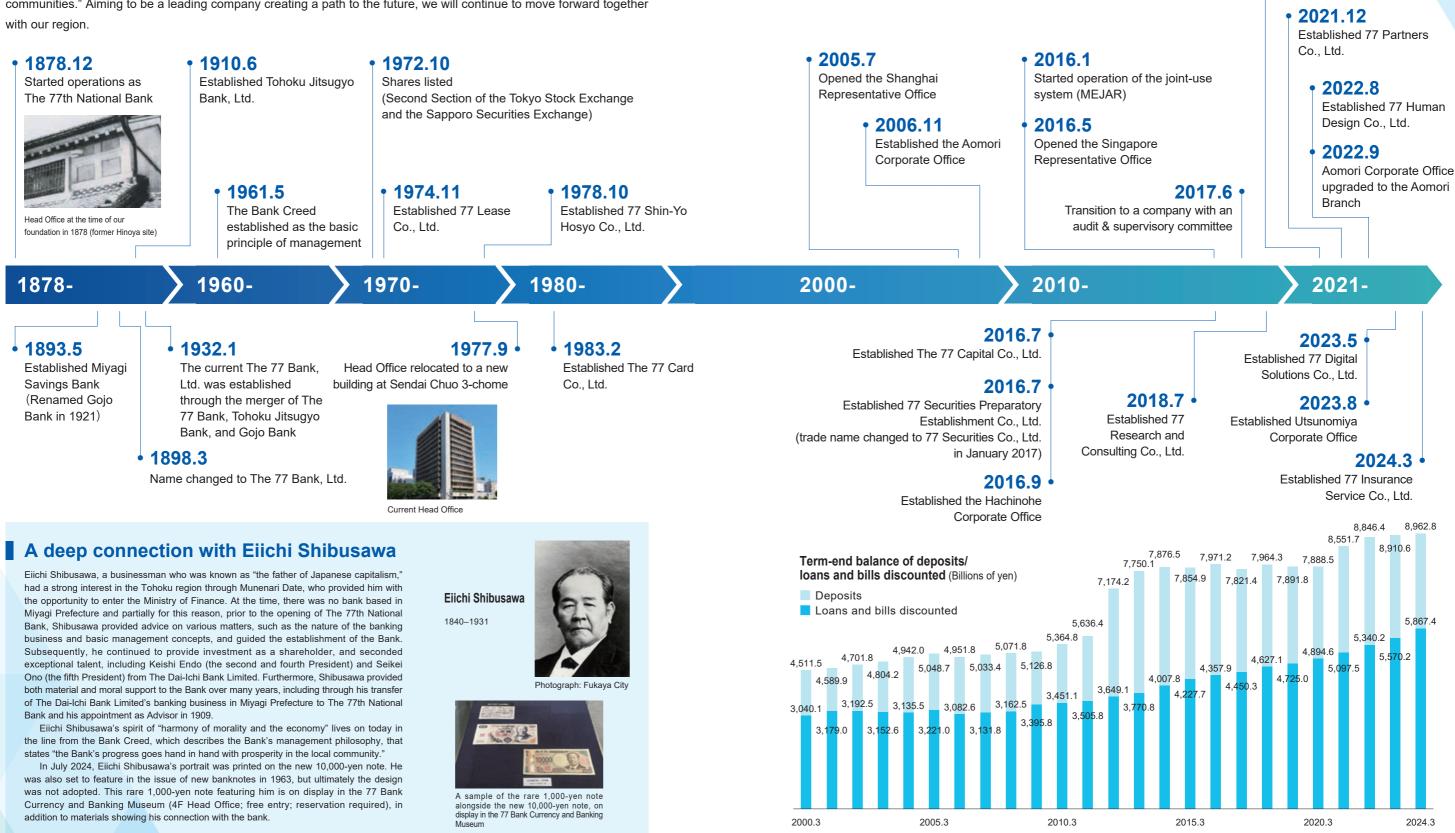
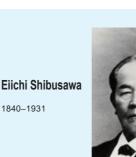
# **Our Path of Continuous Growth**

Since its founding in 1878, The 77 Bank has overcome many difficulties and grown steadily while devoting itself to sound management under the management philosophy of "desiring communal prosperity and serving local communities." Aiming to be a leading company creating a path to the future, we will continue to move forward together







14

# 2021.4 Vision 2030 Began

Total area

7,282km<sup>2</sup>

(16th in Japan)

Number of households

1,035,949<sub>households</sub> (14th in Japan)

# The Economy and Potential of Miyagi

Miyagi Prefecture, which is our main business base, is located in the southeast area of the Tohoku region, and is a key transport hub connecting the Greater Tokyo Area with the Tohoku region.

The prefectural capital, Sendai City, which became the 11th city designated by government ordinance in Japan in 1989, is home to the branches of many major companies from across Japan, and functions as a core city in the Tohoku region.

There are various projects underway, including plans for semiconductor-related companies to move to the area, and as such further economic growth is expected.

# Expansion by semiconductor companies

SBI Holdings, Inc. and Taiwanese semiconductor giant Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC) have jointly established JSMC Corporation, which has finalized plans to construct a semiconductor factory in the Northern Sendai No. 2 Core Industrial Park of Ohira Village, Kurokawa, Miyagi.



**Project overview** 

•Total investment: Roughly JPY 800 bn (equivalent to roughly 8% of the gross prefectural product) •Production scheduled to start in 2027 with full-scale operations commencing in 2029 •Employment plans for 1,200 people

Northern Sendai No. 2 Core Industrial Park Image source: Ohira Village website

## 2 Sendai Urban Restructuring Project (Project launched by Sendai City in July 2019, to continue through FY2030)

We wish to help Sendai City attain the position of the "town of choice" by improving its urban characteristics, as a place where both the natural environment with abundant greenery and a city function exist in harmony. To this end, we support the remodeling of obsolete buildings and promote their reconstruction in Sendai's central business district, where people interact and conduct economic activities the most. In this way, we will create a virtuous economic cycle by supplying highly functional offices that satisfy companies' needs and attracting enterprises to new offices.

Reconstruction of obsolete buildings and promotion of corporate relocation into the city
 •Establishment of "Subsidy System for Promoting Building Reconstruction in Sendai City Center"
 •Relaxation of floor-area ratio with a view toward "developing highly functional office"
 •Enhancement of business attraction framework and subsidy systems, etc.



Image of Urban Restructuring Project (Sendai Station area) Provided by: Sendai City

# $\Im$ Start of operation of NanoTerasu, the next-generation synchrotron radiation facility

NanoTerasu is a next-generation synchrotron radiation facility located in the Aobayama New Campus of Tohoku University, which is about 9 minutes by subway from Sendai Station. Operations began in FY2024. Also called "a huge nano-level microscope," the facility can observe and monitor the function of substances and the reaction of elemental surfaces at the atom/molecule level, something that is impossible with ordinary research facilities. It enables the precise analysis of various materials and biological tissues. It is expected to create innovation in the area of research and development of various industries

including chemistry, food products, medical services, pharmaceutical and energy.

NanoTerasu not only serves as "a huge nano-level microscope," but also creates nano-level data that is essential for research and development in various domains in the industrial and academic circles during the DX/GX era. In addition, it is expected to make a considerable contribution to boosting enterprise competitiveness by developing a new dimension of industry-academia cooperation.

Economic ripple effects (estimated by Tohoku Economic Federation) ·JPY 1.901.7 billion over the first 10 years of operation

Local ripple effects within Miyagi Prefecture is JPY 277.7 billion

The project is believed to contribute particularly in the areas such as fuel cell, gene drugs and nanocarbon materials



Overhead view of the next-generation synchrotron radiation facility Provided by: Photon Science Innovation Center Number of private companies



Number of employees at private companies

**1,031,186** (14th in Japan)

# Tohoku University's accreditation as a University for International Research Excellence

Having been a candidate for accreditation as a University for International Research Excellence, a program that aims to produce world-class research institutes, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology announced that, following a review, Tohoku University has met the requirements for accreditation. As such, from October onwards Tohoku University is set to become the first university in Japan to be officially accredited under the program. By the end of FY2024, Tohoku University will receive approximately 10.0 billion yen in grants from the government's 10-trillion-yen university fund, which is expected to reinforce research and development in its specialist semiconductor- and bio-related fields. Through the full-scale operation of NanoTerasu and other collaborative projects between the industrial, government, academic, and financial sectors, we will work to contribute to Tohoku University-led innovations.

Population

# 2,257,472 (14th in Japan)

Number of homes

**1,089,300** (14th in Japan)

Gross Prefectural Product (nominal)

9,485.2billion yen (14th in Japan)

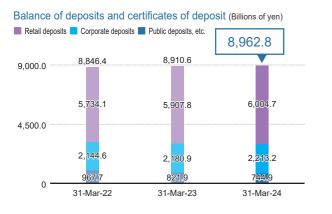
Source: 2024 Shape of Miyagi (Miyagi Prefectural Handbook)



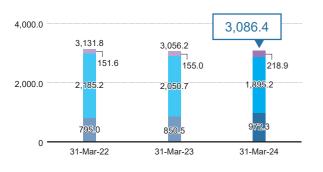
Teiji Tominaga, president of Tohoku University, briefing the press after results of the review Photo: Tohoku University

# **Financial and Non-financial Highlights**

# **Financial information**



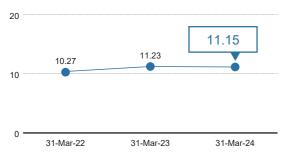




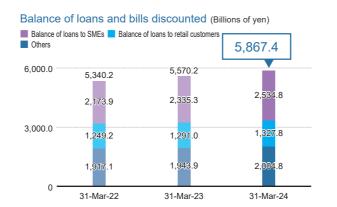
### Net income (consolidated) (Billions of yen)



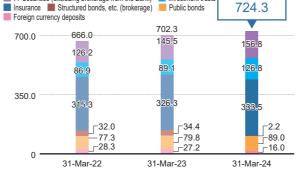
Capital adequacy ratio (domestic standards/consolidated) (%)



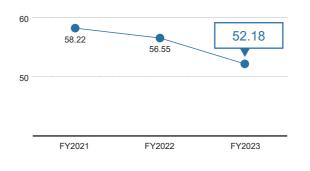
\*Capital adequacy ratio is calculated through the early application of finalized Basel III from the end of March 2023.



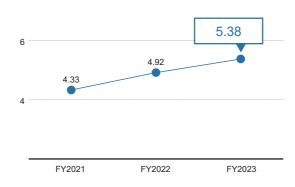




### Core OHR (core gross operating income expense ratio) (%)

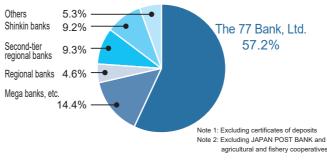


### ROE (consolidated) (%)

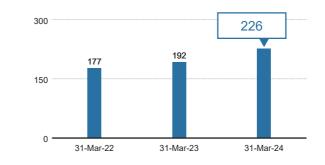


### Non-financial information

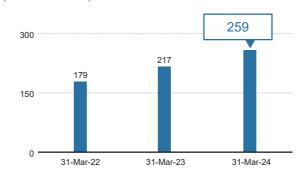
#### Deposit share within Miyagi Prefecture (end of Mar. 2024)



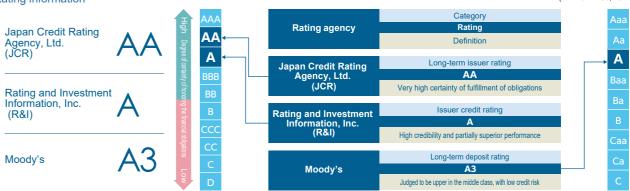
Number of employees qualified as 1st grade Financial Planner/Certified Financial Planner (persons)

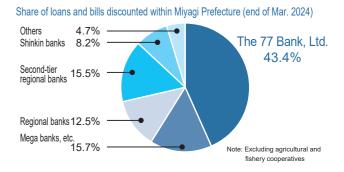


No. of dispatched trainees, etc. (persons) (cumulative from 2012)

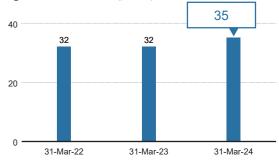


Rating information

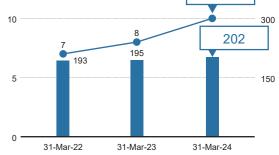




#### Number of employees qualified as Small and Medium-size Enterprise Management Consultants (persons)







(as of June 30, 2024)

# **Message from Director Responsible for Finance**

We will reinforce profitability and build a robust financial base to enhance our corporate value.

Managing Director Takashi Kuroda



#### **Financial Performance Summary** $\mathbf{v}$

#### Record-high profits for three consecutive terms

In FY2023, our non-consolidated ordinary income increased ¥8.1 billion from the previous year to ¥42.5 billion, and non-consolidated net income rose ¥4.4 billion to ¥28.8 billion. Consolidated net income was also up by ¥4.7 billion to ¥29.8 billion, marking a record high for the third consecutive term.

Among the factors behind this third consecutive term of record profits are changes in our external environment. In addition to an upturn in the economy following the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, changes in the Bank of Japan's monetary policies led to an increase in long-term interest rates. As a result, there were improvements in income among all regional banks, including ourselves.

Another factor is the increased understanding among bank employees of our proprietary "Vision 2030" initiatives, with the results beginning to show in our figures. Moreover, our Finance & Consulting business model has taken root, leading to an increase in loans and bills discounted, as well as fees and commissions. Alongside top-line growth, we are continuing to see improvements in productivity. Our promotion of branches within branches measures, reduction in administrative work, and roll out of digitalization measures have helped to reduce costs, while our development of sales personnel has reinforced our consulting structure. As a result, income from customer services, which had previously been an issue, has returned to profit and continues to increase.

Moreover, in terms of our corporate culture reform strategy within "Vision 2030," a greater understanding of "Vision 2030" among bank employees is leading to reforms in our corporate and organizational culture. We are also seeing an increase in the number of employees proactively taking on new challenges. Not relying solely on changes in the Bank of Japan's monetary policies and our external environment, moving forward we will continue aiming for record-high profits and the achievement of our financial targets through steady implementation of the measures set out in "Vision 2030."

					(Billions of yen, %)
	FY2022	FY2023	YoY o	FY2024	
(Non-consolidated)			Increase/decrease	Rate of change (%)	(Forecast)
Gross operating income	78.9	80.1	1.2	1.5	90.2
Interest income	78.6	93.4	14.8	18.8	98.6
Fees and commissions	12.2	13.0	0.8	6.1	13.0
Other operating income	(11.9)	(26.3)	(14.4)	-	(21.4)
Expenses	48.5	49.0	0.5	1.0	48.6
Core operating income	37.3	44.9	7.6	20.4	50.5
Operating income	33.4	27.2	(6.2)	(18.3)	42.1
Ordinary income	34.4	42.5	8.1	23.4	47.0
Net income	24.4	28.8	4.4	18.3	32.0
Credit-related expenses	1.2	3.7	2.5		3.0
Total gains (losses) from securities	31.3	45.6	14.3	-	45.5
After excluding foreign currency- denominated procurement costs	26.6	34.3	7.7	-	34.7
Income from customer services	8.7	13.8	5.1	-	18.8
After excluding foreign currency- denominated procurement costs	6.5	9.8	3.3	-	15.0
(Consolidated)					
Ordinary income	35.8	44.2	8.4	23.6	48.5

29.8

25 1

# The 77 Bank Group's Value Enhancement

#### **Revising financial targets and setting ROE target**

As part of "Vision 2030," which began in FY2021, we set ourselves financial targets for FY2030 to reinforce our financial base. However, due to changes in the social and management environment, such as changes to the Bank of Japan's monetary policies, and the fact that we made progress with our main financial targets at a

#### Progress in financial targets

Net income

	FY2021 Results	FY2022 Results
Net income (consolidated)	JPY 22.2 bn	JPY 25.1 bn
ROE (consolidated)	4.33%	4.92%
Capital adequacy ratio (consolidated)	10.27%	11.23%
Core OHR	58.22%	56.55%

(Pillions of yon %)

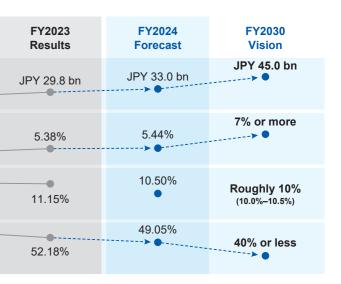
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rate faster than planned through Groupwide implementation of consulting sales, in November 2023 we revised our financial targets and set a new target for ROE (consolidated).

18.9

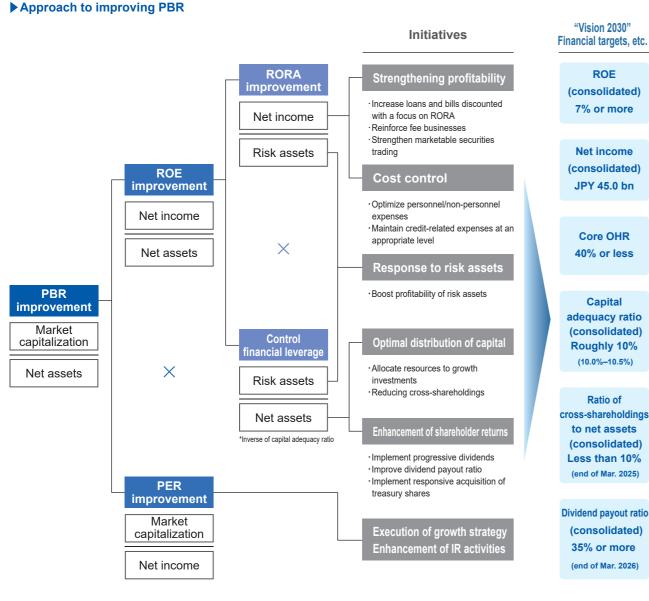
We will strive to reinforce profitability and build a robust financial base to achieve "our target form" for FY2030.



#### Improving returns on capital

In line with the Tokyo Stock Exchange's request for listed companies to take action to implement management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price, at the 77 Bank Group we will enhance management with a further awareness of returns on capital to improve our PBR. Specifically, we have set a target of 7% or more for ROE (consolidated), and will aim to increase loans and bills discounted with a focus on RORA, reinforce our fee businesses, and

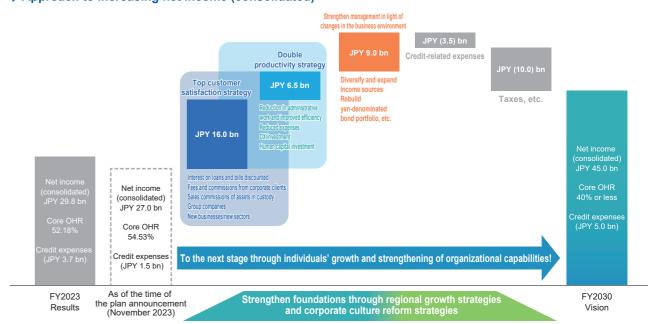
#### strengthen marketable securities trading to improve profitability. In addition, we will aim to optimize expenses while improving productivity and implement other cost-control measures. To improve our capital efficiency, in addition to conducting sales activities with an awareness of risk assets and profitability, we will make effective use of capital by allocating resources to growth investments and enhancing shareholder returns.



#### Enhancement of profitability

Through the steady implementation of the strategies in "Vision 2030," we will aim to improve net income. Specifically, through consulting sales we are aiming to increase loans and bills discounted and improve yield. Moreover, we will also work to improve top-line growth by increasing fees and commissions and optimizing profitability at each Group company with a focus on RORA. In terms of costs, we will continue with our branches within branches measures,

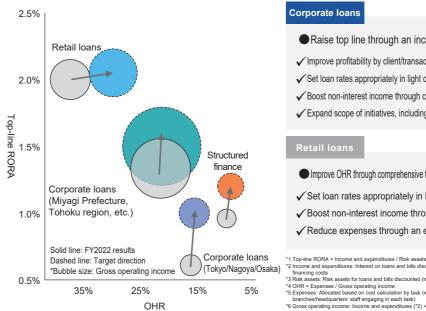
#### Approach to increasing net income (consolidated)



#### Course of action for top-line RORA and OHR

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RORA



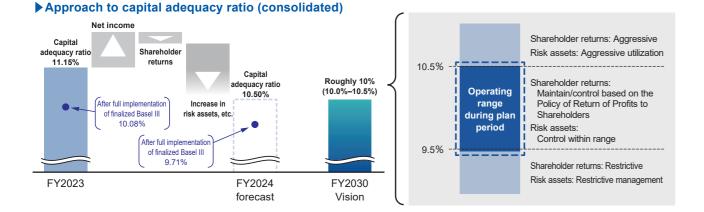
proceed with a reduction in administrative work, enhance operational efficiency, and implement costmanagement initiatives. In addition to reducing expenses, we plan to use the extra management resources for investments in DX and human resources. Moreover, while monitoring client trends, we will provide speedy support to optimize credit costs.

Raise top line through an increase in income and improvement in yield ✓ Improve profitability by client/transaction through the use of profitability check sheet ✓ Set loan rates appropriately in light of higher interest rates Strengthen monito ✓ Boost non-interest income through consulting Expand scope of initiatives, including for risk management, and diversify income (SF) Improve OHR through comprehensive trading relationship and improved operational efficiency ✓ Set loan rates appropriately in light of higher interest rates  $\checkmark$  Boost non-interest income through cross-selling ✓ Reduce expenses through an expansion in non-face-to-face transactions

financing costs 3 Risk assets: Risk assets for loans and bills discounted (including unused limits)

#### Preservation of soundness

To support local communities in emergencies, as a regional financial institution it is important to provide risk money for recovery, and as such it is essential that we maintain a sufficient capital adequacy ratio in normal times. On the other hand, to enhance our capital efficiency, it will also be important to consider getting rid of any excess capital. As such, considering that we had provisioned sufficient reserves for bad debts at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011 (our capital adequacy ratio decreased by approximately 1.6%), we have set our capital adequacy ratio target for FY2030 as above 8% at around 10% (10.0%-10.5%), which is the level to be achieved for banks operating under the uniform international standard. Moreover, we have set an operating range of between 9.5% and 10.5% during the plan period up until FY2030, and will strive for appropriate capital control.



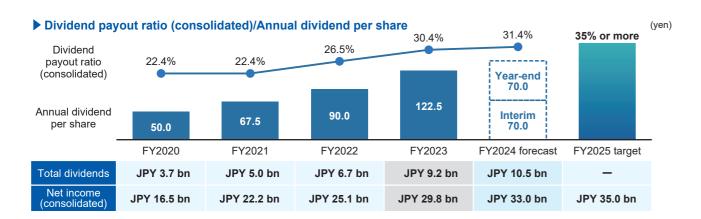
#### **Enhancing shareholder returns**

In "Vision 2030," we have defined our duty to shareholders as the growth of the 77 Bank Group and the provision of returns. To quickly fulfill this duty, in January 2022 we set out the Policy of Return of Profits to Shareholders, aiming for a dividend payout ratio of 30% or more. In FY2023, we paid dividends of 122.50 yen per share and achieved our target with a payout ratio of 30.4%.

To further respond to the expectations of our stakeholders, in November 2023 we formulated and announced a new Policy of Return of Profits to Shareholders,

#### Policy of Return of Profits to Shareholders

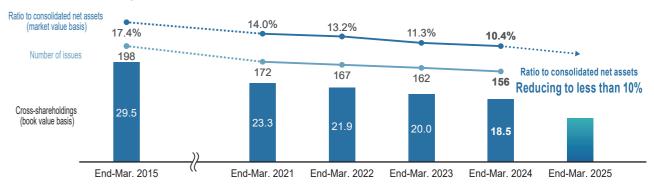
While taking factors such as its public character as a bank business and the preservation of the soundness of its management into consideration, and based on the premise of strengthening its financial foundation, the Bank will use progressive dividends to elevate its dividend payout ratio relative to profit attributable to owners of the parent to at least 35% by FY2025 and consider responsive acquisition of treasury shares with the aim of improving shareholder returns and returns on capital.



#### Reducing cross-shareholdings

We have classified our equity investments into two categories: Pure investments for the purpose of receiving profit from changes in the value of shares and dividends, and cross-shareholdings for the purpose of mutual improvement of corporate value through the maintenance and reinforcement of business and cooperative relationships with customers as a regional financial institution. While our policy is to hold onto pure investments over the medium to long term to receive stable dividends and profits from rising share prices, we have set a basic policy to reduce cross-shareholdings. In line with rationality assessments, we have determined to only hold onto shares that are deemed to contribute to the mutual

#### Cross-shareholdings trend



#### Enhancement of IR activities

In our IR activities, we arrange opportunities to explain our performance and sales strategies to shareholders and investors, and listen to their opinions, through corporate briefings for institutional investors led by the President, corporate briefings for individual investors, regular arrangement of overseas IR events and

#### Implementation status of dialogue with shareholders (FY2023)

Activities	Interlocutor	Number of sessions	
Individual meeting with institutional investors, analysts, etc.	President Director responsible for corporate communication, corporate communication manager, etc.	86 times (including 16 times with foreign investors)	
Corporate briefings for institutional investors	President	2 times (total 167 persons)	
Corporate briefings for individual investors	President, Senior Managing Director	3 times (total 2,527 persons)	

Policy on constructive dialogue with shareholders



improvement of corporate value.

When we hold cross-shareholdings, the Board of Directors regularly conducts a rigid check of their profitability based on the cost of capital, etc., as well as of the medium- to long-term economic rationale for such holdings, the future outlook, the purpose of such holdings, and other relevant factors. In FY2023, we reduced six issues of cross-shareholdings with a book value of approximately ¥1.5 billion. We believe that a further reduction will be needed in the future, and so we will keep working to reduce cross-shareholdings to less than 10% of consolidated net assets by the end of FY2024.

(tickers, billions of yen)

individual meetings by a responsible Director.

We will continue striving for sustainable growth and the improvement of our corporate value through constructive conversations with shareholders, etc. to deepen their understanding of our initiatives, performance, etc.

#### Approach to disclosures



# **Sustainability Promotion**

The 77 Bank Group, in keeping with the philosophy of the Bank Creed of "desiring communal prosperity and serving local communities," which has been in our DNA since our founding, aims to realize a sustainable society by solving important issues (materiality).

## Process to identify materiality (important issues)

From the perspective of strengthening sustainability initiatives, the 77 Bank Group has identified materiality based on the implementation of internal questionnaire surveys, discussions at the Sustainability Committee, exchange of opinions with Outside Directors, etc.



## **Governance structure**

To ensure appropriate and thorough promotion and management of sustainability, in addition to formulating the "Sustainability Promotion and Management Policy," we have set up the Sustainability Committee, which is chaired by the President. The Committee discusses and provides reports on key matters related to the promotion and management of sustainability, and the results are reflected in management strategies and risk management.

In FY2023, Sustainability Committee meetings were held three times. In having the Committee report the results of its discussions on sustainability management to the Board of Directors, we have established a system through which the Board of Directors can supervise sustainability-related initiatives.

Board of Directors				
Supervision	Report			
Executive Committee				
Sustainability Committee				
Report				
Sustainability Departments				
Report				
General Planning & Coordination Division (Sustainability Promotion Office)				
Coordination	Coordination			
Headquarters and Branches	Group companies			

#### Sustainability Committee discussions and reports

- Formulation of the SDGs Action Plan Reports on progress, discussions on key measures
- Response to TCFD recommendations
- Reports on Scope 3 emissions calculations, discussions on nature of disclosure
- Reinforcement of support for clients' decarbonization initiatives Discussions on strengthening human resource development and client engagement measures
- Strengthening of respect for human rights Discussions on the formulation of a human rights policy and the creation of a monitoring system
- Enhancement of sustainability-related information disclosure Reports on initiatives related to climate change and biodiversity and related information disclosure

## The 77 Bank Group's materiality and SDGs declaration

To practice sustainability management having materiality as its axis, we revised the SDGs declaration in such a way that it responds to each item of the materiality.

Identified materiality

#### Revitalization of Miyagi and Tohoku

We will lead the revitalization of Miyagi and Tohoku through building of regional economic ecosystems by multi-faceted industry-academia-public sector-finance coordination and co-creation.

#### Solving issues of customers in the region

We will tackle solving issues of customers in the region through the practice of consulting sales, promotion of DX and development of new businesses/new sectors among others.

#### Returns to stakeholders

We will strive to make returns to stakeholders including customers, local communities, shareholders and employees, through the development of strong financial foundations by improving productivity and the like.

### Response to climate change and disasters

We will strengthen response to climate change and disasters through lessons and learning from the Great East Japan Earthquake, and storm and flood damage.

#### Provision of reliable financial services

We will provide reliable financial services to customers in the region through the strengthening of corporate governance.

#### Creation of work environment where people can work with enthusiasm We will strive to create work environment where all officers and employees can work with enthusiasm through the promotion of human resources development and

diversity as well as the establishment of challenging corporate culture.

### KPI by FY2030

КРІ	FY2023 Results	Target in FY2030
Cases of growth support for founders (single fiscal year)	2,061 cases	3,000 cases
Improvement of economic growth rate in Miyagi Prefecture	—	Japan growth rate +0.1pt
No. of projects launched in new businesses or sectors (cumulative) 10 projects already launched; continue with development of new businesses and sectors with potential for future commercialization	10 projects	10 projects (up to FY2023)
People receiving financial education (cumulative)	42,833	120,000
Seminars held regarding SDGs/participants (cumulative)	53 seminars/3,711 people	120 seminars/10,000 people
Total cumulative sustainable finance executed*	JPY 676.9 billion	JPY 1.2 trillion
CO <sup>2</sup> emissions (reduced ratio vs. FY2013)	8,433 t-CO <sub>2</sub> (49.8%)	0t-CO₂ (100.0%)
Proportion of female managers	17.5%	30.0%

\* Total cumulative investment and lending executed which contributes to the stimulation of local communities and the realization of a sustainable society (investment and lending that supports and promotes SDGs initiatives in the fields of the environment, medicine, new companies, business succession, etc.)

In addition, the Sustainability Promotion and Management Policy is disclosed on our website.

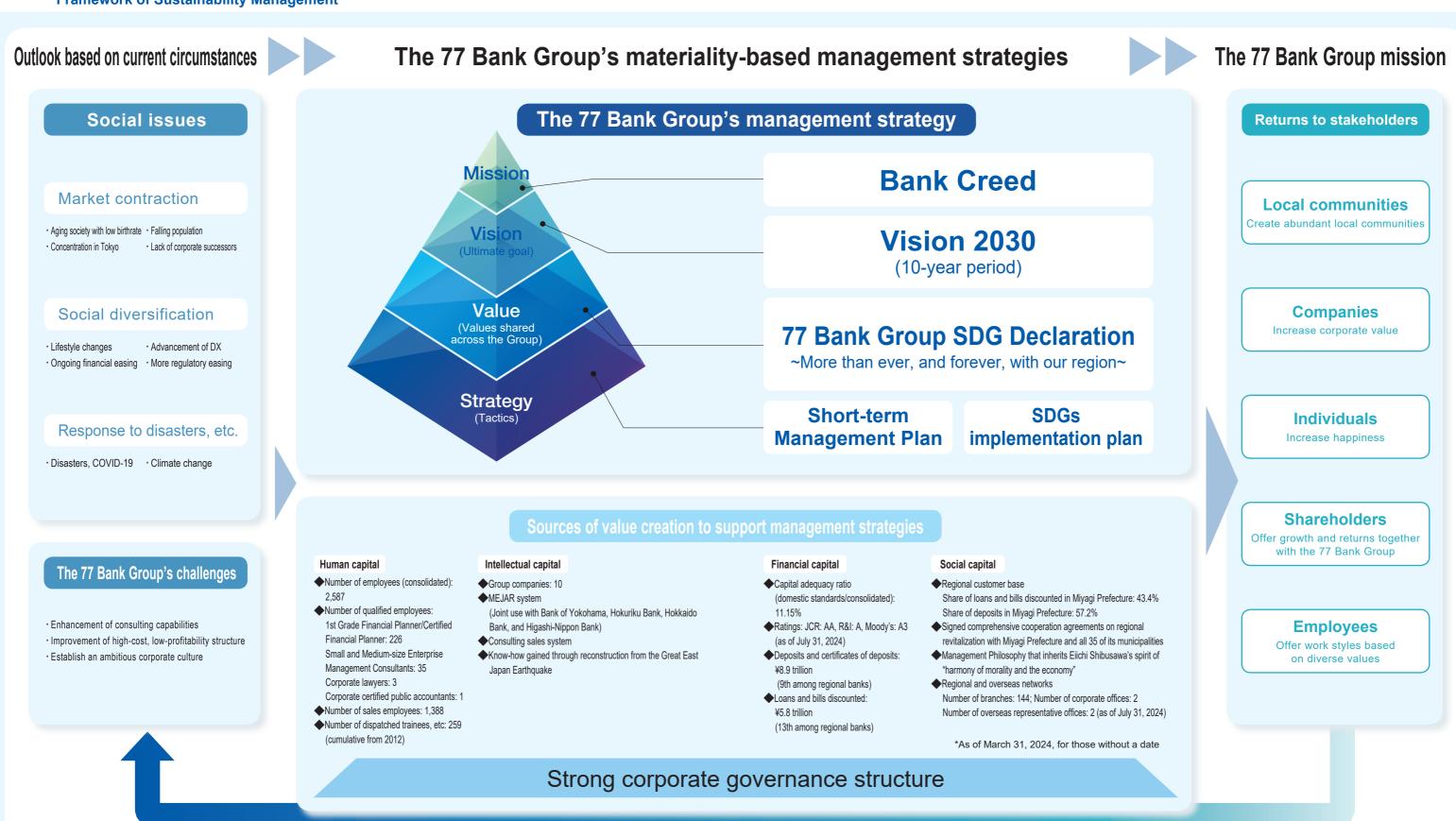




Basic approach to sustainability



**Framework of Sustainability Management** 



Increase corporate value

# Major Opportunities and Risks/Major Initiatives Concerning Materiality

Cus	Customers       Local communities       Shareholders         Companies       Individuals       Companies       Shareholders		Shareholders	Employees		Top Customer Satisfaction Strategy       Double         > p32       P32         Corporate Culture Reform Strategy       > p50
	Materiality (concerned stakeholders)		Мајо	or opportunities and risks (●Opportunities 〇Risks)		Our major initiatives (ongoing measures, etc.)
	Revitalization of Miyagi and Tohoku Customers Local communities	1 mm         2 mm         3 mmm           1 mm         2 mm	public investment in i Increase of opportun private investment ind Decrease in profit-ea economy	nities for investment and lending due to cluding startups arning opportunities due to the decline of of local governments, population outflow	o the rise of .s	Strengthening of collaboration between the industrial, academic, public, and financial sectors using Participation in regional development projects such as NanoTerasu and semiconductor projects Support for the establishment of new companies and the growth of startup companies Holding of business contests (X-Tech Innovation, etc.) Support for developing/expanding sales channels through various business meetings Support for the growth of clients through overseas business assistance
<u>ନ</u> ନିନ୍ଦିନ	Solving issues of customers in the region	1 finar     2 min     3 minimum       1 finar     2 min     3 minimum       1 minimum     1 minimum     1 minimum       4 minimum     9 minimum     12 minimum       1 minimum     1 minimum     1000000000000000000000000000000000000	expansion of our busin Increase in income op the aged and househo Nurturing the willingnes Decrease in the num (i.e., reduced profii customers) Decreased profit-e customers' performan	portunities by capturing various needs inclu lds with small children ss to invest with improved financial literacy nber of customers due to lower customer t-earning opportunities with the lower earning opportunities due to the dete	r satisfaction r number of	Provision of various solutions through Finance & Consulting business model Diversification and advancement of solutions through Groupwide efforts Side-by-side support for improved sustainability activities among clients Reinforcement of initiatives for ESG investment and lending Support for DX promotion nitiatives for new businesses and sectors Expansion of businesses for seniors
	Returns to stakeholders           Customers         Local communities         Shareholders         Employees	8 montanen 10 meren 17 meren: E	resources OImprovement of cor financial base (increa third parties)	nsulting system along with the development rporate value associated with the reinf ase in the value of shares, improvement urket due to weakened financial base	orcement of ·C	Development of sales and specialist human resources through a reduction in administrative work Dptimization of networks through the reinforcement of non-face-to-face channels Contribution to improved regional financial literacy Formulation of policy of return of profits to shareholders
	Response to climate change and disasters	6 means F means 12 means 13 means 13 means 13 means 13 means 14 means 15 means 15 means 15 means 15 means 15 means 16 means 17 means 18 means	<ul> <li>public investment ar and mitigation</li> <li>Rise of profit-earning the shift to a decarbo</li> <li>Reduction of the Ban saving and utilization</li> <li>Increase in the cost prevention and mitigation</li> </ul>	k's business operation cost with energy a of renewable energy t of credit due to the delayed response ation and climate change tional risk, etc. due to the Bank's branche	and resource	nitiatives to promote regional carbon neutrality Reinforcement of engagement with clients regarding decarbonization Support for customers' BCP formulations Creation of environmentally friendly branches Forest conservation activities for the regeneration of disaster prevention forests Reinforcement of initiatives for climate change and biodiversity and enhancement of information dis
	Provision of reliable financial services Customers Local communities Shareholders	10 ##### (10 ###### (17 ####### (17 ###### (17 ###### (17 ####### (17 ####### (17 ###### (17 ###### (17 ###### (17 ###### (16 ###### (16 ####### (16 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (17 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (16 ###### (17 ####### (17 ####################################	environment Higher investors' eva disclosure Occurrence of busine environment	from local communities with strong inter aluation due to our timely and appropriate ess continuity risk, etc. due to fragile int ss due to fragile IT governance	e information ·S ·S	Strengthening of education and awareness activities related to legal compliance Strengthening of response and stance to antisocial forces Strengthening of response and stance to the prevention of money laundering, etc. mprovement of awareness of cyber security Development of digital human resources to improve IT literacy
<u>∭</u>	Creation of work environment where people can work with enthusiasm Employees	3 mener A mener 3 mener 3 mener 3 mener 3 mener 10 mener 5 men 5 mener 5 me	resources O Promotion of innovati	opportunities	۰۲ ۲۶ deteriorated	Development of human resources that benefit regions and customers and that contribute to corpora Strengthening of initiatives to promote the active participation of women Reinforcement of health management initiatives and promotion of work-life balance Julization of senior human resources Promotion of employment of people with disabilities

