# Towards Local Decarbonisation

-Introduction of Yonago City and San-in Godo Bank Group initiatives

Yonago City, Tottori Prefecture San-in Godo Bank Ltd. Gogin Energy Co., Ltd.

26/1/2023

### **Introduction of Yonago City**



Yonago City is located on the western edge of Tottori Prefecture, roughly in the middle of the San-in region.

The city is blessed with a rich natural environment, with Daisen, the highest mountain in the Chugoku region, to the south-east, the Sea of Japan to the north and the Nakaumi, the second largest brackish lake in Japan and a Ramsar Convention-listed site, to the west.

Conveniently located by road, rail and airport, the city has long flourished as a regional transport node and as the 'commercial capital of the San-in region', where people come and go.

It also has a wide range of medical facilities, including the Tottori University Hospital, making it a friendly environment for the elderly and families raising children.

### Economic revitalisation

Creation of new energy industries and decarbonisation of existing industries

- Use of dilapidated agricultural land (weed and pest control) Landscape damage caused by weeds; pest damage caused by biting midge, etc.
- Business continuity of public facilities (BCP measures) Supply of electricity to water utilities, community centres and other sheltered facilities in times of disaster

### **Decarbonisation Leading Area Development Project**

- (i) Energy supply business (non-FIT + self-consignment)
- (ii) Non-FIT solar power PPA projects (on-site and off-site)
- (iii) Renewable energy supply and demand adjustment storage battery projects
- (water supply facilities BCP, renewable energy supply and demand coordination)
- (iv) Data platform business (visualisation)



### **Promotion structure of the Project**



## Profile of San-in Godo Bank Ltd.

**Management Philosophy** 

#### Creative best bank that fulfils the dreams of the community and its customers

Head office Capital stock	Matsue City, Shimane Prefecture 20.7 billion	The only regional financial institution in Japan to be the designated financial institution for two prefectures (Tottori and Shimane)
Deposits, etc.	yen 5,294.6 billion yen	Commonly known
Money given as loan	4,111.1 billion yen	as 'Gongin'. T 🛑 儿 珍全
Marketable securities	1,641.7 billion yen	
Capital adequacy ratio	11.17%	
Number of locations (National/International)	117/3	
Number of employees	1,901	

(as at 30 September 2022)

### Sustainability Declaration (May 2019)

### **Sustainability Declaration**

The San-in Godo Bank Group endorses the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out by the United Nations and aims to achieve sustainable local communities by working to solve local problems.

Priority Issues Sustainable growth of the local economy
Realisation of prosperous communities
Achieving a sustainable local environment
Increased employee satisfaction

Establishing a sound and transparent management system

### ESG initiatives (1)

### Environment

Endorsement of TCFD recommendations	Apr 2021
Publication of investment and financing policy based on the Sustainability Declaration	Jun 2021
Endorsement of the Keidanren Declaration on Biodiversity	July 2022

### **S**ocial

Member of The Valuable 500	Valuable 500	Apr 2021
Policy development on procurement activities (green purchasing)		Mar 2022

### Governance

Change in composition of directorsTotal number of directors $13 \Rightarrow 12$ Outside directors $5 \Rightarrow 6$ Female directors $1 \Rightarrow 2$	Jun 2021
Change in board compositionFemale directors $2 \Rightarrow 3$	Jun 2022

# First regional bank to publish a sustainability report (Nov. 2021)



≋ ರಾಕ್ ಹ (2022 edition)

### ESG initiatives (2)

- $\checkmark$  Strengthen the system for promoting sustainable management and set key KPIs, etc.
  - Sustainability Committee (Chair: President)



Setting carbon neutral targets



#### Sustainable finance target setting



### Some financial products

- ✓ It offers financial products and services to support decarbonisation management. Traditionally, it has offered eco-friendly private placement bonds, renewable energy finance and related loans.
- From October 2021, the company began offering Sustainability Linked Loans and Green Loans/Social Loans to strengthen its support for SDG/ESG initiatives.

#### Gogin Sustainability Linked Loans (First case in San-in region)

**Contract signed with EARTH SUPPORT** (external evaluation type) (March 2022)

取組事例

EARTH SUPPORT (Matsue City, Shimane Prefecture; industrial waste disposal business) is a company with a high level of ESG awareness, having produced an environmental report (currently the Sustainability Report) since 2000 and publicly announced its waste recycling rate.

Sustainable finance was proposed as the company can further enhance its corporate value as an ESG-advanced company, which is already well established, by setting and announcing specific numerical targets for the future.

#### Sustainability targets set by EARTH SUPPORT

- Increased sales of vacant house demolition business (support for solving the problem of vacant houses)
- Increase in the recycling rate of waste collected
- Increase in the average length of service of all employees (increased job satisfaction)







### Support for carbon offsetting through J-Credits

- ✓ Since 2010, the company has been coordinating carbon credits. To date, a cumulative total of 246 projects amounting to 8,427 t-CO₂ have been mediated.
- Carbon offsetting is proposed as a first step in fostering environmental awareness and initiatives by business partners and others.



J-credit regional coordinator (San-in Godo Bank, other)

(\*1) Signing 'regional co-ordinator agreements' with J-credit sellers (local gov., etc.) in advance and receiving appointments [public-private co-operation & effectiveness] (\*2) Provision to receive part of the sales price as a contingency fee only if the contract is concluded [Uniqueness & sustainability]

Source: excerpts from the explanatory material prepared for the national government when the SDGs Financial Award for Local Development (2021) was awarded. 11

### Gogin Forest of Hope (2006-)

- ✓ Forest conservation activities are being carried out by the Bank's staff at six locations\* in the San-in prefectures. \*Activity has been completed at one location and an alternative site is currently being selected. As of end-September 2022, a total of 105 activities had been conducted, with 10,027 people participating and 17,660 trees planted.
- This year, the bank's forest conservation activities received an award of excellence (Forestry Agency Director General's Award) in the 'Forest x Decarbon Challenge 2022', established by the Forestry Agency.













Publicity poster



### The bank's first 'ZEB branch'

- ✓ New ZEB branch has been built to meet decarbonisation as a way of creating environmentally friendly branches.
- ✓ 101% reduction in primary energy consumption (-16 MJ/[m<sup>2</sup> year]) used in the branch, including lighting and air conditioning, through energy saving and energy creation. (Third-party certification in accordance with the Notification of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism).





### **Tottori Ecolife 'Platinum Partner'**

✓ The first company or organisation to be registered as a 'Tottori Ecolife Platinum Partner' that implements the Tottori Ecolife Concept promoted by Tottori Prefecture and promotes awareness of the concept amongst its business partners and others.



#### The Tottori Ecolife Initiative (nicknamed Tottori Reborn!) - What is it?

A concept proposed by Tottori Prefecture to achieve a decarbonised society, aiming to shift to a lifestyle that protects the environment and health while living comfortably and wisely, and to revitalise the local economy through local production of renewable energy for local consumption and the development of new technologies.

### **Regional Decarbonisation Roadmap** (Council for National and Local Decarbonization, 9 June 2021).

- Policy development and implementation of regional decarbonisation realisation through proactive public-private participation and partnership structures in the region.
- Based on this foundational framework, the Decarbonisation Leading Areas will invest policy resources intensively in initiatives (plans) to realise solutions to issues specific to the characteristics of the region, using decarbonisation as one method.



15

### Questionnaire survey of suppliers (published in January 2022)

More than 30% of all respondents are "already working on" or "considering working on"  $\checkmark$ decarbonisation.

(In case of San-in region alone, this figure is less than 30%, at around 27%.)

The most common response to the initiative was 'don't know what to do', while the top challenges in promoting the initiative included 'lack of know-how' and 'cost burden'.





Source: extracted from 'San'in Godo Bank official website > San'in economic information > Other survey results > "Survey on decarbonisation" (25 Jan 2022)', prepared by us.

#### [By area]

### Hypothesised bottlenecks in the virtuous circle

[Local self-reliance] Regional development of local production of renewable energy for local consumption towards local decarbonisation and carbon neutrality.

[Proactive participation] Play a leading role as a member of the local power generation business players (priming the entry of local operators).

[Mutual complementation] Increase in the rate of local production for local consumption through the supply of renewable energy sources by new regional power companies.

[Ripple effect] Support for other players in the region to enter the renewable energy business by acquiring business know-how.

[Regional circulation] The regional economy is stimulated by preventing the outflow of income from within the prefecture to outside the region.



A body that takes business risks in order to increase local renewable energy sources, while also <u>cooperating</u> with the relevant institutions and local businesses, <u>is necessary to create a</u> <u>virtuous circle.</u>

\* Established as a 'Company for Advanced Development of Banking Business in Other Businesses' under Article 16-2(4) of the Banking Act, having obtained licences from the Financial Services Agency and the Fair Trade Commission.

\*\*These are the business sectors covered in the application for approval from the financial authorities, and the timing of the start of each business depends on the circumstances of the consideration of each individual case.

### **Company for advanced banking, other**

Name Gogin Energy Co., Ltd.

RepresentativeTetsuya Anjiki, President and CEO10, Uomachi, Matsue, Shimane Pref.

n (In the San-in Godo Bank head office)

Date of establishment

1 July 2022

Capital\* 100 million yen (100% owned by San-in Godo Bank)

(i) Power generation projects Businesses\*\* (ii) Retail electricity business

(iii) Consulting business

### Personnel5 persons, including the President and CEOstructure5 persons, including the President and CEO

The initiative to establish the subsidiary concerned won **the 'Regional Finance Award'** at the **'8th Sustainable Finance Awards'** organised by the Research Institute for Environmental Finance (RIEF).





### **Basic ideas and thoughts**

Achieving local decarbonisation and carbon neutrality -Expanding intra-regional economic circulation and solving regional problems through locally produced renewable energy-



### Status-based decarbonisation support system



S and business support, from upstream to downstream decarbonisation and ച regional financial carbon neutrality from both financial group, we support the realisation of

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Yonago City official website https://www.city.yonago.lg.jp

Sanin Godo Bank official WEB site https://www.gogin.co.jp

