of employees per client: 8
- Approximately 70% of the outstanding amounts of insurance is insurance to enterprises with fewer than 20 employees, and approximately 65% have capital of 10 million yen or less.
- Covers a wide range of industries

(Note) Figures are as of March 31, 2014.

The SME Unit also helps to maintain employment, with the number of employees at the 47 thousand companies receiving support (direct loans) rising to approximately 2.69 million persons (as of March 31, 2014).
Overview of Operations

Supplementing Private Financial Institutions Both in Quality and Quantity with a Stable Supply of Long-term Funds

Dedicated to Long-term Funding

If SMEs are to grow and prosper, they must continually invest capital appropriately and consolidate their financial strength. To do this, they need to be able to raise long-term funds in a stable manner.

However, SMEs are at a disadvantage to larger enterprises in gaining access to funds from capital markets. In addition, private financial institutions tend to prefer short-term loans of one year or less, thus making it difficult for SMEs to raise sufficient long-term funds.

The SME Unit specializes in long-term funds. Over 50% of the Unit’s loans have lending periods of longer than five years, with fixed-interest rates that make it easier to map out repayment schedules.

By covering those areas that private financial institutions find it hard to cover, the SME Unit meets the long-term funding needs of SMEs, which are a vital component of the Japanese economy.

Stable Supply of Business Funds

The SME Unit’s lending volume tends to rise sharply during a credit squeeze or when financial institutions are positioned for risk aversion (examples include the post-“Bubble” financial adjustment phase and periods of strategically tight lending) and declines when credit becomes easier to obtain.

Over the years, the Unit has provided SMEs with stable, long-term business funds by supplementing activities of private financial institutions whose lending attitudes and activities are subject to impact by changes in prevailing business conditions.

Growth Rate Changes in Outstanding Loans to SMEs

Notes: 1. Domestic bank balances refer to loans to SMEs to cover banking accounts only. From FY1993 forward, overdrafts have been included in the calculation base. Second-tier regional banks have been included in this category since FY1990.

2. Figures for domestic banks prior to September 1996 refer to those for all Japanese banks.

3. The definition of “SMEs” was changed in April 2000. The SME Unit has estimated the growth rate for domestic banks in the period from June 2000 to March 2001 based on the ratio between the old and new standards.

Promoting Special-purpose Loans Based on Government Policies to Meet the Needs of the Times

Safety Net

By providing finance through the Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Special Loans and Safety-Net Loans, the SME Unit assisted with the financing requirements and business reconstruction needs of SMEs experiencing a harsh business environment, including those SMEs that sustained damage during the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Subordinated Capital Loans

The SME Unit supports reinforcing the financial standing of SMEs engaged in new business, business reconstruction or so forth, by applying the Provision Scheme for Challenge Support and Capital Enhancement (Subordinated Capital Loans) in cooperation with private financial institutions. Liabilities under this Provision Scheme may be treated as shareholders’ equity under the borrower classifications determined by financial institutions. They are expected to have a “pump-priming” effect on co-financing with private financial institutions.

Use of these loans has steadily expanded since the program was established in FY2008.

Support for Overseas Investment

The SME Unit provides active support for the overseas expansion of SMEs, such as providing Loans for Overseas Investment, offering support for local currency denominated fundraising by SMEs’ overseas subsidiaries and branches through the Standby Letter of Credit Program, offering management consulting services and holding business network meetings abroad.

In FY2013, Loans for Overseas Investment were utilized by 400 companies, for a total of 24.8 billion yen, while the Standby Letter of Credit Program was utilized by 35 companies, for a total of 1.9 billion yen.

Supporting New Businesses

The Unit provides active support to SMEs looking to develop new businesses with high growth potential, such as venture companies, through Loans to Foster Growth of New Businesses. Since the system began in February 2000, 293.2 billion yen has been loaned to 6,658 SMEs (as of March 31, 2014). In addition, the Unit also offers an unsecured loan system through acquisition of new share options issued by companies.

Results from Providing Subordinated Capital Loans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New businesses</th>
<th>Revitalization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2009</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2010</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2011</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2012</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2013</td>
<td>49.7</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Loans for Overseas Investment Provided by Country Where Invested (FY2013)

- P.R. China: 54 companies, 23.1 billion yen
- ASEAN: 42 companies, 30 billion yen
- Thailand: 18 companies, 2.3 billion yen
- Vietnam: 95 companies, 10 billion yen
- Indonesia: 37 companies, 2.5 billion yen
- Other ASEAN countries: 233 companies, 17.6 billion yen
- United States: 69 companies, 1.9 billion yen
- Other: 85 companies, 2.3 billion yen
- Total: 400 companies, 24.8 billion yen

Loans for New Business Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of companies and amount of loans (billion yen)</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Intellectual property utilization)</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note) Loans to support the use of intellectual property are used to provide support to SMEs engaged in new types of business expected to experience significant growth, through the utilization of intellectual property rights that cannot be utilized by other companies (patents, utility model, etc.).

Stock Subscription Rights Loans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of companies</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of loans (million yen)</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supporting the Growth of Businesses

Supporting the Procurement of Local Funds Overseas with the Standby Letter of Credit Program

The SME Unit has commenced its operation of the Standby Letter of Credit Program from FY2012 and has built business partnerships with overseas financial institutions. In addition, we work in collaboration with domestic regional financial institutions to allow more SMEs to make use of this program.

About the Standby Letter of Credit Program

The Standby Letter of Credit Program supports SMEs and micro businesses’ overseas subsidiaries' and branches’ smooth procurement of long-term local currency denominated funds from JFC’s partnering overseas financial institutions by using JFC’s Standby Letter of Credit as a guarantee. By the end of FY2013, the number of affiliated overseas financial institutions had expanded to seven institutions and a cumulative 46 companies has used this program.

In order to allow more SMEs to make use of this program, we launched a scheme to partner regional financial institutions in October 2013. As of end of March 2014, we have business partnership with 30 regional financial institutions in Japan, with the first letter of credit issued in January 2014 under this partnership scheme.

JFC will continue in its efforts to support SMEs and micro businesses’ overseas fundraising through this program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliated Overseas Financial Institutions Note (countries listed in alphabetical order)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Note) As of March 31, 2014. Affiliated overseas financial institutions are to be expanded.

Businesses that Have Borrowed JFC Funds are Flourishing in Many Fields

A total of 601 companies (Note) have gone public after receiving support from the SME Unit, representing roughly one sixth of all Japanese corporations that are publicly held. Many of these are flourishing as leading corporations in Japan.

Since 1989, the number of companies going public after receiving support from the SME Unit has increased dramatically to 415 (Note), accounting for roughly 30% of the total increase in the number of companies going public during the same period, or 1,369 companies (Note). (Note) The number of publicly listed companies is as of March 31, 2014 (excluding delisted companies and companies that have dissolved due to merger, etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Companies that Received Support from the SME Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Companies that received support from the SME Unit: 601 companies (17.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: 601 out of 3,355 companies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Companies Going Public after Receiving Support from the SME Unit by Time Period</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During or before 1988: 186 companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During or after 1989: 415 companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: 601 companies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The number of publicly held corporations is as of March 31, 2014. Companies in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, finance, and insurance, as well as foreign-owned corporations are excluded. Source: JFC SME Unit

An Invaluable Source of Financing During Our Start-up Period

Kazuo Inamori, Honorary Chairman of Kyocera Corporation (listed in the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange)

Around the third year after Kyocera was founded, I was managing executive director and visited banks in search of funding for capital investment. However, we did not have collateral and were ultimately unsuccessful in borrowing funds. Eventually I was introduced to JFC, and gratefully accepted the opportunity to meet with the branch manager. I made a faltering pitch, "We are a small venture company that just started up. We have generated over 10% profits since our first year of operation. I ask that you believe in the results my three years of hard work have produced and grant our company a loan." Perhaps my earnest appeal hit the mark. After a pause, the branch manager replied "Alright. We will extend you a loan against the machinery you plan to buy with the funds. I remember how deeply moved I was by the manager’s courageous decision to believe in us and grant our company a loan. I remember how greatly the manager showed his courage and determination in allowing us to use the machinery we purchased."

Extracted from a column entitled A 50 Year History of Japan Finance Corporation for Small and Medium Enterprise (JASME), published by JASME in December 2003. (Author’s title is that held at time of writing)
**Credit Insurance Programs**

**Facilitating the Smooth Flow of Funds to SMEs and Micro Businesses by Working Together with the Credit Guarantee System**

**Roles of the Credit Insurance System**

The SME Unit insures guaranteed liabilities (i.e., credit guarantees) provided by CGCs to SMEs and micro businesses that fall short in terms of collateral or creditworthiness when raising funds from financial institutions or issuing corporate bonds. Instituted under the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Credit Insurance Act (Act No. 264 of 1950), the purpose of the Credit Insurance System is to promote the development of SMEs and micro businesses by insuring guarantees for SME loans and similar liabilities. It is designed so that the Credit Insurance System and the Credit Guarantee System together facilitate smooth supply of business funds for SMEs and micro businesses. This mechanism is known as the Credit Supplementation System and plays a vital role in the Japanese government’s SME finance policy.

**Credit Supplementation System**

- **Financial institutions**
  - Loan
  - Subrogated payment
- **CGCs (51 corporations)**
- **JFC (SME Unit)**
  - Comprehensive insurance contracts
  - Insurance money
  - Payment of recovered funds
- **SMEs and micro businesses**
  - Recovery

**Changes in the Amount of Insurance Acceptance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Trillion yen)</th>
<th>FY2009</th>
<th>FY2010</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
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<tr>
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<td>16.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13.4</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9.3</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Approximately 38% of SMEs Utilize the Credit Supplementation System**

As of the end of March 2014, the portion of outstanding loans to SMEs guaranteed by CGCs (i.e., outstanding guaranteed liabilities) amounted to some 29 trillion yen, accounting for approximately 12% of all loans to SMEs.

Moreover, some 1.45 million SMEs or approximately 38% of all SMEs in Japan, were raising funds with the support of the Credit Guarantee System.

By providing insurance on such guarantees, the Credit Insurance System is contributing to the management stability of SMEs and micro businesses, and to their growth and prosperity by facilitating the smooth flow of funds.

**Securitization Support Programs**

**Supporting the Smooth Supply of Unsecured Funds by Private Financial Institutions Using Securitization Methods**

The securitization of loan claims for SMEs is conducted from the standpoint of ensuring smooth facilitation of SME financing. By appropriately sharing the credit risks, credit analysis and administrative burdens of securitization, the SME Unit offers securitization methods convenient for private financial institutions to use in facilitating unsecured funds to SMEs and to diversify measures to obtain funds. While fulfilling its pioneering roles as a policy-based financial institution, the Unit will also contribute to the promotion and development of the debt securitization market.

**Methods of Securitization Support**

- **Purchase-type**
  - Operations that involve the securitization of unsecured SME loans, etc., acquired by way of transfer from private financial institutions or the use of credit default swap (CDS) contracts.

- **Guarantee-type**
  - Operations that involve the partial guarantee of unsecured SME loan claims, etc., securitized by private financial institutions as well as the guarantee of partial purchase of securitized instruments.

Note: In addition to “Purchase-type” and “Guarantee-type” Operations, the SME Unit implements the Synthetic CDO program, under which it securitizes claims on loans provided by itself or corporate bonds acquired by itself.

- **Securitization of Account Receivables**
  - Operations that involve support in the securitization of account receivable claims held by SMEs (suppliers) through such means as the provision of guarantees by the SME Unit for private financial institution loan claims against a special-purpose company (SPC) as well as the provision of loans by the Unit to SPCs.
Overview of Operations to Facilitate Crisis Responses

At the occurrence of such event as domestic or international financial disorder and large-scale natural disasters that is declared a crisis by the competent ministers, JFC provides certain specified type of credit to the financial institutions designated by the competent ministers. Since the credit risks of businesses generally increases at the time of a crisis, it is assumed that private financial institutions would be unable to provide a satisfactory amount of funds. As a measure to counter this situation, JFC supplies credit to the designated financial institutions to encourage smooth funding of the affected business.

Loans (Two-step Loans)

JFC lends fiscal loan funds, etc., to the designated financial institutions. The balance as of the end of FY2013 was 4,911.5 billion yen.

Interest Subsidies

JFC provides interest subsidies to designated financial institutions for loans, etc., made by those institutions through loans and partial risk complementation by JFC.

Results of Operations to Facilitate Crisis Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two-step loans</td>
<td>1,430.1</td>
<td>3,869.3</td>
<td>405.2</td>
<td>1,153.4</td>
<td>733.7</td>
<td>559.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans, etc.</td>
<td>1,130.3</td>
<td>3,529.4</td>
<td>405.2</td>
<td>1,153.4</td>
<td>733.7</td>
<td>559.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial paper (CP) acquisitions</td>
<td>299.8</td>
<td>339.8</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss compensation</td>
<td>345.1</td>
<td>1,811.9</td>
<td>1,893.3</td>
<td>1,739.8</td>
<td>1,470.2</td>
<td>1,409.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans, etc.</td>
<td>345.1</td>
<td>1,781.9</td>
<td>1,893.3</td>
<td>1,739.8</td>
<td>1,470.2</td>
<td>1,409.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial paper (CP) acquisitions</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity participations</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest subsidies</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. The figures for the two-step loans refer to the amounts of loans JFC provided to the designated financial institutions (Development Bank of Japan Inc. and The Shoko Chukin Bank, Ltd.) through the end of March 2014.
2. With respect to loss compensation, the figures for loans, etc. represent the amounts of loans provided by designated financial institutions through the end of March 2014, with loss compensation underwritten by JFC for losses incurred until May 10, 2014.
3. Equity participation figures (pertaining to the Act on Special Measures for Industrial Revitalization) are the amount of equity investments made by designated financial institutions through the end of March 2013, with loss compensation underwritten by JFC.

Partial Risk Complementation (Loss Compensation Transaction)

JFC collects compensation premiums from the designated financial institutions, and compensates for a certain proportion of losses incurred through loans, etc. conducted by the designated financial institutions. The balance of underwritten loss compensation as of the end of FY2013 was 3,681.0 billion yen (on a basis of reports from designated financial institutions).
Overview of Operations to Facilitate Specific Businesses Promotion

In accordance with the Act on the Promotion of Businesses to Develop and Manufacture Energy and Environmentally Friendly Products (Law No. 38 of 2010, in effect on August 16, 2010), JFC lends funds (two-step loans \(^{Note\,1}\)) needed for loans that are provided by designated financial institutions \(^{Note\,2}\) to certified businesses \(^{Note\,3}\) who are going to implement specific businesses certified by competent ministers. The balance as of the end of FY2013 was 37.3 billion yen.

\(^{Note\,1}\) Loans made by JFC out of the fiscal loan funds to designated financial institutions.

\(^{Note\,2}\) Financial institutions that submit applications and receive designations from competent ministers.

\(^{Note\,3}\) Businesses that prepare plans related to development or manufacturing of energy-efficient and/or environmentally-friendly products, and receive approval from competent ministers.

### Results of Operations to Facilitate Specific Businesses Promotion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2010</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two-step loans</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>10.6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. The figures for two-step loans refer to the amount of loans provided by JFC to the designated financial institution (Development Bank of Japan Inc.) through March 2014.

Overview of Operations to Facilitate Business Restructuring Promotion

In accordance with the Industrial Competitiveness Enhancement Act (Law No. 98 of 2013, in effect on January 20, 2014), JFC lends funds (two-step loans \(^{Note\,1}\)) needed for loans that are provided by designated financial institutions \(^{Note\,2}\) to certified businesses, etc. \(^{Note\,3}\) who are going to implement business restructuring or specified business restructuring certified by competent ministers for the purpose of improving business productivity in order to enhance industrial competitiveness. The balance as of the end of FY2013 was 25.0 billion yen.

\(^{Note\,1}\) Loans made by JFC out of the fiscal loan funds to designated financial institutions.

\(^{Note\,2}\) Financial institutions that submit applications and receive designations from competent ministers.

\(^{Note\,3}\) Businesses who implement approved business restructuring including their related business operators or businesses who implement approved specific business restructuring including specific operators concerned the said approval that prepare plans for business restructuring, etc., and receive approval from competent ministers.

### Results of Operations to Facilitate Business Restructuring Promotion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two-step loans</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The figures for two-step loans refer to the amount of loans provided by JFC to the designated financial institution (Development Bank of Japan Inc.) through March 2014. (The figures before the start of Operations to Facilitate Business Restructuring Promotion are of loans issued under Operations to Facilitate Business Restructuring Promotion, etc. in accordance with the Act on the Special Measures for Industrial Revitalization and Innovation (Law No. 131 of 1999) that was abolished with the enactment of the Industrial Competitiveness Enhancement Act on January 20, 2014).

### Two-step Loans Mechanism for Operations to Facilitate Specific Businesses Promotion and Operations to Facilitate Business Restructuring Promotion

![Diagram of two-step loans mechanism]

- Government
- Loans
- JFC
- Two-step loans
- Designated financial institution (Development Bank of Japan Inc.)
- Loans
- Certified businesses
Research Institute

Pursuit of Specialization, Originality and Advancement
Striving for Globally High Quality in SME Research

Functions and Features of the Research Institute

Research Institute conducts research on the latest trends of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and on the internal and external economic and financial circumstances surrounding SMEs. As a comprehensive research institution that investigates a diverse range of SMEs, from “self-employment” type businesses operated by sole proprietors and families to high-tech ventures on the verge of going public, the Research Institute maintains an invaluable presence in the global community. Relying on questionnaire- and interview-based surveys, as well as other types of field work only possible at JFC with its large number of SME clients, the Research Institute strives for an academic quality of international excellence by engaging in highly specialized, original, and leading-edge research activities.

Surveys on SME Business Sentiment

Quarterly Survey on SME Trends

This quarterly survey is comprised of two parts: the micro business section, which surveys 10,000 micro businesses having fewer than 20 employees; and the SME section, which surveys 13,000 SMEs that generally employ at least 20 workers. It is a massive survey of economic outlook, which covers the whole gamut of SMEs, from self-employed individuals to businesses employing 300 workers.

Monthly Survey on SME Trends

This monthly survey of business sentiment covers 900 relatively large SMEs. The feature of this survey is that in Japan's three major metropolitan areas, the manufacturing industry is given heavy emphasis. The survey has a history of 50 years since its inception in 1963, and its sales forecast diffusion index (DI) has been adopted by the Japanese government as a leading index of economic indicators.

Monthly Survey on Micro and Small Business Trends

This monthly survey targets 1,500 micro and small businesses having fewer than 20 employees. The survey captures the current business sentiment of small businesses in a timely manner by telephone surveys, which reduce the turnaround time for reporting.

Survey on Capital Investments by Manufacturing SMEs

This biannual survey reports on planned and actual capital investment among 30,000 SME manufacturers that employ between 20 and 299 workers. This is the largest and most detailed survey in Japan of capital investment trends among SMEs.
Overview of Operations

Thematic Research on the Current State and Issues Faced by SMEs

Surveys are conducted by selecting timely themes, such as the issues faced by SMEs, industries centered around SMEs, and trends in regional economies. Further research is conducted based on the survey results. Research findings are compiled into papers and reports, and are disseminated by means of journals, books, and other publications, as well as by way of academic societies, various types of research projects, and symposia.

* Most papers, reports, and survey results can be viewed on JFC’s website.

Research on the Structural Problems of SMEs

Surveys and research are conducted on structural problems faced by SMEs, including new business start-ups, business succession, employment, capital procurement, and involvement in local economies and communities.

Main surveys (conducted in FY2013)
- Survey on State of New Business Start-ups (FY2013 regular and special surveys)
- Panel Survey on New Business Start-ups
- Study of SMEs’ New Business Strategies
- Survey of Internationalization of the Small and Medium-Sized Service Industry

Main research papers and reports (released in FY2013)
- Start-ups by Senior Entrepreneurs
- Increase in Support Businesses for Overseas Expansion by SMEs
- Characteristics of Japan’s Entrepreneurship
- Characteristics of Entrepreneurship by Students
- Importance of the Existence of Family Employees in Small Businesses
- Effect of Direct Overseas Investment on SMEs
- Initiatives by Small Businesses to Effectively Increase Added Value
- Working Mothers and SMEs
- Promising Cross-Border e-Commerce and its Risks
- Effect of the Great East Japan Earthquake on Business Start-up Activities

Research on Domestic and International Industry Trends

The latest trends occurring around SMEs, including innovations in technology and changes in production systems, are viewed from the perspective of industrial policy.

Main surveys (conducted in FY2013)
- Status of and Problems faced by SMEs Starting to Find Manufacturers in Overseas
- Survey of Efforts to Add High Added Value by Designing and Branding Products
- Survey of the Status of and Problems Faced by Small and Medium-Sized Wholesalers
- Innovation of Succeeding managers, using Management Resources they Inherited
- Fund Procurement Strategies of SMEs Taking on New Businesses

Main research papers and reports (released in FY2013)
- Risk Countermeasures taken up by SMEs as a Result of Earthquakes [Countermeasures Edition][Cases]
- Status of and Problems Faced by SMEs Operated by Women
- Overseas Withdrawal Strategies of SMEs
- Strategies of Subcontracting SMEs that Intend to Continue Business only in Domestic Production Centers
- Overseas Strategies of Strong SMEs not Involved in Price Wars
- Securing and Training Global Personnel for SMEs

Research on Regional Economic Trends

The movements of SMEs are tracked from the contemporary perspective of promoting local economies, including their role in regional revitalization.

Main surveys (conducted in FY2013)
- Research on SMEs which are the important existences and which contribute to employment in regional economy
- Research on awareness about working for SMEs increasing in regional economy

Research on Management Issues of SMEs

Cases are collected of SMEs that overcame the handicap of limited management resources, such as human resources, equipment and funds, to achieve success. Research findings are published annually as a compilation of case studies.

FY2013 survey
- Case Studies of SMEs that Undertook Management Improvements due to Earthquakes

FY2013 publication
- Management + α — Learn by Example: How to Increase Added Value for SMEs

Research on Financial Trends

Surveys and research are conducted on the domestic and overseas financial market situations and financial systems which significantly affect the procurement of funds by SMEs.

Main research papers and report (released in FY2013)
- Actual situations of the bank finance for small and medium-sized enterprises in U. S. A.

The Sixth Japan Finance Corporation Symposium

Research Institute hosts a symposium every year. Discussions will be held between staff from the Research Institute and external panelists on on-going research findings. Participation of many people interested in this field such as SME scholars/researchers, SME owners and journalists, are highly appreciated.

The symposium will be held in November 2014. Further details will be announced on the JFC website and via leaflets.
Publications Issued by the Research Institute

Periodical Publications

Collection of Papers by Japan Finance Corporation
Quarterly (published on the 25th of February, May, August, and November)
Contains academic research papers written by staff from the Research Institute.
Papers from outside the Research Institute are also included, giving SME researchers an opportunity to publish their research.
- Main Papers published in Volume 23 (May 2014) -
  - Current Status of Acceptance of Inbound Customers by the Small and Medium-Sized Service Industry
  - Actual Conditions and Significance of Women Entrepreneurs
  - Empirical Analysis of the Relation between the Efficacy of Joint Research into SMEs and Ownership of Rights to Results
  - The Form and Role of International Entrepreneurial Orientation (IEO) in the Internationalization Process of Domestic Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturers

JFC Research Institute Report
Published occasionally
This research report brings together the latest research findings on the current state of SMEs and the issues they face, and disseminates those findings in a timely manner.

White Paper on New Business Start-ups
Based on the results of the Survey on State of New Business Start-ups, this paper analyzes the trend of new business start-ups according to the latest themes.
Published annually since 1992, the document is important literature in the field of start-ups in Japan.
- Main contents of the 2014 White Paper -
  - Overview of the FY2013 Survey on the Condition of New Business Start-ups
  - Those Planning to Startup Businesses and Entrepreneurs
  - Actual Conditions and Significance of Women Entrepreneurs
  - International Comparison of Attitudes toward Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurial Activities

Monthly Survey Report
Published on the 5th of every month
The aim of this magazine is to disseminate the research findings of the Research Institute to researchers, business managers and officials from SME support organizations, and other readers in a way that is easy for them to understand.

Books

White Paper on New Business Start-ups
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  - Actual Conditions and Significance of Women Entrepreneurs
  - International Comparison of Attitudes toward Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurial Activities

Small and Medium-Sized Service Industries that Attempt to Enter Overseas Markets
This book describes the results of research based on the results of surveys conducted using questionnaires and interviews of small and medium-sized service businesses. It discusses the necessity of internationalization in the service industry and introduces the following three points:
1. Acceptance of tourists from abroad,
2. Cross-border e-Commerce,
3. Direct overseas investment.

Corporate Case Studies
The Great East Japan Earthquake and SMEs
This is a compilation of case studies on the management of SMEs. By describing companies that took restoration initiatives after the disaster, companies that support victims and affected areas, and companies that were started up in the wake of the disaster, the case studies elucidate the role of SMEs in invigorating local areas.