



The Labour Bank SDGs Action Guidelines have been Formulated



Labour Banks have recently formulated the “Labour Bank SDGs Action Guidelines” to advance our efforts toward realization of the SDGs. Through diligent pursuit of the Labour Banks’ mission of facilitating improvements in the daily lives of working people through the Labour Bank movement, we will go forward with our efforts to perform our role and attain the SDGs in a manner that is expected of Labour Banks as cooperative financial institutions.

The SDGs slogan “leave no one behind” and the idea of “financial inclusion,” which aims at a situation where all people are able to gain access to and make use of necessary financial services is well-matched with the founding history, principles and vision of Labour Banks.

The Labour Bank SDGs Action Guidelines

– March 2019 –

- Labour Banks, as non-profit cooperative financial institutions for working people, take on the task of support for improvements in the daily lives of working people throughout their lifetimes based on the “Labour Bank Principles” and the “Labour Bank Vision” for the realization of these principles. Labour Banks will aim toward the attainment of the SDGs through a further strengthening and thoroughgoing implementation of these activities, striving to resolve the various social issues surrounding working people.
- Labour Banks will create a flow of money that contributes to the realization of a sustainable society by utilizing the valued funds of working people as, among others, financing for improvements in the daily lives of the working people themselves and in environmental, social and governance (ESG) investment, which has consideration for society and the environment.
- Labour Banks will strengthen their network with the members of trade unions and consumer cooperatives; non-profit, cooperative sector organizations related to worker welfare, such as collectives, NPOs, and social welfare corporations; associations and foundations; municipalities, and others, and will cooperate with these organizations in the work toward the resolution of social issues such as community welfare, education, environment, natural disasters and other issues.
- Labour Banks will publicize the achievements of various efforts toward attainment of the SDGs and will expand the circle of sympathy with the attainment of the SDGs by informing the broader society, including members and working people, that using Labour Banks will lead to advances toward the SDGs.

The Principles of Labour Banks

Labour Banks are financial cooperatives that cultivate the dreams and ideals of our workers.
 Labour Banks consider their objectives to be twofold: promote economic, welfare, environmental and cultural activities by their members; and create, by working together, a society in which all people can live in happiness.
 Labour Banks are formed from worker-based organizations and organizations that keep their doors open to a wide range of citizens. This network of member organizations is the essence of the Labour Banks.
 Members participate in the administration of Labour Banks as equals, seeking to improve the activities and projects of the banks.
 Sincerity, fairness, and openness are key Labour Bank principles. By their commitment to sound management, Labour Banks will endeavor to keep faith with their members.

The Labour Bank Vision (2015-2025)

- 1 We will support workers’ livelihoods throughout their lifetimes.
- 2 We will fulfil our role as providers of core financial functions for the non-profit and cooperative sector.
- 3 We will contribute to creating an inclusive society by connecting people with one another and to their communities.

What are the SDGs?



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are international goals for the period 2016 to 2030 that were laid down in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations Summit in September 2015. The SDGs consist of 17 goals, such as “end poverty” and “end hunger,” and a total of 169 targets (individual goals) that have been set for all the goals. The importance of the SDGs has been recognized globally and Japan is also expected to actively promote the attainment of the SDGs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Labour Bank Actions and the SDGs

Strengthen the Labour Bank movement and strive for attainment of the SDGs.



Labour Banks promote the creation of a society in which all working people and their families can enjoy safe, secure and abundant lives throughout their lifetimes by maintaining continual provision of quality financial products and services.



Labour Banks strive to create an environment in which everyone is guaranteed an equal opportunity to receive quality education and all workers are able to continue lifelong learning in order to raise their skill levels. As well as promoting financial and economic education, Labour Banks respond to various financing needs related to education.



Labour Banks strive to create a sustainable society through investment with consideration for the environment and society, investment in companies that display excellent corporate governance, and also through cooperation with organizations that are making efforts in this direction.



Labour Banks aim for the realization of a society which enables everyone to work and live in health and security without fear of discrimination or exclusion and without falling into social isolation due to differences in age, gender, disability, economic status, etc. Labour Banks take action to support employment, social participation and economic independence through improving access to financial services for people who find themselves in harsh economic circumstances.



Labour Banks aim for the realization of an inclusive and peaceful society without discrimination or conflict and which enables everyone to live in security through actions to resolve social issues by making use of networks with, and by cooperating with, trade unions and consumer cooperatives, NPOs, social welfare corporations, associations and foundations, municipalities and others.



Labour Banks, while deepening the understanding of the creation of a sustainable society, will review the nature and conduct of work in Labour Banks and will promote improvements in workplace environment to enable active participation by diverse human resources through striving toward the attainment of the SDGs.

Labour Bank officials and staff, as members of the local community, will personally think and act while bearing in mind the attainment of the SDGs during their daily lives and work.



Various efforts being made by nationwide Labour Banks toward attainment of the SDGs are regularly introduced on the Japanese pages of the National Association of Labour Banks' website.



Please check this out for details
<https://all.rokin.or.jp/blog/>



Planning & International Dept.,
 National Association of Labour Banks
 March 2019