

Environmental Activities

We are conscious of our social responsibility to take into account environmental issues as we try to maintain a balance between economic development and environmental preservation. As such, we take a self-motivated and proactive approach to environmental issues.

In compliance with laws and ordinances relating to the environment, we are working to contribute to the protection of the environment through energy and resource conservation efforts that include separating and collecting garbage by type and using recycled materials. At the same time, we are tackling environmental issues as a financial institution by supporting customers' programs for dealing with the environment and offering financial products and services that contribute to environmental preservation.

● Developing Environment-Related Financial Products and Advisory Services

	Description of products and services
Services related to global warming	The latest information on greenhouse gas emissions, trading and advisory services concerning the creation of trading systems, creation of schemes concerning CDM/JI (clean development mechanisms and joint implementation*) investments, and the development of funding methods for validation and carbon funds.
Project finance	Advisory services for CDM/JI investments, arranging finance for wind power generation and garbage incineration facilities.
Natural energy-related products	Trading in wind speed (for wind power) and precipitation (for hydroelectric power) derivatives.
Environmental management consulting	Preparation of environmental IR strategies, introduction of environmental accounting and acquisition of ISO14001 certification.
LCA support services	Implementation of LCA (life cycle assessments) in connection with products and services.

▶ CDM/JI: The mechanisms adopted under the Kyoto Protocol for greenhouse gas emission reduction projects.

● Adoption of the "Equator Principles"

In October 2003, MHC B became the first Japanese bank, and the 18th bank worldwide, to adopt the Equator Principles, which are a standardized framework employed by private banks to monitor, from the standpoint of a financial institution, whether projects financed through project finance schemes have taken into consideration the environmental and social impact that projects may have on the local community.

Ten major banks such as Citigroup implemented the Equator Principles in June 2003, and as of April 2005, 30 major banks around the world have adopted the Principles.

Community Activities

We have established a basic approach to and guidelines for community activities, and are engaged in numerous programs at home and overseas.

To fulfill our role as a "good corporate citizen" in local communities, we have adopted a proactive policy of contributing to society in five areas laid down by our guidelines: (1) nurturing young people; (2) supporting social welfare; (3) promoting the arts, culture and academic studies; (4) assisting international exchange; and (5) endorsing global environmental preservation.

● Traffic Safety Campaign

As part of the group's annual "Yellow Badge Traffic Safety Campaign," we provide first graders throughout Japan with yellow badges that, when worn, signify they are automatically covered by traffic accident insurance. 2005 marks the 41st year of this campaign, which started in 1965, and is sponsored by MHFG, Sompo Japan Insurance, The Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company and The Dai-ichi Mutual Life Insurance Company. The campaign has now provided insurance coverage for a total of 50.56 million children in Japan.



Presentation of Yellow Badges.



First graders taking part in Yellow Badge Traffic Safety Campaign activities.



Winners of Mizuho's Environmental Art Contest.

● Support for the "All-Japan Elementary and Junior High School Students' Environmental Art Contest"

Since 1997, we have supported the "All-Japan Elementary and Junior High School Students' Environmental Art Contest," which promotes environmental education among elementary and junior high school students. Winners are presented with books containing the winning entries.



Presentation of relief money for earthquake victims in Niigata.

● Mizuho Charity Fund

In August 2002, we established the Mizuho Charity Fund as a fund collection method to promote community activities by the group's staff. Contributions in units of ¥100 are collected directly from Mizuho employees' monthly salaries and donated to group philanthropic foundations to purchase vehicles to be presented to welfare facilities, donated as relief aid for natural disasters and contributed to volunteer organizations selected from groups recommended by employees.



Presentation of vehicle for use by a welfare facility.

● Activities of Philanthropic Foundations in Japan

We support welfare assistance for senior citizens and the physically challenged, educational support and scholarships, international exchange, and academic research through the following foundations.



Donation of children's books to elementary schools in rural areas.

<p>Mizuho Education Welfare Foundation Assistance for education in rural areas, education of physically challenged children and welfare for senior citizens. (Grants, donations of athletic equipment and welfare vehicles.)</p>	<p>Mizuho Welfare Foundation Assistance in connection with the welfare of the disabled. (Grants, donations of electrically powered wheelchairs and welfare vehicles. Funds for translating books into Braille for visually impaired university students.)</p>	<p>Mizuho International Foundation Scholarships for foreign students studying in Japan. Training for personnel to undertake work in the area of international exchange.</p>
<p>Mizuho Scholarship Foundation Scholastic loans for deserving students facing economic hardship.</p>		<p>Mizuho Foundation for the Promotion of Sciences Research grants in the areas of engineering and law. Public essay contests in the areas of law and economics. Scholarships for foreign students studying in Japan.</p>

Support for Art and Culture

● Coming-of-Age Day Concert

This year's "Coming-of-Age Day Concert" took place at the Suntory Hall in Tokyo on the Coming-of-Age Day national holiday in January. The concerts have been held annually since 1990 with a view to supporting young artists and popularizing classical music among the next generation of young people. One hundred people who become 20 years old, the legal age of adulthood in Japan, are invited through a drawing to attend the event each year.



● World Police Band Concert

To promote international exchange, art and culture, we sponsored the World Police Band Concert featuring performances by police department bands from around the world. The 2005 tour marked the 10th anniversary, and in addition to the five bands from police departments in Japan, bands from six countries also took part in the event. Beginning with the concert held at the 2005 World Exposition in Aichi on April 30, the band also performed in the cities of Tokyo, Yokohama and Chiba.



● MIZUHO STREET GALLERY

In order to promote the work of and support young artists, we make available the MIZUHO STREET GALLERY in the form of space in the window display areas of Mizuho Bank's Ginza Chuo Branch.

