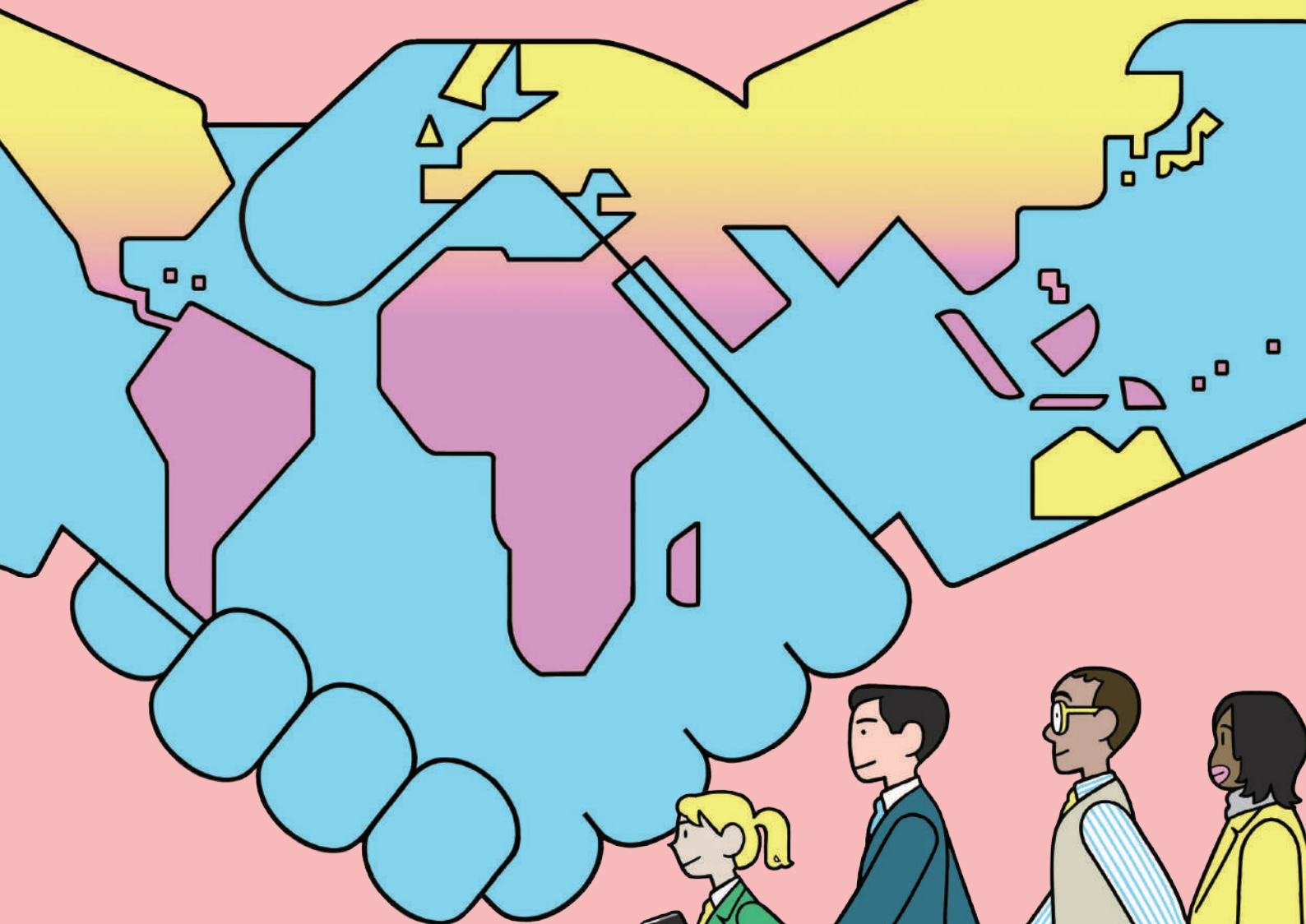


2025  
**SPECIAL  
ISSUE**

# JBIC Today

Japan  
Bank for  
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Cooperation

Supporting  
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## Global South and Japan:

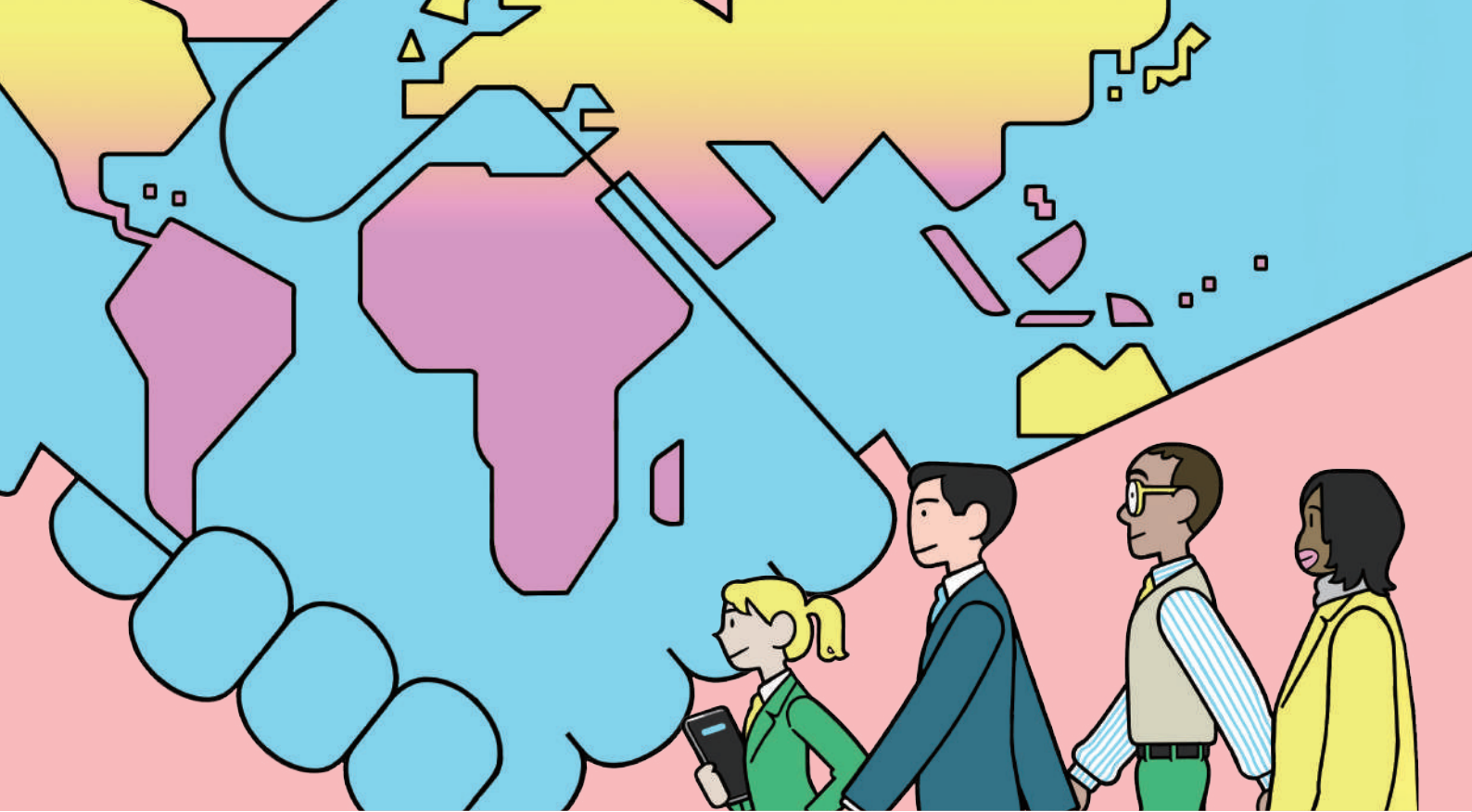
The Power of Financial Cooperation

**INTERVIEW** **PARAG KHANNA** (International political scientist)  
New Alignments and Ad Hoc Alliances in a Multipolar World

**INTERVIEW** **SEKINE Hiroki** (JBIC Managing Executive Officer)  
Partnering with the Global South to Co-create Win-Win Situations



**JAPAN BANK FOR  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**



Cover Illustration: Takeuma

# JBIC Today

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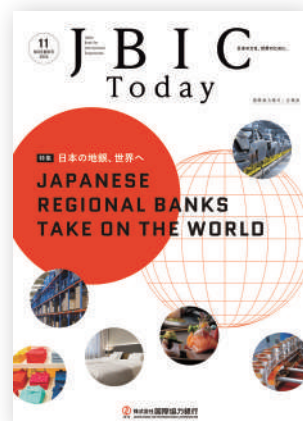
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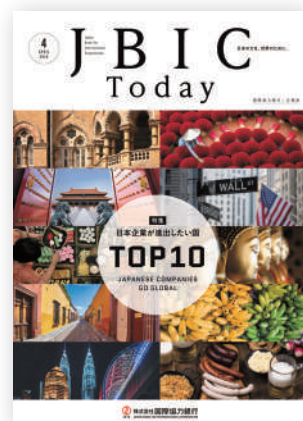
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JAPANESE REGIONAL  
BANKS TAKE ON  
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August 2024

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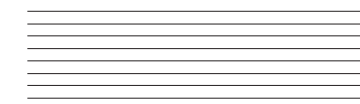
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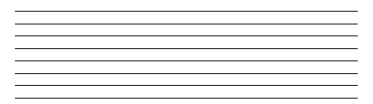


February 2024

SUSTAINABILITY:  
BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



JBIC  
Today



## Global South and Japan: The Power of Financial Cooperation

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# The Global South:

## new alignments and ad hoc alliances in a multipolar world

Shifting geopolitical landscapes, the reality of the Global South, the risks of climate inaction, and Japan's role in the world—Parag Khanna, global strategy advisor, author, and CEO of AI-driven geospatial analytics platform AlphaGeo, offers his thought-provoking insights and unique perspectives in a deep dive into these topics and more.

**Q** The Global South is a group of nations of diverse political, economic, and cultural backgrounds, and while they do share some common interests and challenges, unified action seems difficult. What is your take on this?

**A** I think the broader point would be that all nations are having a hard time cooperating and acting as blocks or alliances today because that very approach to diplomacy and that very structural background of international relations is gone. If it were a world like the Cold War or a new Cold War, then states would behave in predictable, alliance-like formations, but almost no states are doing that.

If we hold the West to be the standard of such behavior, and NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) in particular, then we would not see a great deal of unity, harmony, comity, or coordination. It's generally speaking the U.S., and then whoever wants to join on a case-by-case basis. In other words, the global backdrop is that alliances have been replaced by what I call multi-alignment. And multi-alignment is the term

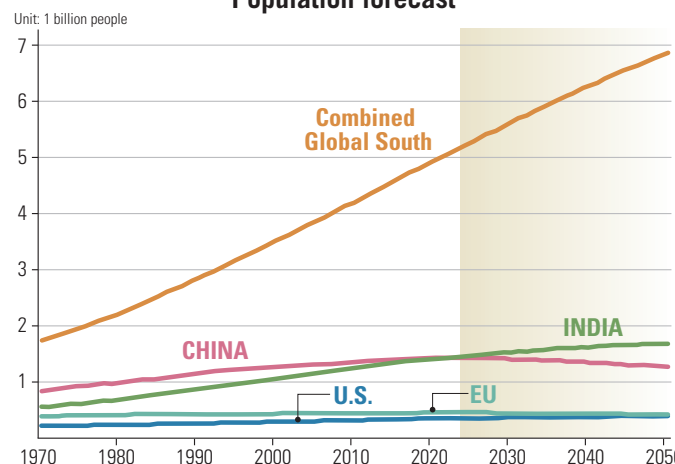
that I developed about 20 years ago to describe this world of very opportunistic and self-serving behavior, in which every country sees itself as the center rather than necessarily hewing to rigid alliance formations. Another way to put it is that it is a world of dalliances, not alliances. So, we see novel formations. It's not to say that we don't have cooperation and that we don't have mutual interest. Of course we do.

You can see that, for example, with the Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, consisting of Australia, India, Japan, and the U.S.), which of course Japan is a founding member of. You can see it with BRICS (originally an investment concept covering Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa; now a geopolitical grouping that has added Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Indonesia). We call these clubs rather than alliances in international relations theory and international political economy. If we apply that same logic to the Global South, of course those countries are not going to act in a coordinated way, because the broader context is one in which countries don't do that anymore.

That's particularly true for the Global South. First, they don't have anything in common other than being post-colonial countries. They are many different regions of the world: Latin America, Africa, West Asia, the Arab world, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Most of the world is post-colonial, and most of the world is the South. Within the Global South, I tend to look regionally and say, is South America becoming more cohesive, better coordinated, better integrated? Is Africa? Are the Gulf countries? So, when it comes then to

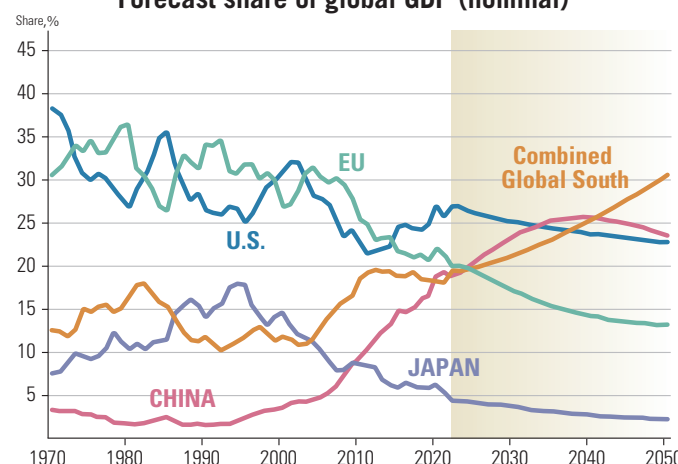
transnational or international multilateral cooperation among countries of the South, you are left with things like BRICS or the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO, a regional grouping led by China and Russia for economic and security issues) and things like the AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, a lender for regional infrastructure projects led by China focused on developing economies). But note that China is the principal hub of all of those bodies, and is it really part of the Global South? China is a structural superpower in the global system.

### Population forecast



The Global South, including India, is expected to continue experiencing rapid population growth and is projected to account for 70 percent of the world's population by 2050. \*Graph data sourced from Mitsubishi Research Institute (based on the United Nations' "World Population Prospects 2024" created by Mitsubishi Research Institute), partially modified for use.

### Forecast share of global GDP (nominal)



The GDP of the Global South is projected to surpass that of the U.S. and China around 2040. \*The Global South refers to the G77 member states, excluding China. Graph data sourced from Mitsubishi Research Institute (historical data from IMF, projections by Mitsubishi Research Institute), partially modified for use. (Note: Projections as of July 2023, aggregated from countries with available data.)

*"JBIC has to be one of the key pillars of Japan's connectivity to the world."*

INTERVIEW: 01

# PARAG KHANNA

Founder & CEO of AlphaGeo, an AI based geospatial predictive analytics platform

**Q** Given that background, why do you think that the idea of the Global South is still attracting a lot of attention?

**A** I think terminologically it's useful because it's a good way of capturing the dynamic roles, voice, and confidence that many different countries of the South are exhibiting at the same time. You have South Africa's move to take Israel to the International Court of Justice; Brazil holding its weight in international trade negotiations, including on environmental criteria; and India flexing its muscles in terms of commercial diplomacy across Africa.

But it's much like the term Islamic World. If we were having this conversation 20 or 22 years ago, we'd be talking about the Islamic World because after

the 9/11 terrorist attacks, everything was about the West and the Islamic World. That term faded away. It never really meant anything; two Muslim countries don't coordinate behavior on anything.

I don't expect the Global South to amount to much more from a diplomatic standpoint. If it's going to be the new way in which we talk about the Third World or developing countries, that's just nomenclature. But I'm very interested in the Global South from the standpoint of seeing which specific states, which specific sub-regions are exhibiting their own confidence, taking things in their own direction, making their own policies and strategies, acquiring more leverage and diplomacy, and negotiations. Those are very important and fascinating issues.

In the post-colonial world, these are countries that by definition have only existed for the past 75 years. The last thing they want is to be subsumed into some architecture that suppresses their freedom and autonomy and sovereignty. They're coming out of centuries of colonialism, so they don't want to be a pawn of China's or to join a new Western alliance, or to be lumped together with others.

They absolutely jealously guard their own independence and freedom. If you look at it from the top down, then all you see is: Are you with the U.S.? Are you with China? Are you East or West? I view the world in the exact opposite way. The

answer to the question depends on the behavior of 150 other countries. But to know if China and the U.S. are going to get what they want, you have to look at how everyone else behaves, and they don't behave as one. That's what makes the world so interesting.

**Q** You talked about BRICS and what we used to call the Third World, but how do you think the Global South differs from those as a concept?

**A** BRICS is a very specific, finite group of nations, founded for a very specific purpose. So, it actually has a lot more meaning and significance than people have traditionally given it. However, in light of the recent BRICS summit (in October 2024, Kazan, Russia), many people have woken up to the seriousness of BRICS. The metric for me is not whether the *New York Times* or the *Financial Times* takes it seriously. The metric is, is it doing something?

And clearly, they are doing something, and therefore, they matter. I'm very interested in the role of BRICS, AIIB, SCO, Belt and Road Initiative (an international infrastructure development project launched by China in 2013), RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a free trade agreement signed in 2020 covering ASEAN, Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, and South Korea)—all in Asia primarily—but then also of course Quad and





AUKUS (a security agreement between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. in the Indo-Pacific region). I'm a big fan of all of these. This is the emergence of new vectors, new corridors of diplomacy and cooperation, again from the bottom up. This is sideways. This is not being forced by the U.S., or by China, or by Europe. This is the flourishing of connectivity, diplomatically, commercially, infrastructurally, financially, and technologically across hundreds of countries.

**Q What do you see as the Global South's role in the international community?**

**A** Psychologically, it has value because countries see each other's behavior, and they learn from each other. If one country stands up to pressure from the U.S., others learn from that. If one country elects someone who is very technocratic or adopts Bitcoin as a reserve currency, others learn. If one country floats more local currency debt, or rejects Chinese debt for equity swaps, or undertakes a high-speed rail project, others learn.

I live in Singapore; every country in the world comes here to learn how to run their country. This is the most successful post-colonial country in the world. I am affiliated with the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, part of the National University of Singapore, and we receive delegations of ministers,

mayors, ambassadors, and governors every week from every country in the world. One of the smallest countries in the world teaches every other country in the world how to run a country.

There isn't one model anymore. Just in terms of lessons, in one of my books, I call this "the next best thing." The theory of "the next best thing" is that each country, generally speaking, can only aspire to achieve something that is attainable. So, the model for Afghanistan is not Switzerland. Not by a mile. The model for Mongolia is not Switzerland, it is Kazakhstan. They're landlocked countries, mildly democratic, coming out of authoritarian Soviet influence or domination. They're resource-rich economies, sparsely populated, and have harsh climates. They don't have the luxury of aspiring to be like Denmark or Japan. Japan is truly the most stable liberal democracy in the world, but it's unattainable to be like Japan for every other country in the world right now. You can take a lot of investment from Japan, study Japan, be inspired by Japan—but are you going to be Japan? Of course not. And the beauty of the dialogue of the Global South is that they can see from each other who has done those little incremental things that the others can learn from.

**Q Given that there is no truly unified entity, how can the Global South impact the new world order and international rules?**

**A** It's going to be the sum of those various maneuvers: South Africa's, Nigeria's, Brazil's, and India's. The greater the voice that they each have, the greater the voice that they will collectively have. I don't see current contemporary multilateral organizations like the United Nations or World Bank suddenly reforming themselves. What will happen instead is that they just won't be as important anymore. Because these new institutions will form and do things

themselves.

**Q How do you see the results of the recent U.S. election impacting the shift to multipolarity?**

**A** That shift is well underway; I think it has been going on for more than 20 years. This is probably just going to accelerate that because the countries of the world are going to say: even if you are a friend of the U.S., you can't rely on the U.S. So that alone is the motivation for countries to chart their own path—as a hedge, a back-up plan. The world is already multipolar and will simply become more multipolar.

But the answer is different if you are India, Ukraine, Iran, or even Mexico. Countries are going to pursue their interests, and if the U.S. is their friend, they'll want to remain friends no matter who is president. But they'll also pursue their own interests no matter who is president.

**Q Regarding climate change, do you believe we can adapt our way out of the crisis?**

**A** No, to be honest, I am a pessimist. I am a technological optimist in general, but I am a climate pessimist in the sense that I don't believe that, at a systemic level, enough is being done fast enough. Some places are adaptive, some places are investing in resilience, some places are becoming future-proof. If by "we" you mean Japan, I believe Japan is future-proof and adaptive. I believe Japan is resilient. But if by "we" you mean the Global South, well, the Global South is in big trouble. The Global South is not adaptive. It is not resilient. The Global South is the most stressed from climate change, which is accelerating and disproportionately impacting the Global South. I am hugely concerned about the global "we."

**Q Moving on to Japan, how do you consider relations between the Global South and Japan?**

**A** Japan should not be underestimated as a structural player. It's obviously one of the largest trading nations in the world, one of the largest investors in the world. It's a role model in many ways. It's a major donor of development assistance. It plays a major role in international organizations. If we think about those five or six pillars, they're just realities of Japan's global role. Sometimes, those get underestimated, and I think that's unfortunate. For example, a lot of people act as if the new Silk Roads and the new trade routes across Eurasia didn't exist until China's Belt and Road Initiative 10 years ago. I point out that Europe and Japan have been investing in

infrastructure projects across Eurasia for decades. China is amplifying a movement for Eurasian connectivity that's already existed.

Again, I think more regionally. Japan in Southeast Asia and Japan in India are more important than Japan in the Caribbean or Japan in Africa. So as someone who lives here in this region in Southeast Asia and as someone who follows India, I'm very aware that Japan is a very strong and steady presence and influence across South and Southeast Asia and these are the most important regions to be focused on anyway.

**Q In terms of concrete measures, what sort of things do you think Japan can do to help the Global South grow and prosper?**

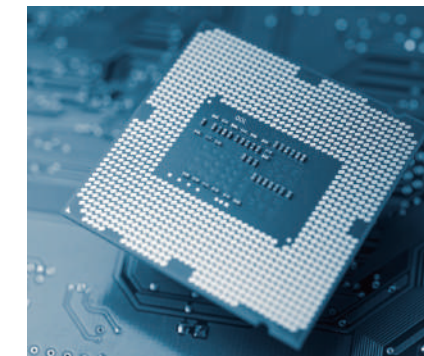
**A** Trade and investment are always the number one and two things. I should say investment and trade because investment comes before trade. Countries don't have anything to trade unless they have some investment. Even agriculture requires foreign investment to mechanize, modernize, and connect to global markets. Investment is the way you build bridges and friendships. Trade is generally fungible; if someone doesn't buy your thing, then someone else will likely buy it. But investment is less fungible. If you don't invest somewhere, maybe someone else will not invest there. Therefore, investment is a very important way to build deeper bonds and ties, to drive economic growth, and to have a strong structural relationship with countries. And now is a very dynamic time. There's a lot of competition for supply chains, for attracting manufacturing and other sectors. I'm a believer that Japan can play a very fundamental role there.

**Q In terms of Japan itself, where the population is decreasing, impacting the economy, how do you see its outlook?**

**A** There is a natural reality to Japan's economic condition. When you are hyper-modern, when you are ageing, when growth is slowed, when labor costs are high, when you're focused on generational care and you have a weaker currency and so forth, you will have situations like this. These are all the contributors to Japan's economic condition. There's one school of thought that says, this is normal, but at least the Japanese have an amazing quality of life. On the other hand, there are concerns about the future. The population is declining, there isn't enough broad-based innovation. Other countries are hugely competitive and are eroding Japan's leadership in many sectors. There is some sense that it's living on

borrowed time. Japan and Germany are really quite similar in that way.

Therefore, unless you constantly nurture and invest in being cutting-edge and innovative, then you will lose that edge. I share that concern. I think the future of Japan will have to be more muscular in terms of having to pick sectors where it really wants to maintain a strong lead and invest a lot and defend that edge. It is clearly committing a larger R&D budget toward AI, semiconductors, and robotics. And it will have to become proactively competitive with export promotion in these areas otherwise they will be dominated by China, if they're not already dominated by China.



**Q One proposed solution is increased immigration. What is your perspective on that for Japan?**

**A** I had a chapter on Japan in my last book, *Move: The Forces Uprooting Us* (2021), and I thought it was important to point out that, unlike what many people believe, Japan actually has record inward immigration every year (as of the end of 2023, there were 3.41 million registered foreign residents, a record increase of 11 percent over the previous year), which is quite a surprise. Of course, accounts vary as to what degree of integration or assimilation there is, or whether it's parallel societies. And I think

that will evolve. But Japan is inevitably evolving rapidly as a migrant destination. And that's quite unexpected, but also inevitable.

**Q What kind of influence can JBIC have in terms of the Global South and its role in the wider international community?**

**A** One of my passions is promoting infrastructure investment, and we always underestimate how necessary it is, how urgent it is, how transformational it can be. Especially today, in light of climate stress and climate adaptation, investments in alternative and renewable energy, in a stable power supply, in resilient agriculture, water desalination, flood control measures—these are crucial.

And finding a country's niche in global value chains and investing to help it: What is their value? What is their best opportunity? Is it food processing, manufacturing, renewable energy, or batteries? That really should be central to JBIC's investment focus worldwide as an agent of building Japanese influence.

**Q Are there specific strategies you would advise it to follow?**

**A** This is an issue that I do think one should look at in a top-down way. There is so much competition right now amongst export promotion agencies and foreign investment agencies from India, China, and so forth. I think that Japan has to strategically prioritize its relationships, focusing on India and Southeast Asia. Those are the right geographies to focus on. One of my arguments in *Connectography: Mapping the Future of Global Civilization* (2016) is that your weight in the world, your influence in the world, is a function not of your size but of your connectivity. If Japan is not connected, then Japan will not be influential. So JBIC has to be one of the key pillars of Japan's connectivity to the world.

**PARAG KHANNA**

Born in India and raised in the United Arab Emirates, New York, and Germany, Parag Khanna has a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, and Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Georgetown University. Founder and CEO of AI-powered geospatial analytics platform AlphaGeo, he is a bestselling author of seven books and has appeared in the media and advised governments around the globe.





INTERVIEW: 02

# HIROKI SEKINE

**JBIC Managing Executive Officer  
Global Head of Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group**

## Partnering with the Global South to Co-create Win-Win Situations

Collaborating with the Global South is vital to protecting Japanese national interests while contributing to solving worldwide issues. Managing Executive Officer SEKINE Hiroki shares his thoughts on why the Global South is important to Japan, JBIC's role in this partnership, as well as the types of aid it has provided in key countries and regions: India, Southeast Asia, South America, and the Middle East and Africa.

- In a rapidly changing world,
- the Global South is making its
- presence felt

The term “Global South” is used collectively to include both emerging and developing countries, and the use of the term “South” is very interesting. Look at a map, and you’ll see that not all the nations of the Global South are located in the geographical south. Why then do we refer to them as the South? I think this is because we have learned to think of the “North-South problem” and “South-South cooperation” in the context of world history, regarding the “South” as having been excluded from world development and as an area that demands serious attention.

Over the course of history, “South” became a concept signifying a disparity in economic status and rights within the international community that calls for correction—and this corresponds to that of emerging and developing nations.

Why is there so much attention on the Global South today? For one thing, its presence has grown enormously. According to the United Nations framework, the Global South comprises 133 of the 193 official UN member states (but does not include China). By 2050, these nations are predicted to account for two-thirds of the world’s population. Economically, the Global South is expected to produce more than 30 percent of the world’s GDP—a percentage comparable to those of China and the United States today.

Secondly, the world situation is in flux. Following World War II, the economically developed nations of the world—exemplified by the G7—made key decisions regarding world governance and acted as its leaders. Today, however, the advanced nations face serious divisions within their own borders and struggle to focus on global matters. Looking toward the future, a system in which the advanced nations alone stand at the helm of global governance seems increasingly unrealistic.

- Japan respects the diversity of
- nations and sees the Global South
- as “partners”

In considering the future of global governance, it is clear that the Global South has become a significantly larger

presence on the world stage. Given its growing influence, it is essential to take this presence into account when assessing the international situation.

Japan has recognized these global changes and is making efforts to bolster its partnership with the Global South. Japan’s fundamental position is that it imports energy and food from Global South nations rich in these resources, and can continue to thrive as a nation only in a stable world. Therefore, it is necessary for Japan to actively engage in global affairs. Even with regard to the sustainability of Japan itself in the future, it is important that we meet the

circumstances of individual countries and regions.

India is one of the countries with which we are most actively expanding collaboration. In the past, the central government and individual states often had different laws and systems, making it difficult to coordinate business deals and solve problems. As a result, even if businesses were established in India, it was difficult to generate profits. I myself had a number of frustrating experiences.

But the situation seems to be changing. Reforms under the Modi government have significantly improved the business environment, making India

## Working together with the Global South is of the utmost importance to Japan

Global South head on an equal footing and work together with them. The reality is that “Japan First” is not a viable approach.

In June 2024, the Japanese government announced a policy to enhance collaboration with Global South nations, highlighting an important shift in its stance. The key point was that it views these nations as “co-creative partners on an equal basis.”

As a peace-loving nation, Japan has refrained from forcing its values on other nations when cooperating in their development, and has been repaid with their trust. In the future, Japan’s relationship with Global South nations will not be one of “we give” and “you depend on us,” but one where “partners” work together to create an economic community for the future, jointly identifying problems and working toward solutions. The benefits of this will extend to Japan, and I would like to say loud and clear that this will enhance its national interest.

- India’s business environment has
- changed and a key factor is energy
- transition

In line with the Japanese government’s policy of boosting collaboration with the Global South, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is undertaking projects tailored to the

a country where it is easy to establish business partnerships, and a promising market.

An area of particular interest is that of energy transition—the shift away from fossil fuels toward sustainable new energy systems. India has pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2070. This may seem far in the future, but my intuition—and that of much of the business world—is that India is ahead of any other country with regard to initiatives in energy transition. Alongside the development of renewable energy projects, private investment systems are being put in place to build power grids.

JBIC has been working these past ten years to establish an environment conducive to investment in this field, and we are finally seeing tangible results. For example, the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDC), a joint venture with the Indian government, supports industrial development across the country, with four industrial parks already built. One of these is powered by state-of-the-art green energy to attract the semiconductor industry.

Furthermore, the Japan-India Fund was established in cooperation with the Indian Government in 2023 to provide an investment platform for Indian businesses and projects relating to renewable energy, electric vehicles, and



## JBIC Focuses on 4 Regions

JBIC boosts collaboration by adapting to the realities of each country or region. Below are efforts, plans, and major projects with other governments in recent years.

### JBIC × India

- Contributed to India-Japan Fund, which promotes environmental conservation and collaboration between Japanese and Indian businesses.
- Co-organized Raisina Roundtable in Tokyo with Indian think tank Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and the Japan Association of Corporate Executives.
- Established a Semiconductor Committee within the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in India (JCII) to facilitate the entry of Japanese semiconductor-related businesses into India.
- Signed business cooperation agreement with the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation and Export-Import Bank of Korea to support development of digital infrastructure in India.



### JBIC × Southeast Asia

- Established renewable energy businesses in each country in accordance with the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) concept.
- Established a bilateral AZEC Japan-Indonesia Joint Task Force (JTF) with Indonesia and supported a geothermal power generation business using project finance.
- Established a bilateral public/private sector consultation framework dubbed the AZEC/GX Promotion Working Team with the Vietnamese government and formed a finance scheme to support renewable energy businesses and power grid maintenance.
- Signed MOUs with local Philippine financial groups for collaboration with Japanese firms in the area of renewable energy.



### JBIC × South America

- Supported sustainable resource development through electrification of construction machinery, in addition to securing mineral resources.
- Signed a business partnership agreement with Chile's Ministry of Energy to collaborate in hydrogen and ammonia sectors.
- Set up a credit line with the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) to finance decarbonization projects.
- Supported Japanese pesticide manufacturers that support food production in Brazil.



### JBIC × The Middle East and Africa

- Supported waste-to-energy project in Dubai, a case of aiding renewable energy transition in oil-producing nations of the Middle East.
- Financed a number of onshore wind power projects in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
- Supported the export of major equipment made by Japanese firms for the construction of geothermal electric power generation plants in Kenya.
- Signed MOU with Morocco for collaboration in energy transition and sustainable development.



The key is multinational collaboration  
with public and private financial institutions of the world

environmental conservation areas such as waste disposal and water treatment, as well as ventures that can work with Japanese firms. The goal is to foster innovation and collaboration between Japan and India. By leading energy transition efforts and supporting the development of power grids and industrial parks, as well as innovation and collaboration, we have entered a phase where we can establish a multi-layered and co-creative relationship with India.

■ Following the AZEC concept in Southeast Asia and supporting individual nations in renewable energy

Energy transition is equally crucial in Southeast Asia, and also an opportunity to develop new industries. The Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) proposed by the Japanese government is based on a "shared vision among Asian nations to press forward with decarbonization and work together to promote energy transition." Based on this concept, JBIC has established platforms in individual countries for private and public entities to discuss the creation and promotion of renewable energy projects, and is involved in the management of those platforms.

This initiative is expected to create a huge market and attract new industries.

At the same time, each country faces unique challenges. Our approach is to engage in direct discussions and co-create plans as partners. We have held talks with leading actors in energy transition from both the public and private sectors in Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and recently Malaysia. We are now beginning to work on the financial aspect of providing Japanese technology and solutions.

■ South America holds great potential for development in resource acquisition and sustainability

I think South America presents significant opportunities for sustainable resource development, not only as a stable supplier of resources to Japan, but also as a region where Japanese technology can enhance sustainability. For example, the electrification of mining machines can add value in resource extraction. In Chile, JBIC has added its support to a copper mine development project with Japanese investors, stabilizing the supply of copper. JBIC has also signed an agreement with Chile's Ministry of Energy to promote cooperation in sectors using hydrogen and ammonia, thus cooperating with Chile on decarbonization efforts.

Beyond resources, Japan possesses advanced know-how in water resource

management and efficient food production. Through such collaboration in these fields, we can engage in broader innovation-driven partnerships.

■ The Middle East and Africa face multiple challenges, but JBIC can make a difference in small-scale projects

Making inroads into the Middle East and Africa may seem difficult, but the world is already linked to these regions in many ways. In particular, North Africa's proximity to Europe is expected to promote the development of clean, renewable energy supply networks, from which electricity can be exported to Europe. Japanese companies continue to develop wind farm projects in Egypt, and JBIC provides financial backing. JBIC has also recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Morocco to strengthen cooperation in energy transition and sustainable development.

Sub-Saharan Africa is rich in resources, but difficulties remain as to how the wealth from those resources can be distributed more widely and equally. Legislation and investment systems must certainly be established to develop the infrastructure needed for resource development and transportation. What is needed is a readiness to



## JBIC is committed to multiple projects in the Global South



\*The map presents major projects in recent years.  
 \*GREEN: Global action for Reconciling Economic growth and ENvironmental preservation  
 \*GDP growth rate, nominal GDP, and population are based on World Bank data for 2023.  
 \*Major exports cited from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs website



face these obvious problems with genuine seriousness.

In the small African nation of Benin, JBIC has provided loans for projects including solar power generation. This kind of support is impossible when misgivings about investment risks and return rates are prioritized, but numerous small-scale projects eventually lead to larger ones. We believe that JBIC should have a hand in projects such as these, which take time and are difficult for the private sector to take on.

As can be said for business development in the Global South as a whole, the key point is to strengthen partnerships with numerous financial institutions in the public and private sectors and to work in multinational collaboration. We

should take the numerous means of support available in the world and apply them at the necessary stages, arranging them where needed, and making breakthroughs in the way we collaborate. Rather than the old "all-Japan" way, what is needed here is the power to create and lead a global consortium.

### Collaboration with the Global South will be a historical turning point for Japan

Global governance is a matter of fine-tuning our vision for the future of our planet, and the presence of the Global South is indispensable in that vision. The role of JBIC is to be perpetually future-oriented and sensitive to changes in reality, to retain the image of

what we want Japan to be in the long term, and to respond appropriately to situations in individual countries and regions. To accomplish this, we should continuously engage in serious discussion and keep in mind that speedy action toward solutions is the approach that will bring the greatest returns for Japan.

What should we do for Japan to continue to thrive and for the Japanese to live happily? We need to live in a stable world, but today we face the problem of how to keep the world sustainable and the importance of ordering our priorities to that end.

Japan is neither a country that merely "gives" nor "receives." These things are bidirectional. I think we live in an era where we must think of creating a

win-win situation through co-creation. I think that in a later age, people will look upon collaboration with the Global South as a huge turning point in the way Japan finds its way to live in the world.

JBIC Managing Executive Officer  
Global Head of Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group

### SEKINE Hiroki

Graduated from the University of Tokyo, Faculty of Economics in 1995 and joined Japan Import-Export Bank (currently JBIC). Completed master's degree in finance at London Business School in 2005. After working in the Infrastructure and Finance Group, he was a visiting scholar at the British Royal Institute of International Affairs in 2020–21. Returned to Japan and worked toward legal reform as Special Advisor for Operation Policy and Strategy in the Corporate Planning Group. Present position since 2023.



# Seven JBIC “Global South” Projects

JBIC has been providing various forms of support to strengthen partnerships with the Global South. The bank's staff share their stories about the significance of some of the noteworthy projects they recently worked on, and JBIC's involvement in them.

## PROJECT

### Africa

### A GREEN initiative in Benin, West Africa

## Co-financing for renewable energy projects that contribute to society

JBIC's first loan for an African government to come under 'Global action for Reconciling Economic growth and ENvironmental preservation' (GREEN) operations was a credit line agreement with the Republic of Benin. The West African nation has a low electrification rate and this important project helps solve social issues. FUKAYA Satoko and HIRATO Hitomi, who were tasked with this initiative, speak about its background and significance.

### Co-financing for two renewable energy projects took off after the TICAD 7 event

Benin imports fossil fuels and electricity from neighboring countries such as Nigeria. Its electrification rate is in the 40 percent range, while its energy self-sufficiency ratio is only around 10 percent. In its national development plan, the government of Benin has set a goal of launching solar power generation facilities with a total capacity of 150 MW by 2026.

In June 2023, JBIC decided to co-finance two projects for the Benin government: providing EUR29 million for a solar power project and EUR1 million for an electrified lantern project. This first loan for an African government to come under GREEN operations was also JBIC's first loan for Benin.

"We had been receiving proposals from trading companies about loans for Benin, but none had been realized," explains FUKAYA Satoko, Director of Division 3, Energy Solutions Finance Department. "However, we were aware

that Benin was comparatively stable both politically and economically compared to other African countries, and that it had a lot of potential. Then, a high-level meeting with President Talon at the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7) held in Yokohama in 2019 provided an occasion to build a relationship with the government of Benin. This agreement was the fruit of our work on this relationship over the past few years."

They did, however, experience some twists and turns until a decision was reached on the co-financing deal.

Although JBIC had signed a credit line agreement with the government of Benin in March 2021, no significant progress had been seen around talks on specific projects due to differences in time zones and business practices. "Could you grant us an opportunity to meet with you..." Numerous letters and messages with this request were sent to Minister Wadagni of the Republic of Benin's Ministry of Economy and Finance, but failed to produce a response. Deciding that they needed to

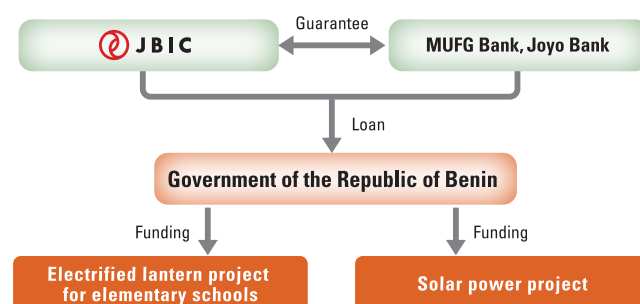
go in person to make any progress at all, HIRATO Hitomi, who was working in the Energy Solutions Finance Department, flew to Benin, accompanying the department's then director general.

By pure coincidence, the minister was on the same plane. HIRATO and her boss were able to hold a meeting with the minister in a corner of the plane, which flung open the doors for the project. Although it was originally assumed that financing would be for an electrified lantern project for elementary schools, through the meeting on the plane and the ensuing meeting in Benin, it became clear that the government of Benin had also another project in mind requiring priority funding.

### Local needs and concerns became clear through direct talks with the minister

The solar power generation project financing is for construction of a solar facility with a capacity of 25 MW and two substations within the grounds of an existing 50 MW solar plant, one of the country's largest. "Expanding the supply

### Funds provided for two GREEN projects under a credit line with the Benin government



(Top) Lantern recharging devices connected to solar panels installed on the school roof  
(Bottom) Receiving lanterns from elementary school children

of electricity produced by clean energy is expected to help promote Benin's adoption of renewable energy and also improve the distorted energy structure that is dependent on other countries' fossil fuels," says HIRATO.

The electrified lantern project involved installing solar panels on the roofs of elementary schools in areas with no electricity access, and allowing students to take home lanterns that have been charged with the generated electricity. Japanese non-profit GOOD ON ROOFS had consulted JBIC on the implementation of this initiative in Benin, and the credit line agreement was signed with this as a candidate project. "However, when we spoke with the minister, we learned that in addition to the lantern project, there was a need for larger-scale solar power generation as well," says FUKAYA. Moreover, the minister had expressed concern about the sustainability of the lantern project. "He pointed out that the lanterns supplied to the children could be stolen, broken, or sold to obtain daily food."

Although it is important to adjust a

project while ascertaining the needs of the loan recipients, a project's social contribution must not be overlooked. In the case of the lantern project, more children will be able to attend elementary school. According to HIRATO, "In the GOOD ON ROOFS project, the lanterns that the children take home would not only provide light for their homes but can also be used to recharge their parents' cell phones. This gives parents an additional motivation to send their children to school."

### Recognizing the potential for social contribution via finance

This is a small project compared to other loans to African countries that have been handled by the Energy Solutions Finance Department. Nevertheless, with the growing interest in ESG investment, and the movement to push socially significant projects such as in environmental conservation and education, "we became aware of JBIC's potential in this field as well," notes FUKAYA. This was a small but important step in terms of Japan's economic partnership with the Global South. JBIC's support for the Global South focuses on carbon neutrality and solutions to social issues, emphasizing responses tailored to each country's circumstances.

HIRATO, who handled the project on the ground, notes with pride that, "How serious the Benin government is about this can be seen from the fact that they opted for a loan, rather than aid or a yen loan. The fact that we could conduct

discussions as equals should be mutually beneficial for further enhancing our bilateral relationship."

JBIC will continue to ramp up its meticulously planned support initiatives for social contribution through finance, a key element to connecting Japan and the Global South.



(Left)  
Division 3, Energy Solutions Finance Department  
Energy and Natural Resources Finance Group (at that time)  
**HIRATO Hitomi**

Joined the bank in 2022. Engaged in setting up GREEN projects for African governments and managing existing projects. Is currently a representative at the JBIC Representative Office in Paris. Graduated from Waseda University, School of Political Science and Economics, and received her Master's in Communications, Media, and Creative Industries from Institut d'études politiques de Paris (Sciences Po).

(Right)  
Director, Division 3, Energy Solutions Finance Department  
Energy and Natural Resources Finance Group  
**FUKAYA Satoko**

Joined the bank in 2005. Handled sovereign credit assessment in the Country Credit Department; launched policy dialogue with the Indonesian government at the JBIC Representative Office in Jakarta; and engaged in work including providing a guarantee for Indonesia's Samurai bonds, co-financing with the World Bank, and projects in Russia, Central Asia, and Africa in the finance divisions. She is now doing an impressive job juggling her work and parenting.



Protecting the health of people around the world through JBIC's first vaccine production-related loan

To realize a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific,” the Quad (officially the Indo-Pacific Quadrilateral Dialogue) partners—Japan, Australia, India, and the U.S.—are committed to cooperating in a wide range of areas to contribute to the region. At the first Quad Leaders’ Summit, held in March 2021, response to the COVID-19 pandemic was identified as “the most urgent of global challenges.” Against this background, they agreed to work together to strengthen India’s vaccine manufacturing capacity and to utilize their financial institutions, including JBIC. India is a major country of the Global South, and a manufacturing center for vaccines, exporting to countries across Southeast Asia and Africa. Enhancing its vaccine production capacity will therefore benefit the health of people not only in India but also far beyond its borders.

In May 2022, a loan agreement was concluded with the Export-Import Bank of India (India EXIM Bank), India’s policy-based financial institution, for up to USD100 million (including a USD60 million JBIC loan). JBIC provides guarantees for the portion of the loans from private financial institutions. Through India EXIM Bank, financial support is provided to local companies manufacturing vaccines and therapeutic drugs. This loan for a broad range of areas to boost India’s production of COVID-19 vaccines was also a first for JBIC.

MIKITA Satoshi, who was the Deputy Director General of the Social Infrastructure Finance Department,



Memories of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic are still fresh in India as well.

India

Assisting India’s healthcare sector battle the COVID-19 pandemic

Multiple benefits of vaccine production shaped by Quad collaboration

A financing project to boost India’s health care sector during the COVID-19 pandemic was significant in terms of both international cooperation and the overseas advancement of Japan’s regional banks. MIKITA Satoshi, who led this project, shares the story.

speaks of the significance of this project as follows: “This financing not only covers vaccine manufacturing companies, but also areas such as the expansion of medical equipment production and the development of medical facilities. Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not only supporting India’s economic development by enhancing its healthcare sector through financial support, but also improving the business environment for Japanese companies operating in India.”

The loan was co-financed by JBIC, MUFG Bank, The Hachijuni Bank, and The Bank of Kyoto. Using the loan guarantee provided by JBIC as the first step, private financial institutions, including regional

banks, can open a path to expanding business overseas. This project led to various accomplishments such as strengthening the Quad partnership and facilitating the overseas expansion of regional banks.

Co-financing with private financial institutions including regional banks



Deputy Director General (at that time)  
Social Infrastructure Finance Department  
Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group

MIKITA Satoshi

Joined the bank in 1997. He was involved in railway and other projects in the Social Infrastructure Finance Department as well as assignments in the U.S. and other countries. Currently serves as the Director General of the Equity Investment Department. Graduated from Hitotsubashi University, Faculty of Law.

PROJECT

Indirect support to Japanese-affiliated manufacturers for supply chain resilience

India’s reputation as an IT powerhouse is well-established, but its manufacturing industry and government investments in infrastructure are also attracting increased attention recently. India’s economy grew by 8.2% in 2023, and many companies have high expectations for its future prospects. In March 2021, a loan agreement for up to USD600 million (JBIC portion) was signed with the State Bank of India to provide necessary funding to the local supply chains of Japanese automakers. Similarly, in March 2023, a loan agreement for up to USD60 million (JBIC portion) was signed with IndusInd Bank Limited to support Japanese construction equipment manufacturers.

India’s national infrastructure development plan, which aims to improve logistics networks, earmarks a total of INR100 trillion for infrastructure projects. YONEYAMA Satoru and his team at the Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group noted this and identified opportunities in the construction machinery sector. “The Indian construction equipment market is the third largest in the world in terms of units sold,” explains YONEYAMA. “Notably, Japanese affiliates hold about a 60 percent share of the Indian market for excavators, with high growth prospects.”

Under its “Make in India” policy, the government has been calling for direct investments in India’s manufacturing industry to make the country the “factory of the world.” Against this backdrop, these two financing projects provide indirect support to Japanese automakers and construction equipment

India

Supporting supply chain resilience for India’s local companies and Japanese manufacturers

Mutually beneficial projects and expectations for infrastructure growth

Through financing provided to local Indian banks, JBIC indirectly supported Japanese automakers and construction equipment manufacturers there. YONEYAMA Satoru explains the situation around lending in the infrastructure sector in India, a country that has its sights on becoming the “factory of the world.”

manufacturers while also benefiting Japanese affiliates taking on risks in India, their local suppliers, and Indian banks. “JBIC is uniquely positioned to design projects that benefit not only Japan but also partner countries and

companies,” remarks YONEYAMA. This is what makes this job so rewarding. This initiative that fosters partnerships between Japanese affiliates and Indian companies serves as a true bridge between the Global South and Japan.



Environmental pollution regulations are progressing in India, and it is expected that demand for eco-friendly automobiles will also expand.

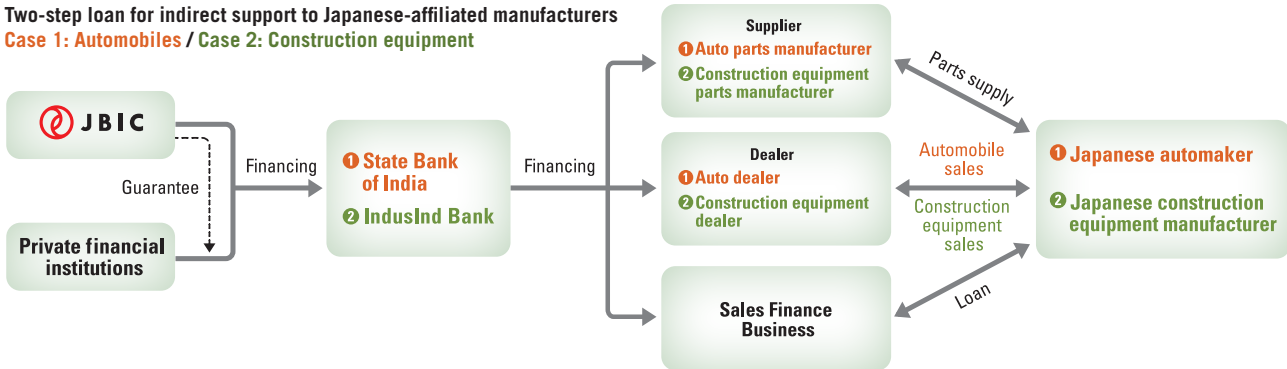


Director  
Division 2, Social Infrastructure Finance Department  
Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group

YONEYAMA Satoru

Joined the bank in 2001. Assumed his current position in 2022 after assignments including the International Finance Department I (in charge of China), secondment to the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC), Human Resources Management Office, and the Corporate Finance Department (engaged in M&A support, etc.). Graduated from Keio University, Faculty of Law, and University of Southern California, School of Law.

Two-step loan for indirect support to Japanese-affiliated manufacturers  
Case 1: Automobiles / Case 2: Construction equipment





Additional financing facilitated a more hygienic environment as a COVID-19 countermeasure

Among the Global South, Chile has recently been attracting attention as a major country in South America, alongside Brazil and Argentina. It is known as a copper powerhouse, accounting for 20 percent of the world’s reserves and production, and is Japan’s largest supplier of the metal.

Japan imports all of its copper concentrate, the raw material used to make copper, meaning a long-term, stable supply is vital. Copper is used in a wide range of applications, including power transmission and wiring, electric vehicles, renewable energy systems, and semiconductors. Demand is expected to increase even more due to its use in AI and data centers. In this sense, Chile is an important partner that has long been providing Japan with a stable supply of resources. Accordingly, Japan has provided it with various forms of support and financing.

The Quebrada Blanca copper mine in northern Chile, located at 4,400 meters above sea level, is a prime example of such support. Japanese companies have a combined 30 percent stake in the mine development, and JBIC has made loans totaling USD2.09 billion for the project, including project financing of USD900 million in 2019.

While the construction of the project was underway, the COVID-19 outbreak required the development of a more hygienic environment, including

infection control measures. Delays caused by the isolation of infected construction workers and the resulting lost productivity increased costs. Additional investment was thus required, and the Japanese companies with equity stakes in the project requested support from JBIC.

In response, in March 2023, loan agreements were signed with Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. and Sumitomo Corporation for amounts up to USD625 million (JBIC portion: USD375 million) and USD125 million (JBIC portion: USD75 million), respectively, for development of the Quebrada Blanca copper mine. Co-financed with private financial institutions, these funded creation of a hygienic environment and other pandemic countermeasures during the

construction period.

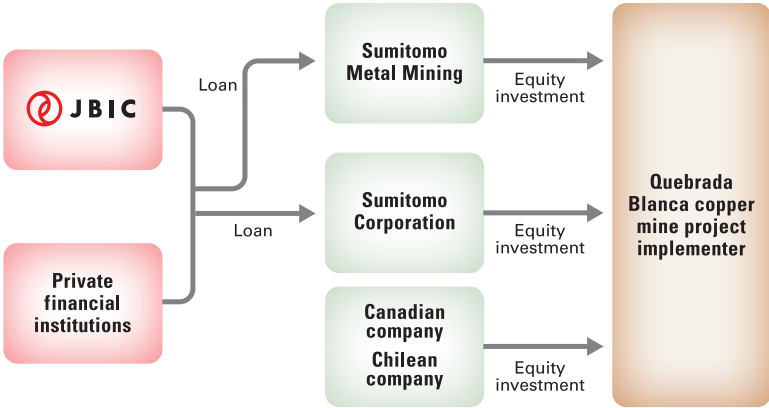
MATSUNOKI Hayato of Division 1, Mining and Metals Finance Department, Energy and Natural Resources Finance Group, who was in charge of this additional financing, says, “Because of the size of the loan, there were many points that needed to be sorted out. Changes in the global situation also frequently affected the project. However, thanks to advice from my manager and other senior colleagues who have extensive business experience, I was able to do a job that was very rewarding.”

As the project’s backers were aiming for the mine’s timely completion and the start of production, this loan was provided in the form of back-financing to the two Japanese companies with equity stakes. Since back-financing depends on the creditworthiness of the financed companies, it has the advantage of shortening the time needed for the loan agreement to be signed.

Quebrada Blanca stands out due to its vast reserves in the history of JBIC, which provided support for copper mine development projects in Chile such as the Centinela mine, also located in the north of the country. With a mine life of some 27 years as of 2023, and minable ore reserves of about 7 million tons, this is a long-term, large-scale project for what will be one of the world’s largest copper mines when it goes into full operation.



Back-financing through co-financing with private financial institutions



(Left) Quebrada Blanca mining site and ore processing facility (Right) Autonomous dump trucks are actively used in Chile

JBIC is unique in its capability to proactively provide support

As the Quebrada Blanca copper mine was a project under construction, a wide range of matters needed to be finalized. But because the tight copper supply made providing funds for the mine’s construction very urgent, MATSUNOKI took the lead and put the financing together for this large-scale project in just five months. The project was then successfully completed, and the first shipment of copper concentrate arrived in Japan in May 2024.

With its social stability and public safety, Chile is a strategic partner of Japan and a nation for which copper production is an extremely important industry. Changes in the global situation can easily lead to large fluctuations in copper prices, and even slight changes will likely have a significant impact on a project’s revenues. But despite this, Japanese companies have been playing a large role in the development and operation of copper mines in Chile. JBIC’s support as a Japanese policy-based financial institution will continue to be needed to secure a long-term, stable supply of mineral resources.

Mine developments, however, are long-term developments requiring a large amount of investment, and so a country’s risk profile is extremely important. In this respect, Chile is an

OECD member regarded as a “developed country in South America” that is, as previously mentioned, politically and economically stable. Another important advantage is the country’s emphasis on attracting foreign investment to drive economic growth and its track record of maintaining a business-friendly environment.

JBIC’s backing of Japanese companies investing in projects to facilitate their continued operation—even under unprecedented circumstances such as COVID-19—is extremely significant in helping Japan secure and maintain valuable interests. According to MATSUNOKI, “I believe that this is unique to JBIC, which is capable of taking such a proactive approach to support its clients, undaunted even by the difficulties posed by the pandemic.”

Chile is also attracting attention as a producer of mineral resources other than copper, such as lithium, and JBIC is

providing various initiatives to support companies in these areas as well. In this way, JBIC is serving a crucial role in strengthening Japan’s relationship with Chile, a major country of the Global South.



Electric vehicles require four times more copper than gasoline-powered vehicles



PROJECT

South America Support for developing a Chilean mine site, including improving hygiene

A massive project of a “copper powerhouse” to secure resources for Japanese industry

JBIC provided additional financing for development of a mine in Chile, a nation that accounts for 20 percent of the world’s copper reserves and production. The project will contribute to stable supplies of copper, which will be increasingly in demand for AI and other technologies. MATSUNOKI Hayato, who led the structuring of this deal, shares his story.



Division 1  
Mining and Metals Finance Department  
Energy and Natural Resources Finance Group  
**MATSUNOKI Hayato**  
Joined the bank in 2022. Engages in base metal and battery metal projects in the Americas and Africa. Is in charge of Peru and the Pacific Island countries. Graduated from Waseda University, School of Political Science and Economics.



PROJECT

Stable supply of emission-reducing steel raw materials from a major mineral resource supplier

Among the Global South countries that have both an abundant supply of resources and deep connections with Japan is mining powerhouse Brazil. Not only does it have historical ties via its large Japanese diaspora, but Japan has long been involved in development of the country's resources, ranging from iron ore to lithium.

Vale S.A., an integrated resource development company based in Rio de Janeiro, is a world-leading supplier of mineral resources. Through initiatives including collaboration since the 1980s centering on iron ore, JBIC has been building a close relationship with the company for nearly half a century.

A large-scale loan agreement for USD480 million was signed in March 2024. The loan sought to secure a stable supply for Japanese companies of Vale's ground and processed iron ore, known as pellet feed, and the pellets made from it. These low-carbon raw materials for steel are essential not only for the conventional blast furnace steelmaking process, but also for electric furnace and direct hydrogen reduction steelmaking, which can reduce carbon emissions during production.



(Left)  
Deputy Director, Division 1 and 2, Mining and Metals Finance Group  
**TAMIYA Shintaro**  
Joined the bank in 2016. Engaged in steel- and aluminum-related project structuring, as well as managing existing projects. Graduated from Kyoto University, Faculty of Law.

(Right)  
Division 2, Mining and Metals Finance Department  
Energy and Natural Resources Finance Group (at that time)  
**HATA Hitomi**  
Joined the bank in 2022. Engaged in operations concerning Brazil, and management and other matters concerning established projects, and is currently assigned to the Strategic Research Department. Graduated from Akita International University.



Pellets are spheres with a diameter of 1 to 3 centimeters made from processed iron ore.

South America

First import loan after amendment of the JBIC Act signed with a Brazilian metals and mining giant

Financing for greener steelmaking realized under new arrangement

A loan to Brazilian metals and mining giant Vale was the first after the 2023 amendment to the JBIC Act expanded eligibility to include resource procurement by overseas subsidiaries of Japanese companies. TAMIYA Shintaro and HATA Hitomi, who were in charge of this agreement, talk about the story behind it.

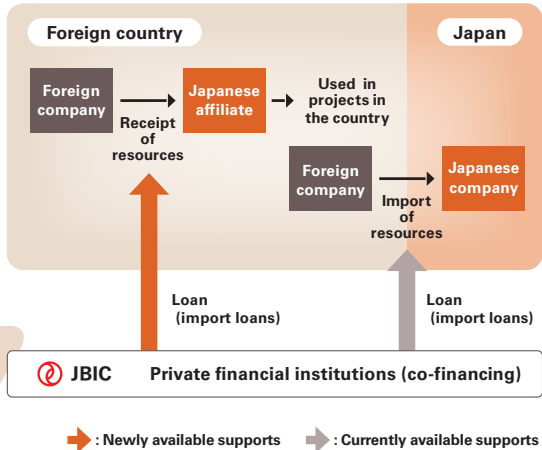
The project got underway with Vale expressing interest in JBIC financing. But at that time, it fell outside the scope of the JBIC Act, under which loans for resources were limited to direct imports to Japan. However, all that changed with the April 2023 amendment making procurement of resources by Japanese overseas subsidiaries eligible for loans, kickstarting negotiations. “Being the first case after the amendment of the law, there was no precedent to guide us, so we proceeded to examine potential schemes while conferring with relevant departments within the bank,” says

HATA Hitomi, who was in charge of this agreement at Division 2 of JBIC's Mining and Metals Finance Department.

While the bank considered this first import loan project after the legal reform, the background and purpose of the amendment were also carefully explained to Vale. TAMIYA Shintaro, who worked with HATA on this project, even traveled to Brazil twice for negotiations. “Despite the difficulties around the time difference, Vale took careful note of our opinions and thanks to their understanding, we were able to successfully sign the agreement.”

Contributing to the stable supply of crucial mineral resources and to decarbonization, this was also a valuable project from the standpoint of co-creation with the Global South.

Loans are now available under the 2023 amendment to the JBIC Act



Before then, JBIC's import loans were provided for resources and other strategically important goods imported to Japan. However, in the global operations of Japanese companies there has been an increasing number of cases in recent years in which resources procured overseas are received by Japanese affiliates located overseas, where they are then manufactured into products and marketed. The amendment of the JBIC law has made such cases eligible for loans.

Africa

Project financing for onshore wind farms in Egypt

PROJECT

Supporting Egypt's decarbonization by considering wind conditions and the shift to renewables

Investment in renewable energy is underway in the Global South. With a project that took into account seasonal wind patterns, volume, and direction, JBIC provided ongoing support for onshore wind farms in Egypt. OGAWA Riki, who was in charge of this project, explains.


Egypt's renewable energy push aligns with Japan's supportive policies

Ongoing investment in renewable energy to address climate change is happening in Africa, a significant pillar of the Global South. In March 2023, JBIC signed a project financing loan agreement for an onshore wind farm with Egyptian company Red Sea, whose investors include Japanese companies such as Toyota Tsusho Corporation and Eurus Energy Holdings Corporation.

Conditions are crucial for wind power generation, namely volume and direction. Offshore wind power has been driving the market in recent years, but as onshore turbines become larger, there is still room for more development if sites with good wind conditions can be secured. Building on the success of the first project, for which a loan agreement was signed in 2017, electricity generation

capacity was increased for the second project in 2023. “The area where the wind farm will be located is subject to seasonal wind patterns, with conditions worsening in winter compared to summer,” explains OGAWA Riki of JBIC's Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group. “We put together a repayment

Loan for a major wind power project

Project Name (Location)	Red Sea Project 2
Country / Region	 Eastern Egypt
Type	Onshore wind power
Total loan (approx.) (JBIC portion in parentheses)	USD500M (USD240M)
Power generation capacity (approx.)	500 MW
Participating Japanese companies	Toyota Tsusho Corporation, Eurus Energy Holdings Corporation



Suitable sites for onshore wind power are limited to open fields, but it has advantages over offshore wind power in terms of cost, construction, and maintenance.

plan that takes this into account so that the project can proceed smoothly.”

The Egyptian government aims to increase the share of renewable energy sources in the electricity mix to 35 percent by 2030, and to 42 percent by 2035. This project is expected to contribute to Egypt's shift to renewable energy from its heavy reliance on thermal power generation. It is also aligned with the country's energy policy and the Japanese government's initiatives to support the transition to carbon neutrality.

Infrastructure and Environment Finance Group  
New Energy and Power Finance Department I  
Division 2 (EMEA & Americas)  
**OGAWA Riki**



Joined the bank in 2021. His work includes project structuring of renewable energy IPP projects in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Graduated from UC Davis College of Engineering.

Covering the process from construction to operation and sale of electricity for one of the world's largest plants of its kind

Unlike Japan, waste disposal through landfill is the norm in many parts of the world. Dubai, of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), buries almost all of its waste as well, but it was concerned about the increasing scarcity of landfill sites. Heavily dependent on gas-fired power generation, there was also a strong need to diversify its electricity mix. A “waste-to-energy” solution could resolve both these issues.

“ITOCHU Corporation and Hitachi Zosen Corporation (now Kanadevia), the two key players in this project, have abundant experience in waste treatment



Warsan waste-to-energy plant to be Dubai's first

Middle East

Waste-to-Energy Project Financing in Dubai

A solution for both waste treatment and power generation using Japanese infrastructure technology

Two challenges confront Dubai: an increasing shortage of landfill sites to bury waste and dependence on gas-fired power generation. TAKEUCHI Kanae speaks about the waste-to-energy solution that was presented.

and power generation overseas,” says TAKEUCHI Kanae, who was in charge of this agreement at Division 4 of the Social Infrastructure Finance Department. “As JBIC wants to support the overseas roll-out of Japan's advanced infrastructure technologies, I believe this was a truly significant project that will become a model for future cases.”

In March 2021, a loan agreement for project financing for up to approximately USD452 million (JBIC portion) was signed for one of the world's largest waste treatment and power generation plants, located in Warsan. The project covers all aspects from its construction to operations, management, and sales. The plant will be able to treat as much as 45 percent of Dubai's total waste. According to TAKEUCHI, “Various factors affect the stability of the power supply

and the profitability of the business. This includes whether sufficient volume of waste can be collected, and separated well enough to make it suitable for incineration.” While acknowledging such business risks, this is another project that is being promoted to support the Global South.

Deputy Director, Division 4, Social Infrastructure Finance Department (at that time)  
**TAKEUCHI Kanae**



Joined the bank in 2010. Following assignments including project structuring for the automobile and petrochemical sector, and overseas assignments, she assumed her current position in charge of loans for electric power and social infrastructure. Graduated from the University of Tokyo, Faculty of Law.

PROJECT



## The Mission of JBIC

Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is a policy-based financial institution wholly owned by the Japanese government, which has the mission of contributing to the sound development of Japan and the international economy and society, by conducting financial operations in the following four fields, while having the objective of supplementing the financial transactions implemented by private sector financial institutions:

**Promoting the overseas development and securement of resources which are important for Japan**

**Maintaining and improving the international competitiveness of Japanese industries**

**Promoting the overseas business having the purpose of preserving the global environment, such as preventing global warming**

**Preventing disruptions to international financial order or taking appropriate measures with respect to damages caused by such disruptions**

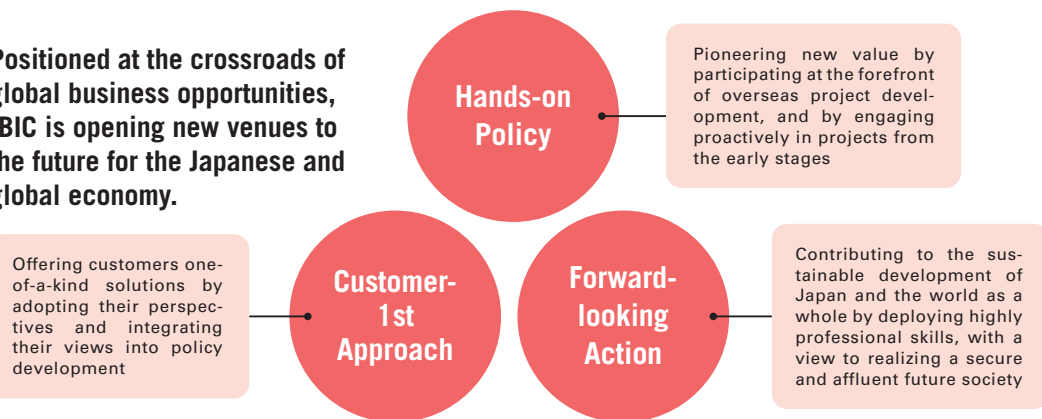
## Corporate Slogan

日本の力を、世界のために。  
Supporting Your Global Challenges

## Corporate Philosophy

The objective of JBIC, as set forth in its statutory law, is to “contribute to the sound development of Japan and the international economy and society” by executing a variety of financial functions. To pursue this objective, we have set out the following corporate philosophy, which espouses three core values: “Hands-on Policy,” “Customer-1st Approach,” and “Forward-looking Action.”

**Positioned at the crossroads of global business opportunities, JBIC is opening new venues to the future for the Japanese and global economy.**



## Operational Principles

JBIC, as a policy-based financial institution and in accordance with the following principles, conducts speedy and well-focused operations based on policy needs in response to economic and financial situations in Japan and abroad.

- Supplementing the financial transactions implemented by private-sector financial institutions**  
To effectively perform the functions required for policy-based financing, JBIC shall take account of situations where private-sector financial institutions are placed in their international finance activities and supplement their operations.
- Ensuring financial soundness and certainty of repayment**  
Pursuant to the JBIC Act, JBIC shall make efforts to maintain the financial soundness of its operations, and when making financial decisions, to conduct adequate screening regarding the outlook for the recovery of funds.
- Maintaining and improving international creditworthiness and confidence**  
In order to conduct adequate operations and effective overseas funding operations, JBIC shall maintain and improve the international creditworthiness and confidence gained by JBIC over the years.
- Conducting business operations by drawing on its expertise and initiatives**  
JBIC shall conduct operations by drawing on its own expertise and initiatives on international finance.

## Profile

**Name:** Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)

**Office:** 4-1, Ohtemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8144, Japan

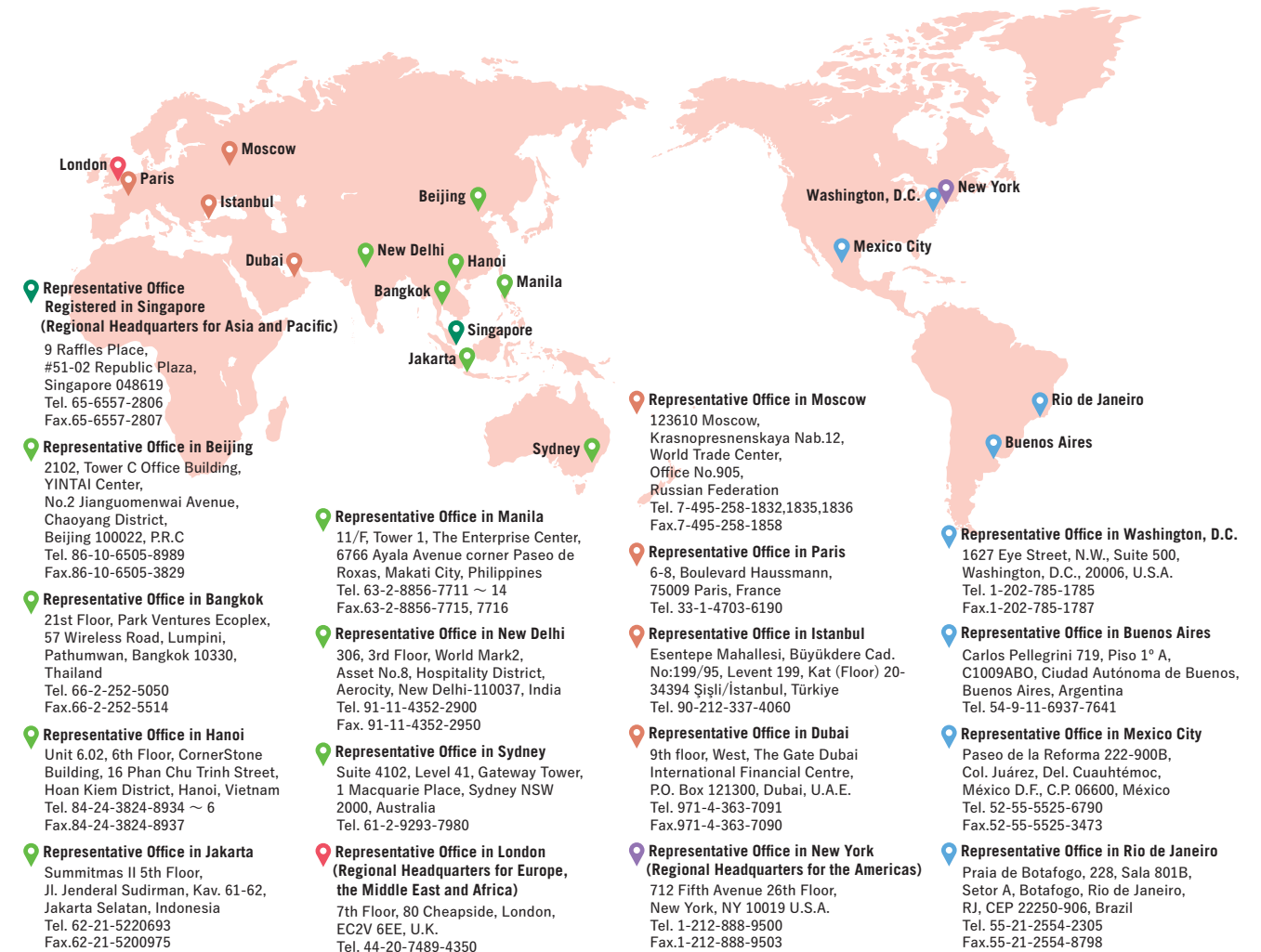
**Capital:** ¥2,211.8 billion (wholly owned by the Japanese government) (as of June 18, 2024)

**Outstanding Loans and Equity Investments\*:** ¥16,828.7 billion

**Outstanding Guarantees\*:** ¥1,526.4 billion

\* as of March 31, 2024

## Overseas Network (as of December 1, 2024)



## Key Operations

### Export Loans

Loans for the export and sales of machinery, equipment, and technology by Japanese companies and their overseas affiliates. Export loans are available for overseas importers (purchasers) and foreign financial institutions.

### Import Loans

Loans for the import of important goods such as natural resources by Japanese companies, and for resources procured and used by Japanese companies and their affiliates at locations overseas where they are conducting operations. Import loans are available for Japanese importers, Japanese companies and affiliates receiving resources overseas, and for overseas importers.

### Overseas Investment Loans

Loans for Japanese foreign direct investments. Loans are available for Japanese companies (investors), and for overseas Japanese affiliates (including joint ventures) or foreign banks and governments providing loans to or investing in those companies.

### Untied Loans

Loans to provide the capital required for projects undertaken by developing countries and for their imports of goods; for those countries to achieve a balance of payments equilibrium and stabilize their currency; and for the overseas operations of foreign companies (specified foreign corporations) that are part of the industry infrastructure or supply chains for important goods and technologies essential for Japan's economic activities and the daily lives of its citizens.

### Equity Participations

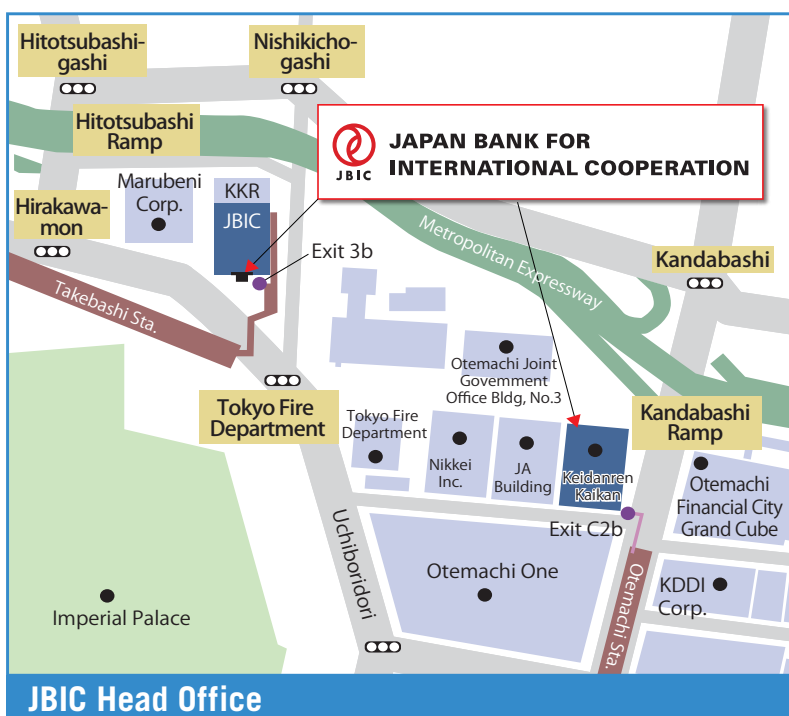
Capital contributions are made to companies operating overseas in which Japanese companies have equity stakes, to domestic startups and other companies newly developing operations overseas, and to funds where Japanese companies play central roles.

### Guarantees

Support is also provided through JBIC's guarantee facility, including for loans extended by private financial institutions, bonds issued by governments of developing countries and overseas Japanese affiliates, and currency swap transactions, as well as re-guarantee for guarantees provided by export credit agencies of other countries.

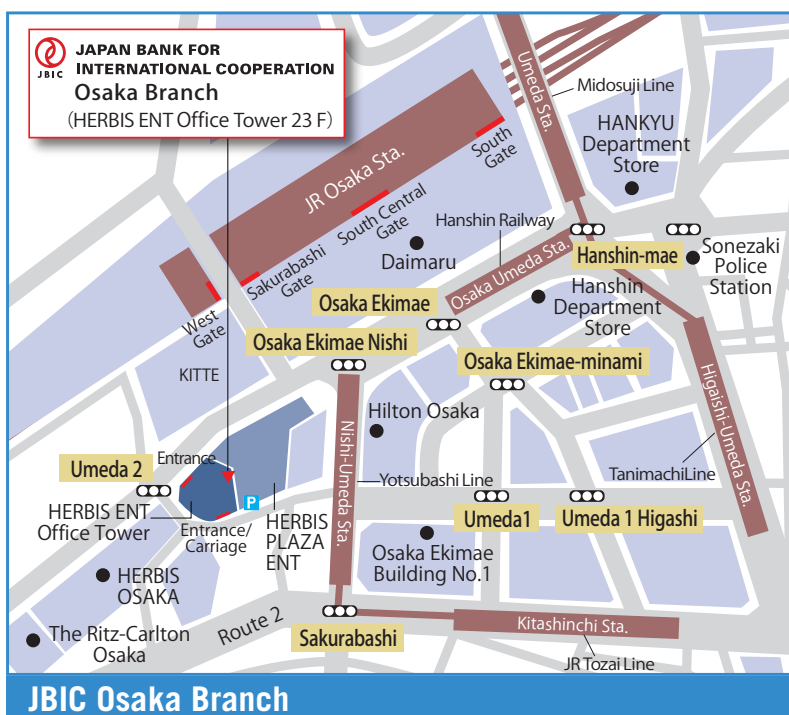


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