

Systems for Organizational Management

Governance 56

Governance

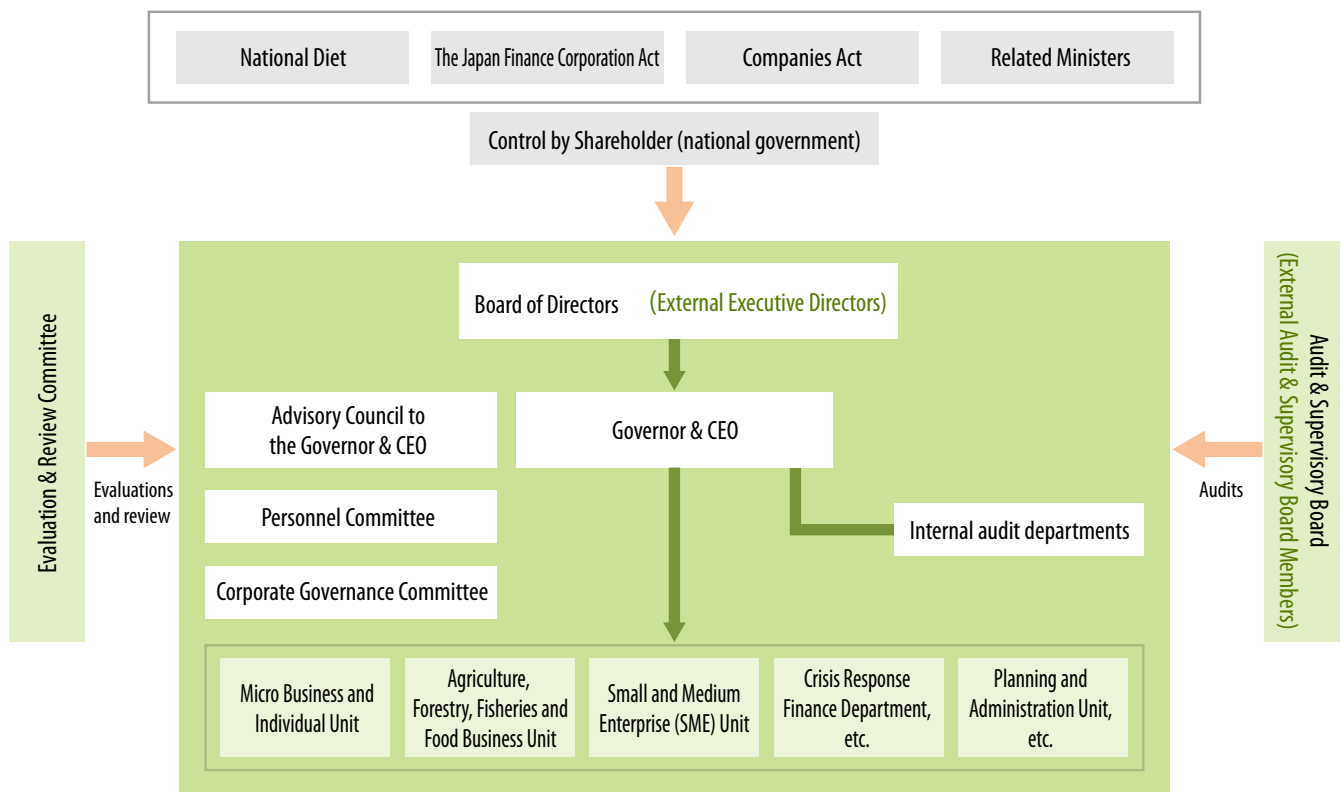
Fundamental Approach

In order to fulfill its mission as a government-affiliated financial institution, Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) conducts appropriate and sound operations with a constant awareness of its social responsibilities. The governance structure is built from the perspectives of transparency, fairness, and timely action.

To ensure transparency, fairness, and timely action, JFC has established systems for undergoing external evaluations and reviews by an Evaluation & Review Committee as well as internal and external audits by the internal audit departments, the Audit & Supervisory Board, and accounting auditors.

In addition, the Board of Directors has delegated authority to the Governor & CEO to ensure rapid decision making, while transparency and fairness are ensured by the deliberations of bodies such as the Advisory Council to the Governor & CEO.

Governance Structure



1 Control by National Government

Unlike general stock corporations, a special law provides that the national government must always own all shares issued by JFC, making JFC a chartered corporation under the strict control of the government. ^(Note)

Note: Control by the government

- Control by the government as a shareholder (pursuant to the Companies Act and other legislation)
- Control by related ministries and agencies (including audits by the Financial Services Agency and the Board of Audit of Japan)
- Control by the Diet (through budgets and other means)

2 Board of Directors

JFC's Board of Directors consists of up to 18 directors, two of whom are external directors. In principle, the Board of Directors meets monthly to make decisions on key matters relating to JFC operations and for directors to make periodic reports on the performance of their duties.

3 Audit & Supervisory Board

The Audit & Supervisory Board comprises four members, three of whom are external members. The Audit & Supervisory Board members attend key meetings, including meetings of the Board of Directors, review significant documents, periodically meet with directors, and take other measures to monitor the performance of duties by the directors pursuant to fundamental audit policies and audit plans adopted by the Audit & Supervisory Board.

4 Evaluation & Review Committee

JFC established an Evaluation & Review Committee comprised of external advisers based on a decision made by the government (regarding the designing of a system pertaining to policy-based finance reform). The purpose of the Committee is to evaluate and review whether the corporation's management and operations are performed properly and efficiently in accordance with policy goals, and to assess and examine candidates for the positions of director and Audit & Supervisory Board member in order to ensure the fairness and transparency of personnel matters relating to such positions.

The Evaluation & Review Committee evaluates and reviews the management and operations of the overall JFC, as well as that of its individual units. It also evaluates and reviews the performance of the directors responsible for executing JFC operations, and assesses and examines candidates for the positions of director and Audit & Supervisory Board member. The standards and results of evaluations and reviews relating to management and operations are made public.

The members of the Committee consist of Evaluation & Review Members, who are made up of external advisers and JFC's external directors, and Expert Members, who are external experts having specialized knowledge about the operations of JFC.

Member of the Evaluation & Review Committee

(as of July 1, 2016; in alphabetical order)

Evaluation & Review Members

Shizuka Uzawa	Senior Advisor, Nisshinbo Holdings, Inc. External Executive Director, Japan Finance Corporation
Kiyoe Kado	Professor, College of Law and Politics, Rikkyo University
Kozo Fujita	Attorney at Law Former President, Hiroshima High Court
* Hirofumi Miki	Honorary Chairman, Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd.
Kazuo Mori	Journalist
** Naoyuki Yoshino	Emeritus professor, Keio University
Yoshiko Watanabe	Auditor, PMI Japan Chapter External Executive Director, Japan Finance Corporation

* Chairman

** Deputy Chairman

Expert Members

Shuji Okada	Fuji University President
Shinichi Shogenji	Professor, Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, Nagoya University
Masao Nakata	Professor, Faculty of Economics, Seijo University
Tadanobu Nemoto	Professor, Faculty of Commerce, Chuo University
Yoshio Higuchi	Professor, Faculty of Business and Commerce, Keio University

Meetings of Evaluation & Review Committee

(Main agenda)

- **First meeting of FY2015 (April 14, 2015)**
 - Report on the FY2015 business management plan
 - FY2015 standards for evaluating business performance
 - FY2014 evaluation of the performance of directors
 - Evaluation and review of candidate directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members
- **Second meeting of FY2015 (July 1, 2015)**
 - Report on the evaluation of FY2014 business performance
 - Performance evaluations of retiring directors
 - Performance ratios of retiring directors
- **Third Meeting of Fiscal 2015 (November 17, 2015)**
 - Mid-year review of the FY2015 business management plan
- **Fourth meeting of FY2015 (February 10, 2016)**
 - Performance evaluations of retiring directors
 - Performance ratios of retiring directors

5 Advisory Council to the Governor & CEO

The Advisory Council to the Governor & CEO receives reports and reviews and investigates key matters concerning management of JFC in response to inquiries from the Governor.

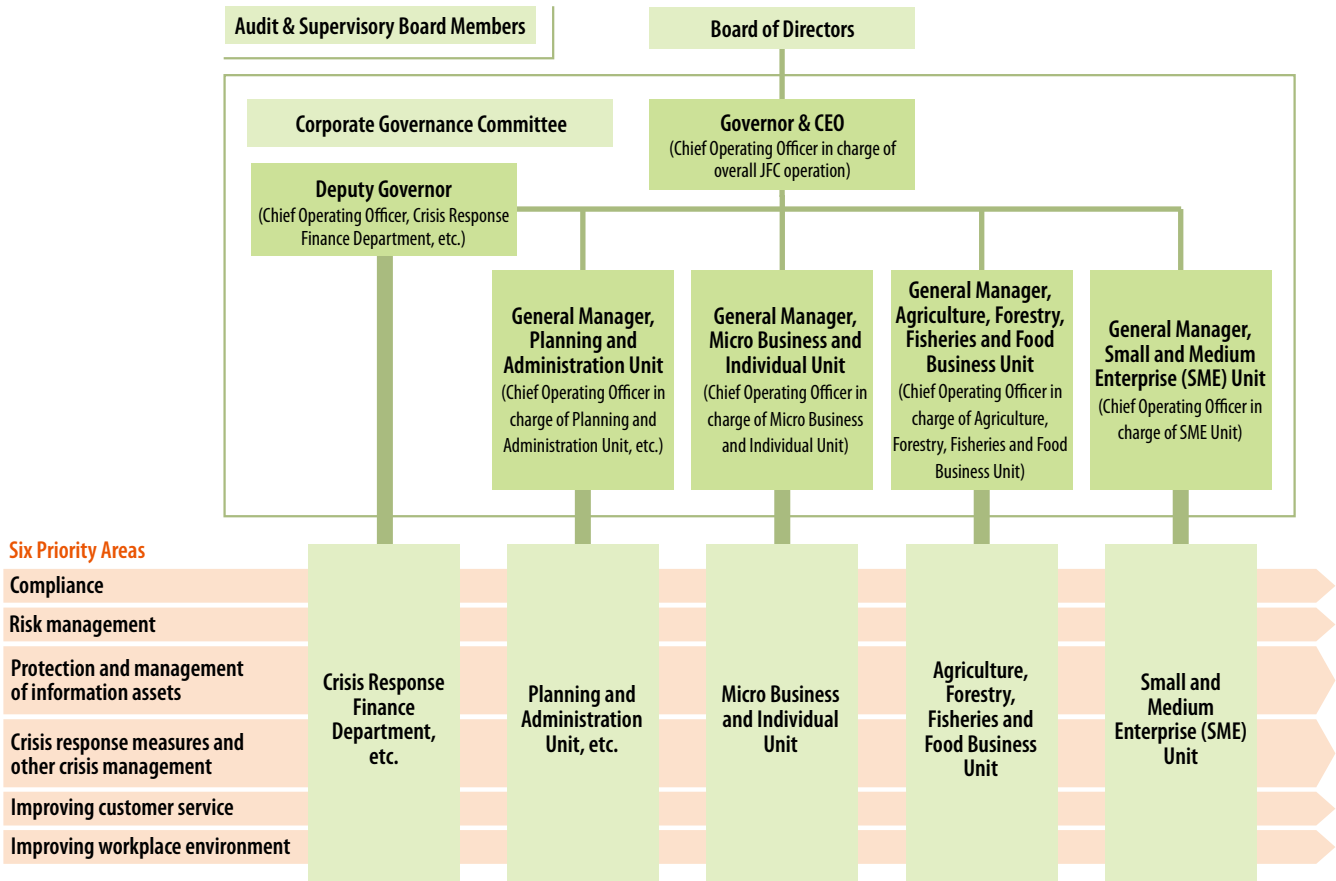
6 Corporate Governance Committee

JFC has designated six priority areas for action concerning internal control with the aim of achieving sophisticated governance. JFC has appointed operating officers responsible for each of its business units ^(Note) and has clearly established their authority and responsibilities.

The operating officers have taken steps to establish a necessary structure in their respective units.

The Corporate Governance Committee deliberates matters related to the six priority areas and which require its attention and control as they relate to JFC's overall operation.

Note: The units are the Micro Business and Individual Unit, the Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Business Unit, the SME Unit, the Crisis Response Finance Department, etc., and the Planning and Administration Unit, etc.



7 Internal Audit

JFC established the Audit Department and the System Audit Department as the internal audit departments to contribute to effective operations and the fulfillment of its operational objectives. The departments assess the suitability and effectiveness of internal controls over all operations and makes proposals for improvements.

The Audit Department and the System Audit Department operate independently from other departments under the direct authority of the Governor. It is responsible for conducting internal audits of all other departments, including JFC's head office, branches, and overseas representative offices.

When conducting audits, the Audit Department assesses and verifies the suitability and effectiveness of internal control structures, the suitability of operational processes, the reasonableness of asset appraisals, and the status of compliance with laws, regulations, and internal rules in individual departments, and makes recommendations for improvement as necessary.

The Governor approves an annual plan for internal audits, and reports concerning the results of internal audits are submitted to the Governor to ensure prompt action concerning matters needing attention.

Proper and effective execution of internal audits by the internal audit departments thus ensure that JFC functions properly as a government-affiliated financial institution and its operations continue to be sound.

◆ Fundamental Policy on Internal Control

Pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act and the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act (Law No. 86 of 2005), JFC adopted a fundamental policy on internal controls concerning the establishment of structures for ensuring compliance with laws and regulations and proper activities by directors and employees when performing their duties.

Fundamental Policy on Internal Control

Article 1. Systems for ensuring compliance with laws, regulations, and the Articles of Incorporation in the performance of duties by directors and employees

1. JFC shall adopt Regulations Concerning Compliance with Laws and Regulations, as well as other rules concerning compliance, to ensure that the performance of duties by directors and employees, including temporary workers (this definition applies to the remainder of this document), comply with laws, regulations, and the Articles of Incorporation (hereinafter referred to as the "Laws and Regulations"). Furthermore, JFC shall make such regulations known to all directors and employees.
2. Directors and employees shall abide by all rules concerning compliance.
3. JFC shall appoint persons responsible for compliance so as to establish and reinforce structures relating to compliance with the Laws and Regulations.
4. JFC shall establish a committee with the Governor & CEO as its chairman to review key matters relating to compliance and to monitor the status of compliance with the Laws and Regulations.
5. JFC shall establish effective internal reporting systems and operate them appropriately so that material matters relating to compliance can be discovered promptly and necessary corrective measures can be introduced.
6. JFC shall not maintain any relationships whatsoever with anti-social forces. It shall maintain an uncompromising attitude throughout the organization toward anti-social forces, and decisively reject all improper demands from such forces.

Article 2. Systems relating to retention and management of information concerning performance of duties by directors

1. JFC shall establish Information Asset Management Regulations and other rules concerning the retention and management of information assets so that information concerning the performance of duties by directors, customer information, and other information handled by JFC can be appropriately retained and managed.
2. JFC shall retain and manage minutes of Board of Directors' meetings and other documents concerning the performance of duties by directors in accordance with laws, regulations, and rules relating to the retention and management of information assets.
3. Directors and employees shall appropriately retain and manage information assets in line with laws, regulations, and rules relating to the retention and management of information assets.

Article 3. Regulations and other systems relating to management of loss exposure

1. In recognition of the importance of risk management, JFC shall adopt Comprehensive Risk Management Regulations and other rules relating to risk management, including an organizational structure to enable risk management specific to different types of risks that should be recognized in the performance of operations, as well as comprehensive risk management. JFC shall apply appropriate risk management tools to control various types of risks.
2. JFC shall appoint persons responsible for the management of various types of risks and establish a committee with the Governor & CEO as its chairman to conduct reviews and examinations to ensure effective risk management.
3. JFC shall adopt Crisis Management Regulations and other rules relating to crisis management and establish crisis management systems to prepare for the occurrence of disasters and other critical events.
4. If a critical event occurs that either disrupts or is feared to disrupt normal operations, JFC shall establish a response headquarters as necessary and take measures for the speedy and efficient restoration of operations in accordance with various rules concerning crisis management.

Article 4. Systems to ensure efficient performance of duties by directors

1. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly and as necessary to make decisions on significant matters relating to the basic policy of operation for the entire JFC organization, and receive reports from directors concerning the performance status of their duties.
2. JFC shall establish an Advisory Council to the Governor & CEO and other deliberative bodies to ensure the efficient performance of duties by directors.
3. JFC shall clearly define the authority vested in the Governor & CEO and general managers, as well as that vested in directors, managing executive officers, department managers at the head office and other individuals with operational responsibility. Such individuals shall efficiently perform their duties in line with the authority vested upon them.

Article 5. Internal audit systems for ensuring proper operations

1. JFC shall adopt Internal Audit Regulations and other rules relating to internal audits to ensure the appropriateness and soundness of its operations.
2. JFC shall establish the internal audit departments, which shall be independent of audited divisions and under the direct authority of the Governor, to handle matters relating to internal audits.
3. The internal audit departments shall perform internal audits pursuant to various rules relating to internal audits under the direction of the Governor & CEO, and report the results of its audits to the Governor.
4. The internal audit departments shall periodically and as necessary, as well as upon request by a director or an Audit & Supervisory Board Member, report the results of internal audits to either the Board of Directors or other organizations or deliberative bodies under the direction of the Governor & CEO.
5. The internal audit departments shall exchange information as necessary with the Audit & Supervisory Board Members and the accounting auditors and shall strive to perform internal audits efficiently under the Governor's direction.

Article 6. Matters relating to employees assigned to assist Audit & Supervisory Board Members in performing their duties upon request by Audit & Supervisory Board Members

1. JFC shall assign full-time employees to assist the Audit & Supervisory Board Members in performing their duties.
2. Those full-time employees shall perform their duties in line with instructions from the Audit & Supervisory Board Members.
3. When deemed necessary, the Audit & Supervisory Board Members may assign employees other than the full-time employees referred to above to assist in the performance of audits with the approval of the Governor.

Article 7. Matters relating to independence from directors of employees assisting Audit & Supervisory Board Members

JFC shall secure prior approval of the full-time Audit & Supervisory Board Members on any decision concerning personnel evaluations, transfers, or other personnel matters relating to employees assisting with the performance of duties by the Audit & Supervisory Board Members.

Article 8. Matters relating to the effectiveness of instruction to employees assisting Audit & Supervisory Board Members

In addition to compliance with Article 2, JFC shall not prevent employees from carrying out directives received from Audit & Supervisory Board Members when assisting such Audit & Supervisory Board Members.

Article 9. System of reporting by directors and employees to Audit & Supervisory Board Members and other systems of reporting to Audit & Supervisory Board Members

1. The representative director and other directors who perform operational duties shall make accurate reports concerning the status of performance of their duties from time to time at the Board of Directors' meetings and other important meetings attended by the Audit & Supervisory Board Members.
2. In the event that a director or an employee discovers any fact that has the potential of inflicting substantial harm upon JFC, or improper conduct or serious violations of the Laws and Regulations, such director or employee shall promptly report the fact to the Audit & Supervisory Board Members.

Article 10. System to ensure that directors and employees that have reported to Audit & Supervisory Board Members are not treated unfairly due to having submitted such reports

JFC shall not unfairly treat directors and employees that have submitted reports in accordance with Article 2.

Article 11. Matters relating to policy on procedures for prepayment or reimbursement of costs incurred due to the execution of Audit & Supervisory Board Members directives as well as the processing of costs and debt incurred due to the execution of other related duties

JFC shall not refuse invoices for costs incurred from the Audit & Supervisory Board Members seeking the advice of attorneys, certified public accountants, and other professionals concerning audits when deemed necessary for the effective performance of audits.

Article 12. System for ensuring effective performance of audits by Audit & Supervisory Board Members

1. The Audit & Supervisory Board Members shall be entitled to request reports from directors and employees concerning the status of performance of their duties whenever they determine such reports are necessary for the effective performance of audits. A director or employee who receives such a request shall promptly furnish a report in line with the request.
2. The Audit & Supervisory Board Members may attend important meetings, including the Board of Directors' meetings and those of the Advisory Council to the Governor & CEO, to express their opinions as necessary. Audit & Supervisory Board Members may also request to review minutes and other related documents concerning meetings they did not attend.
3. The Governor & CEO shall hold periodic meetings with the Audit & Supervisory Board Members to exchange opinions.
4. The Audit & Supervisory Board Members may request the cooperation of the internal audit departments and divisions that oversee risk management and compliance matters.
5. The Audit & Supervisory Board Members may seek the advice of attorneys, certified public accountants, and other professionals concerning audits when deemed necessary for the effective performance of audits.

Priority Areas of Internal Control

JFC has designated six priority areas for action concerning internal control with the aim of achieving sophisticated governance.

1 Compliance

JFC is pursuing highly transparent and efficient business operations and developing a compliance regime aimed at not only strict compliance with laws and regulations but also compliance fully congruent with social norms.

(1) Compliance Manual

JFC publishes a Compliance Manual that serves as a guidebook for practicing compliance, and ensures that all management and staff are fully knowledgeable of its contents.

(2) Internal Reporting System

With the goal of promptly recognizing and resolving behavior that poses or has the potential of posing compliance issues, JFC has established compliance help lines inside the company and at an attorney's office to allow employees to directly inform the company of any such behavior.

(3) Handling of Anti-Social Forces

Recognizing that adopting a firm stance and rejecting all relationships with anti-social forces is essential for maintaining the trust of the public in JFC and for ensuring the appropriateness and soundness of its operations, JFC responds properly to antisocial forces in cooperation with the police and other competent organizations.

(4) Preventing Insider Trading

In an effort to prevent insider trading by its management and staff, JFC has adopted regulations that stipulate fundamental compliance requirements that all management and staff must follow. They are all required to be thoroughly knowledgeable of these regulations and to comply with them.

2 Risk Management

JFC is conducting integrated management of the risks it is facing to perform sustainable and stable policy-based financing.

Risks Subject to Management

Managed risk	Definition
Credit risk	Potential losses from a decline or loss of the value of credit assets (including off-balance sheet assets) due to deterioration in the financial conditions of borrowers.
Credit insurance underwriting risk	Potential losses that result from unexpected fluctuations in the covered risk occurrence rate, collection rate, or other factors not anticipated when insurance premiums are set.
Market risk	Potential losses from changes in the value of assets and liabilities (including off-balance sheet assets and liabilities) or in returns generated by them, as a result of fluctuations in various market risk factors, including interest rates, foreign exchange rates and stock prices.
Liquidity risk	Potential losses from difficulties in funding due to a maturity mismatch between financing and funding or from being forced to fund at an interest rate significantly higher than in normal circumstances, as well as potential losses from a failure to make transactions in the market due to market turmoil or from being forced to make transactions at a significantly disadvantageous price than in normal circumstances.
Operational risk	Potential losses from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events.
Administrative risk	Potential losses from negligence of duty or from accidents or misdeeds.
Information technology risk	Potential losses from breakdown or malfunction in computer systems as well as from their misuse.
Human risk	Potential losses as the result of inappropriate work conditions, improper workplace and safety environments, personnel turnovers, declines in morale, inadequate employee training, etc.
Legal risk	Potential losses resulting from violations of laws, breaches of contracts, signing of inappropriate contracts, and other legal factors.
Tangible asset risk	Potential losses from damage to tangible assets as the result of a disaster or other events.
Reputational risk	Potential losses and damage from a decline in creditworthiness caused by such factors as a tarnished reputation or spread of rumors.

3 Record and Management of Information Assets

JFC has built a structure for conducting proper and efficient operations by adopting a security policy and ensuring information security that meets the highest standards. JFC also conducts appropriate document management pursuant to the provisions of the Act on the Management of Official Documents (Act No. 66 of 2009).

Security Policy

Japan Finance Corporation (hereinafter "JFC") adopts the following fundamental policy concerning the use and management of information assets and will properly handle, manage, protect, and maintain information assets to achieve information security that meets the highest standards so as to support the proper and efficient operations of JFC.

(1) Basic Principles

JFC shall use and manage information assets in line with the basic principles set forth hereunder while complying with all applicable laws, regulations, and rules.

A. Information assets shall be used appropriately and only for their intended purposes.

B. Authority concerning the management of information assets shall be granted only after careful consideration of the nature of the work and necessity.

C. When adopting and implementing information security measures, the following matters shall be taken into consideration, based on the nature of the work:

a. clarification of responsibilities and roles within implementation structures;

b. timely and prompt implementation of necessary, sufficient, effective, and efficient measures.

(2) Proper Management of Information Assets

Information assets refer to information and information systems. Information assets are classified according to such factors as their degree of confidentiality, completeness, usability, and importance, and are managed appropriately in line with their classification.

(3) Information Asset Management Structures

Structures shall be established for ensuring the security of information assets.

(4) Protection of Personal Information

JFC shall protect and manage personal information by establishing a Privacy Policy in line with the provisions of the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Law No. 59 of 2003).

(5) Information Security Training

JFC shall provide necessary training to all officers and employees who handle information assets as called for by the duties they perform and when needed so as to ensure that they understand the requirements imposed by applicable laws and regulations, as well as by this policy and other applicable rules, and prevent the occurrence of information security-related problems.

(6) Outsourcing of Work

In the event that JFC engages persons other than its officers and employees to manage its information assets by outsourcing such work, it shall verify that information security is ensured and take appropriate measures in line with the content of the information assets.

(7) Responses to Information Security Incidents

A. In the event of improper disclosure of personal or customer information or other incidents that present information security problems, JFC shall promptly introduce appropriate measures.

B. In the event information is obtained via cyber-attack of information systems, JFC shall promptly contact the Ministry of Finance.

(8) Evaluation and Review

This policy shall be evaluated and reviewed as necessary to enable flexible responses to such changes in the external environment as the enactment, amendment, or repeal of applicable laws and regulations, as well as innovations in information security technology, and to those in the internal environment, including organizational and operational changes, and updates to JFC's information systems.

4 Crisis Response Measures and Other Crisis Management

JFC has in place such organizations as a disaster and accident response headquarters, and an overseas crisis management committee to restore and maintain appropriate operational structures in the event of such disasters as earthquakes or fire, as well as emergency situations, such as accidents, or the outbreak of an infectious disease. We have also established the Business Continuity Plan (BCP*) in anticipation of such disasters as earthquakes occurring in the Tokyo Metropolitan area or new strains of pandemic influenza to limit the effects of these disasters to the extent possible and facilitate a quick recovery.

Note: The Business Continuity Plan (BCP) enables the continuation or early restoration of core business operations which thereby minimizes economic loss in the event of a natural disaster or some other emergency situation.

5 Improving Customer Service

JFC strives to protect the interests of customers and enhance their convenience, and assumes the perspective of customers in its behavior under its Customer Protection Management Policy.

Customer Protection Management Policy

- (1) Japan Finance Corporation (hereinafter "JFC") shall continuously protect the interests of its customers and strive to enhance the convenience afforded to customers by providing appropriate and adequate explanations and support in line with applicable laws and regulations.
- (2) JFC shall provide customers with appropriate and adequate explanations and information concerning transactions and products.
- (3) JFC shall respond fairly, promptly, and sincerely to customer inquiries and complaints in order to gain their understanding and trust, and shall strive to properly reflect them in its operations.
- (4) JFC shall appropriately protect and manage customer-related information.
- (5) JFC shall take steps to ensure that customer information is properly managed and responses to customers are properly handled when it outsources its work to outside parties.

* In this policy, "customers" refer to corporations, other organizations, and individuals who meet the following criteria:

- i) Those who currently use JFC's services;
- ii) Those who previously used JFC's services; and
- iii) Those considering the use of JFC's services.

* JFC operations that require the protection of its customers are stipulated in Article 11 of the Japan Finance Corporation Act (Law No. 57 of May 25, 2007) and other JFC operations stipulated by laws and regulations.

6 Improving the Workplace Environment

JFC conducts an awareness survey on all employees once per year to assess working environment and other challenges and help determine future initiatives to overcome these challenges. JFC makes active use of the views and assessments of the workers expressed in this survey to improve the workplace environment.

Promoting Career Development for Women and Improving the Workplace Environment

JFC promotes career development aimed at realizing a workplace where each employee is free to fulfill their potential, while also striving to create a workplace where it is possible for both men and women to carry out work-life management.

Note: "Work-life management": To employees actively and willingly managing how they work and live, so that they can enrich both their work and life while also fulfilling their roles and responsibilities in each.

1 Career Development for Women

We are working on training and promotion of women in accordance with the directive that "women should make up 5% or more of managerial staff (April 2018)" published in the plan of action based on "laws concerned with promoting success in the professional lives of women" (2015 Law No. 64).

In addition to a training system to take participants from clerical work to business operations, female employees are sent to external seminars with the aim of increasing their skills. And from 2016, a training program has been established for new female management candidates to be appointed to management from 2018.

In addition, a "Mentoring System" was introduced for young employees in which veteran employees act not only as advisors for work related issues but also provide individual support by discussing issues related to work-life management, etc.

2 Create a workplace where each employee is free to fulfill their potential

We are working to create a workplace in which all types of employees can fulfill their potential, such as by establishing teaching units that deepen understanding of the importance of diversity at each training level within the company.

3 Supporting Work-life Balance

In order to realize diverse working styles, we are implementing measures to support work-life balance in accordance with the current life stage of employees.

Also JFC has obtained special "Platinum Kurumin" (certification) in accordance with the "Next Generation Nurturing Support Measures Promotion Act" (2003 Law No. 120) as an enterprise that offers superior child-rearing support.



"Platinum Kurumin"
Certification mark

4 Promotion of Diverse Work Styles

As part of our implementation of work-life management, we promote the implementation of 2 no overtime days per week and the planning vacation acquisition. In doing this, we are promoting increased efficiency at workplaces as a whole and are promoting diverse work styles for each employee.

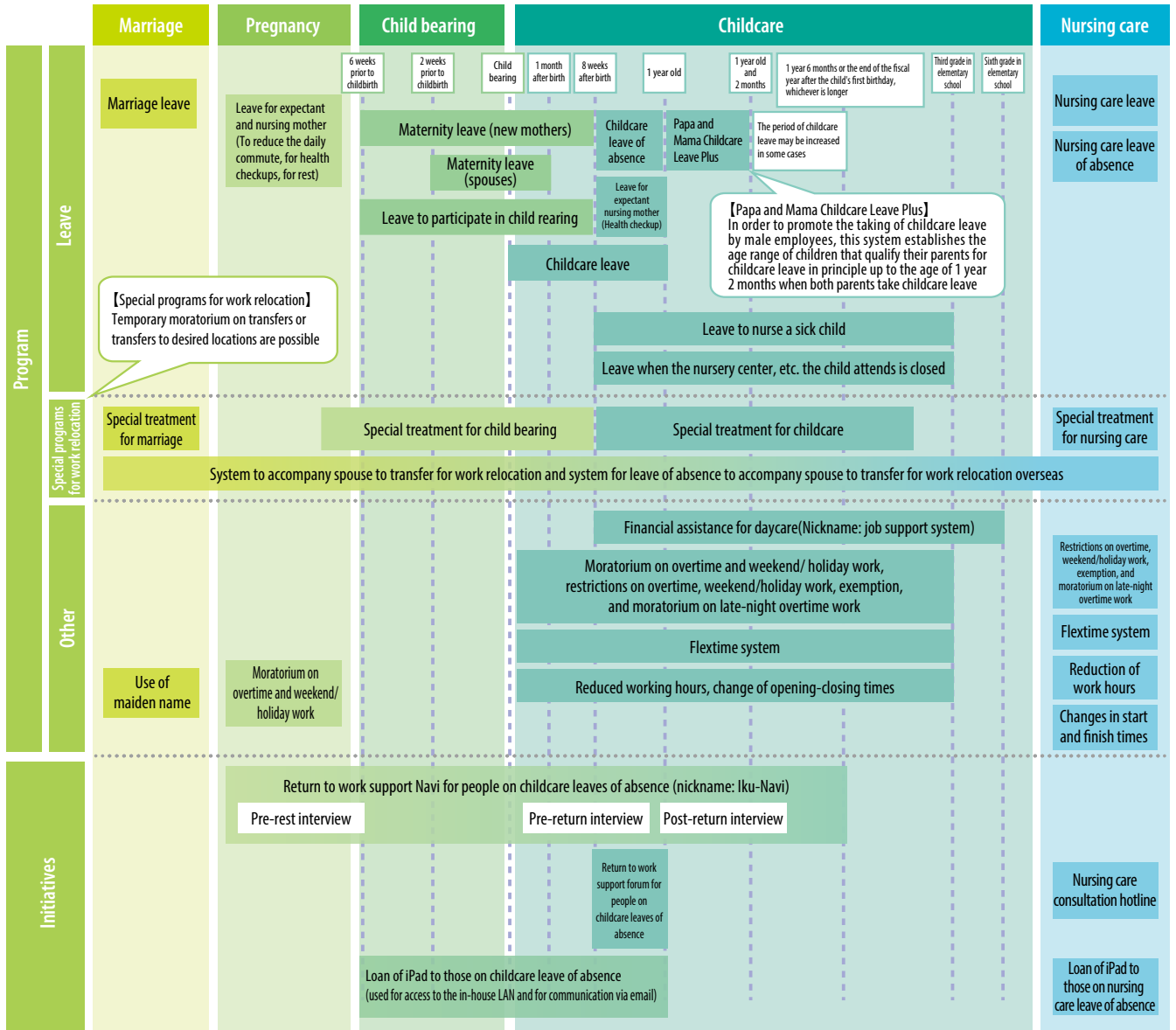
5 Promotion of Employee Activities

We are planning and implementing activities from a variety of viewpoints and utilizing a variety of human resources at all 152 branches nationwide, mainly through the 10 "Regional Committees for the Promotion of Women's Activities" blocks (located in the Sapporo, Sendai, Saitama, Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Hiroshima, Takamatsu, Fukuoka branches). In addition we appointed 7 dedicated staff nationwide to promote activities by women and created a system that makes coordination of activities within each block easier. We are also working on initiatives to actively cooperate with external organizations.

6 Reflection of Employee Needs in All Policies

Once a year we conduct an awareness survey of all employees to ascertain problems related to workplace environments. We reflect the views of the employees expressed in this survey in all of our policies to improve workplace environments.

Balance Support Measures for Major Life Stage



Systems for Organizational Management

Contribution to environmental beautification

Through activities that take the environment into consideration, JFC strives to contribute to society and create a rewarding workplace environment.

The head office cleans up the area around the head-office building in coordination with "Chiyoda Cleanup Day".



Protection of Personal Information

JFC adopted and made available to the public its Privacy Policy with provisions necessary for the appropriate management of personal information in its possession in accordance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Law No. 59 of 2003) and other laws relating to the protection of personal information.

Privacy Policy

Japan Finance Corporation (hereinafter "JFC") positions the trust of our clients as our first priority, deeply recognizes the importance of our clients' personal information, and believes that it is our duty to our clients to properly manage and protect their personal information.

With a view to protecting our clients' personal information, JFC will conduct our operations in a manner whereby we observe the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies, etc. (hereinafter called the "Law"), the Guidance concerning the Measures to Properly Manage the Personal Information held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies, etc., and so forth.

1 Acquisition of Personal Information

JFC will acquire our clients' personal information through proper and lawful means.

When we acquire personal information from our clients directly in writing, we will specify in advance the purposes for its use that are within the necessary scope of JFC's operations.

2 Use of Personal Information

JFC will specify the purposes for use in obtaining the necessary personal information of our clients as listed below, and will use it within the scope that is necessary to achieve such purposes:

For all JFC Sectors

- ① To confirm the clients' personal identity (including qualifications and requirements for our various lending facilities).
- ② To receive loan applications, decide loan approvals, and conduct loan management after disbursements and/or repayments.
- ③ To make contracts, and exercise legal rights and obligations.
- ④ To conduct surveys and research through issuing questionnaires and providing reference information.
- ⑤ To respond properly and smoothly to questions and inquiries, and deal with transactions including queries from JFC.

Micro Business and Individual Unit

- ① Direct mailings providing information on loan programs, etc. ^(Note)

Note: JFC may use direct mailing to furnish its customers with information on its loan programs that it believes to be in the best interest of the customers. Customers who do not wish to receive such mailings may request to be removed from the mailing list by contacting a local branch of the Micro Business and Individual Unit.

- ② Disclosure to designated recipients of information listed in the following table.

Customer information disclosed	Recipient
a. Customers who inquire about or submit applications for business improvement loan program	Chambers of commerce and industry, commerce and industry associations, and prefectural federations of societies of commerce and industry
b. Customers who inquire about or submit applications for environmental health improvement loan program	Prefectural environmental health industry associations and prefectural environmental health business guidance centers
c. Customers who submit applications for general loans, special loans and environmental health business loans (excluding environmental health improvement loans) and educational loan program	Consumer credit agencies
d. Customers who submit applications for government pension- and mutual aid pension-backed loan programs	Government agencies that determine government pensions, etc.
e. Customers who submit applications for loan guarantees by Educational Financing Guarantee Fund (limited to education loan program)	Educational Financing Guarantee Fund
f. Customers who submit applications for group credit life insurance	Kouko Group Credit Life Insurance Association
g. Customers who submit applications for loans with guarantee from Credit Guarantee Corporations	Prefectural Federation of Credit Guarantee Corporations

Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Business Unit

- ① Screening procedures by administrative agencies necessary for loans, and procedures for receipt of confirmatory documents and opinion letters from administrative agencies necessary for loans.
- ② Disclosure of information to third parties to the extent necessary for proper execution of operations, such as reporting to competent ministries and supervisory agencies.
- ③ Preparation of documents for use in making loan decisions, such as by conducting data analysis.
- ④ Disclosure of information relating to loans/repayment, such as the mailing of payment notices.
- ⑤ Surveys and research using questionnaires and so on, and the provision of reference information such as through direct mail. ^(Note)

Note: JFC may use direct mailing to furnish its customers with information on its loan programs that it believes to be in the best interest of the customers. Customers who do not wish to receive such mailings may request to be removed from the mailing list by contacting a local branch of the Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Business Unit.

Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Unit

- ① Acceptance of credit insurance, payment of insurance money, and management of insurance after insurance accepted.
- ② Provision of business management information necessary for SMEs to aid the client's growth and development.
- ③ Implementation and disclosure of survey results on business trends among SMEs to aid the client's growth and development.
- ④ Provision of information or suggestions concerning loan programs.
- ⑤ Evaluation of policies regarding SMEs, and release of evaluation results, as well as research and development concerning new policy-based financing methods.

Crisis Response Finance Department, etc.

- ① Casualty insurance underwriting, damage compensation, and post-crisis management.
- ② Payment of interest subsidies and management subsequent to payment.

3 Provision of Personal Information to Third Parties

JFC will not provide the personal information acquired from its clients to third parties except for in the following cases:

- (1) It is required by law.
- (2) It is provided within the scope of the purposes for use as prescribed above.
- (3) Consent is obtained from the clients.
- (4) There are convincing reasons why executive agencies, incorporated administrative agencies, local municipal entities or local incorporated administrative agencies would use it to the necessary extent to carry out the law-stipulated operations.
- (5) It is used for statistics compilation or academic research.
- (6) It is clearly beneficial to the clients or there exist special reasons to provide personal information.

4 Subcontract

JFC may subcontract the handling of our clients' personal information to conduct such operations more smoothly. In such cases, JFC will attempt to select a trustworthy subcontractor, enter into a confidentiality agreement, supervise the handling and administering of the personal information impeccably, and assure the protection of personal information.

5 Personal Information Management

- (1) JFC will attempt to keep our clients' personal information correct and updated, and take prevention and safety measures against unauthorized access, leakage, loss, damage, and alteration of personal information.
- (2) JFC will constantly educate its employees about the protection and proper management of our clients' personal information to thoroughly make sure of its proper handling in its daily operations.
- (3) JFC will audit whether the protection and management of personal information is undertaken properly.

6 Disclosure, Correction, and Disuse

If a client wishes to make a request to disclose, correct or disuse the clients' personal information held by JFC, we will deal with such a request by following the procedure of disclosure stipulated in the Law.

Meanwhile, there are some cases when such disclosure could be made out of the procedure of disclosure stipulated in the Law, for which please contact our nearest office of the relevant Unit.

7 Inquiries about Personal Information Management

For inquiries or complaints about the clients' personal information management at JFC, please contact our nearest office of the relevant Unit.

8 Continuous Improvement

JFC will continuously improve the clients' personal information management as necessary.

JFC has formulated a "Policy for the protection of specific personal information, etc." that establishes the items necessary for appropriate management of personal numbers and specific personal information (hereafter referred to as "specific personal information, etc.") in accordance with the "Act on the Use of Numbers to Identify a Specific Individual" (2013 Act No. 27).

Policy for Protection of Specific Personal Information, etc.

All work that deals with Specific Personal Information, etc. should properly handle it in accordance with the following principles.

(1) Regulatory compliance

Comply with all laws, etc. ^(Note) relating to appropriate handling of Specific Personal Information, etc.

Note: Laws, etc. includes the following

- Social Security and Tax Number Law
- Laws and ordinances relating to protection of personal information by independent administrative entities, etc.
- Guidelines relating to the proper handling of specific personal information (version for administrative organizations, regional public organizations, etc.)(2014 Specific Personal Information Protection Commission Public Notice No. 6)
- Guidance on measures for the appropriate management of personal information held by independent administrative entities (Notice from the Head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Administrative Management Bureau: "Soukanjou" No. 85 dated Sep. 14th)

(2) Safety Management Measures

Take necessary safety management measures to prevent disclosure, damage or destruction of specific personal information, and carry out other appropriate management.

(3) Utilization for purposes other than proper collection, storage, use and disposal is forbidden

Collection, storage and provision of specific personal information, etc. should only be carried out for use within the scope necessary to achieve the purposes reported beforehand to the person identified by said information as part of the work established in the Social Security and Tax Number Law. Said specific personal information, etc. should be swiftly disposed of when no longer needed. Moreover, measures should be taken to prevent utilization for other than intended purposes.

(4) Outsourcing and Subcontracting

When work that handles specific personal information, etc. is outsourced in whole or in part, contractors (including subcontractors) should be properly supervised as necessary to ensure that safety management measures are in place which are equivalent to the measures that JFC should itself carry out based on compliance with Social Security and Tax Number Law.

(5) Continuous Improvement

Regulations for handling specific personal information, etc. and safety management measures should be continuously reviewed in an attempt to improve upon them.

Information Disclosure Systems

JFC is working to expand the disclosure of information in its possession in order to hold itself accountable to the public.

JFC is subject to the Act on Access to Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Act No. 140 of 2001). JFC works to promote better information disclosure through a system for filing requests as well as a system for information provision.

The main types of information made available to the public are as follows:

Major Types of Information Made Available to the Public

Information type	Disclosure site and method	Disclosure period
Business reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available at all branches • Distributed to National Diet Library, regional public organizations, and business groups 	Jun.-Sep.
Supporting schedules		
Asset inventories		
Financial statements		
Opinions by Audit & Supervisory Board Members		
Audit reports by Audit & Supervisory Board		
Audit reports by CPA firm		
Disclosure reports (this document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available at all branches • Distributed upon request 	Aug.
Website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes explanations of business activities, organizational structures, etc. • Electronic public notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available on Internet (http://www.jfc.go.jp/n/english/) 	Updated as necessary

Memo
