

Initiatives to Support the Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake

Mizuho continues to offer its combined group strengths to assist in rebuilding the lives of people afflicted by the Great East Japan Earthquake and reviving the industries and economies that have suffered as a result of the earthquake, as well as support the recovery of disaster-stricken areas, by setting up the Tohoku Fukko Desk (Tohoku reconstruction desk), an organization specialized in promotion of these initiatives.

Support for Housing Reconstruction

MHBK offers Disaster Recovery Loans for Great East Japan Earthquake victims with a view to being useful to the recovery efforts of individual customers who were hit by the earthquake disaster. In addition, it supports the reconstruction of homes in the disaster-stricken areas through initiatives such as providing funds for land readjustment projects aimed at supplying housing in these areas.

Support for Reviving Corporations and Industries

In order to help the disaster reconstruction efforts of corporate customers who have suffered damage from the disaster, MHBK and MHTB are facilitating financing by offering Disaster Relief Support Funding and various policy loans provided by public institutions. They also set up the Business Reconstruction Assistance Fund, to support the recovery from the disaster.

Creating Employment

Mizuho is supplying funds for capital investments that will lead to the creation of jobs in the disaster-stricken areas by drawing on the system established by Japan's Reconstruction Agency for providing interest rate supplements in Special Zones for Reconstruction. It also established the Mizuho Tohoku Industry Development Fund to provide equity-related capital, with the aim of contributing to the recovery and medium- to long-term growth of the Tohoku region. Through this fund, it provides capital in such forms as share acquisitions and underwriting of subordinated bonds. In January 2012, it provided ¥1 billion from this fund for replacement of facilities to Joban Kosan which operates the Spa Resort Hawaiians hot springs park in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture. In September 2013, this ¥1 billion had been fully repaid, and completion of the recovery plans has begun to come into view. In addition, these activities are assisting in the recovery of the tourism industry in Iwaki City and employment creation.

Mizuho has also established the ¥10 billion Sixth Industry Fund for the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector. This

fund has the objective of providing support for producers and companies involved in promoting the sixth industry approach to revitalize agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries. Also, it invested in two additional sub-funds, the Fukushima Regional Sixth Industry Recovery Fund and the Tohoku Future Assistance Fund.

Mizuho is, therefore, promoting the growth of the agricultural, forestry, and fishing industries by supplying risk capital and thereby working to increase value through their transformation into a "sixth industrial sector."

Support for Disaster-stricken Areas as Part of Social Contribution Activities

Mizuho has started the Mizuho Forest Project, aimed at reviving the disaster-prevention forest planted along the coast of Fukushima Prefecture, which were severely affected by the tsunami. In April 2013, it signed an agreement with Fukushima Prefecture, Iwaki City and the owners of the disaster-prevention forest to start the planting of trees by Mizuho employee volunteers in fall of 2014, and to restore the approximately two-hectare forest of Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture by March 2019. In October 2013, it seconded volunteers from among its employees to engage in activities such as cleaning up park areas in the vicinity of areas designated as afforestation lands. Employees seconded to the region are working to provide disaster recovery assistance aimed at beginning afforestation activities.

Employees of Mizuho have been participating in volunteer activities since the summer of 2011, removing debris from farmland. In addition, it held product fairs for employees to exhibit and sell products from disaster-stricken areas a total of nine times in fiscal 2012, and had held such fairs six times in fiscal 2013 as of November. Since May 2012, it has also supported sales of Fukushima Prefecture's local products and its tourism industry through participation in the Fukushima-Tokyo Campaign, started by the Tokyo metropolitan government as part of efforts to support the recovery of Fukushima.

Furthermore, magazines published by Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures for people affected by the disaster have been placed in lobbies of MHBK's branches since October 2012, with the aim of providing information to victims that have been evacuated outside these prefectures.