

SMBC and JICA Announce New Financing to South Africa's DBSA Designed to Support Infrastructure Projects contributing to enhanced Renewable Energy Generation, Water Supply, Battery Storage or Energy Efficiency in South Africa and the wider Continent

On 27th November, 2024 – SMBC Group (“**SMBC**”) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (“**JICA**”) announced USD\$150 million in financing for the Development Bank of Southern Africa Limited (“**DBSA**”), a leading African Development Finance Institution, to support sustainable infrastructure development through private sector investment and finance.

JICA Director General of Private Sector Partnership and Finance Department, Mr. Takehiro Yasui joined SMBC's Deputy Head of EMEA, Mr. Jun Saito, and Ms. Boitumelo Mosako, Chief Executive Officer of the DBSA for the ceremonial signing at DBSA's Headquarters in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Government of South Africa's Head of Just Energy Transition, Project Management Unit, Mrs. Joanne Yamamichi, a delegation of senior South African officials and a delegation of senior Japanese officials including Mr. Kei Ando, Head of the Economic and Development Section for the Embassy of Japan attended the ceremony to observe the signing.

SMBC and JICA's funding will significantly bolster the DBSA's efforts to accelerate sustainable infrastructure development, promote equality and address climate change in South Africa, one of Africa's most dynamic markets.

The loan represents JICA's commitment to strengthen its bilateral relationship with South Africa and create opportunities for unlocking inclusive economic growth and the resolution of social issues throughout Africa. It exemplifies a collective approach from both nations to deliver blended funding that facilitates the mobilisation of sustainable infrastructure development and therefore, stimulates socio-economic growth in the continent.

“SMBC is committed to fostering social value creation (“**SVC**”) through innovative partnerships like this. Our goal is to aid in bridging the infrastructure gap in Africa by assisting in the delivery of renewable energy, improved water supply, battery storage and increased energy efficiency. This transaction is part of our mission to create social value, strategically focused on supporting the transition to achieve a decarbonized society, breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality for the next generation, and contributing to financial inclusion in developing communities,” said **SMBC's Deputy Head of EMEA Division, Mr. Jun Saito**.

“DBSA has been one of our valued partners in Africa for many years. We are delighted to announce the successful signing of our first project of Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) in South Africa with such a highly esteemed partner. Also, we would like to express our sincerest gratitude to SMBC Group, a co-financing partner of this project. This project aims to contribute to the green transition and the sustainable economic development of Republic of South Africa by promoting the financing of renewable energy projects throughout the country. We hope that this memorable project will lead to further collaboration with partners in Southern Africa,” said **JICA Director General of Private Sector Partnership and Finance Department, Mr. Takehiro Yasui**

“This partnership with JICA speaks to our mission of building Africa's prosperity. It goes directly to the heart of what we do through infrastructure funding in making sure there is development impact that touches the lives of the communities that we serve,” said **the DBSA's Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Boitumelo Mosako**.

The funds from SMBC and JICA address issues of global priority including CO2 emission reductions, enhanced renewable energy production (solar and wind), increased electric energy discharged and

energy savings, and reliable water supply. The facility complies with the SMBC-JICA Sustainable Finance Framework and indicators were established to effectively measure the sustainable impact of this transaction. As a result, the sub-projects funded by DBSA should contribute to the achievement of SDG Goals 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 13 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnerships for the goals).

About SMBC

SMBC Group is a Tokyo-based banking group that is ranked among the largest banks globally by assets under management. The Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) Division is an integral part of SMBC Group's Global Business Unit. Having first established an office in London over a century ago, SMBC has steadily grown its footprint across the region, and today has a network of over 30 offices in 20 cities, consisting of branches, representative offices and subsidiaries. Through its combined entities, the EMEA Division delivers a universal banking platform and a full suite of corporate finance solutions to its customers. SMBC's Corporate and Investment Banking platform offers a broad range of wholesale banking products and services in corporate, structured and trade finance, leveraged finance, loan capital markets, treasury, and asset financing and leasing. In addition, it provides investment banking and advisory services and a range of innovative solutions in global capital markets.

About JICA

JICA, an incorporated administrative agency in charge of administering Japan's ODA, is one of the world's largest bilateral aid agencies. JICA aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as the sound development of Japanese and global economy by supporting the socioeconomic development, recovery or economic stability of developing regions.

About DBSA

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) is a leading Development Finance Institution (DFI), wholly owned by the government of South Africa. Established in 1983, the DBSA is mandated to promote economic growth and regional integration by mobilising financial and other resources from national and international private and public sectors for sustainable development projects and programmes in South Africa, SADC, and the wider African continent. www.dbsa.org

【Contact Information】

Sustainable Solution Department

TEL : 03-4333-6967

This announcement is not intended as recommendation to invest or solicit.
