

FY 2025  
Tokyo Financial Award  
“Sustainability Category”  
Application Guidelines for Companies

1. Program Objectives

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) aims to become an "Innovation and Financial Hub in Asia" for realizing a sustainable society. To this end, the TMG is promoting initiatives to realize an advanced sustainable financial city and a city where globally active start-ups are created, taking advantage of the “Special Zones for Finance and Asset Management Business,” designated in June 2024.

The Tokyo Financial Award is held to recognize initiatives that create innovation in the financial sector and contribute to the realization of a sustainable society through the power of finance.

The application guidelines are for the “Sustainability Category” of the Tokyo Financial Award aimed at calling for projects on both the investment side and the business side that contribute to the promotion of sustainable finance.

2. Target Companies

The target companies are those that fulfill all the conditions set out hereunder:

(1) Being a business that meets each of the following categories.

Investment Subcategory	Financial businesses (including fintech businesses) that contribute to the realization of a sustainable society through engaging in a wide range financial activities including, but not limited to, investments, lending, etc.
Business Subcategory	Businesses (including financial businesses) that contribute to the realization of a sustainable society through the use of sustainable finance (including, but not limited to sustainability-linked loans, sustainable funds, and a wide range of financing methods including VC investments)
Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory	Initiatives related to human resource development (expansion of the base and improvement of skills) for “providers,” “intermediaries,” and “recipients” of funds in sustainable finance* and their “supporters” are widely solicited. (Initiatives of your own company and those to provide services to other companies are both eligible for the application.)

	* A financial methodology that utilizes funds to address global issues such as climate change and other environmental issues, as well as human rights, poverty, and other social issues, in order to transform society into a more sustainable form
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It is possible to apply for more than one subcategory, but if the award is given, only one of the subcategories will be awarded. Also note that businesses applying for the Sustainability Category may also apply for the Financial Innovation Category of the Tokyo Financial Award, which will be separately solicited, but if the award is given, it will be given in only one of the categories.

- (2) The companies shall comply with “7. Terms of Participation,” as described in these Guidelines.
- (3) There has been no punishment, revocation of permits, etc., payment of money, etc. in violation of laws and regulations, and there is no risk of receiving such punishment at this time in its home country or global laws and regulations outside of its home country, including global trade laws, etc.
- (4) There is no delinquency in taxes levied on the corporation and social insurance premiums payable by the corporation in its home country or any country of operation.
- (5) The companies should not have violated any contract or agreement with a public body (Governments, local governments, and those related organizations) in their home country or any country of operation.
- (6) The companies should not and will not be considered a threat to public safety or welfare.
- (7) The companies should not be one whose purpose of business is political or religious, including electoral activities.
- (8) The companies shall not be an Organized Crime Group (an Organized Crime Group as stipulated in item (ii) of Article 2 of the Tokyo Metropolitan Ordinance for Eliminating Organized Crime Groups (Tokyo Metropolitan Government Ordinance No. 54 of 2011; hereinafter referred to as “Organized Crime Elimination Ordinance”)), and must not have an Organized Crime Group Member, etc. (a member of an Organized Crime Group as stipulated in item (iii) of Article 2 of the Organized Crime Elimination Ordinance, or someone related to an Organized Crime Group as stipulated in item (iv) of the same Article) among the representatives, executives, employees, or other members of the corporation.

### 3. Screening Process

A screening panel will be established to carry out the following.

(1) First-stage Screening:

Approximately 15 domestic and foreign companies will be selected from the following three subcategories:

- Investment Subcategory
- Business Subcategory
- Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory

(2) Final Screening: Among the companies selected in (1), the judging panel will select around four businesses (Investment and Business Subcategory: around three companies, Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory: around one company) that are implementing especially outstanding measures (this award). In addition, one business that is particularly outstanding in its green finance initiatives among the award-winning companies will be selected to receive the "Governor's Special Prize for Green Finance."

\*In addition to the award for the top three winners and the Governor's Special Prize for Green Finance, "Special Award" may be given for outstanding initiatives.

(3) Judging Criteria (for all subcategories)

Evaluation Items	Description (Additional information)
Understanding of the Tokyo Financial Award's objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (All subcategories) Does the proposed initiative utilize the power of finance and help realize a sustainable society?</li><li>• (Investment and Business Subcategories) Is the content consistent with the initiatives being solicited?</li><li>• (Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory) Does the proposed initiative recognize the importance of human resource development in the promotion of sustainable finance, and is it based on the medium- to long-term strategy, such as the direction the company/ organization aims to take and the company-wide strategy?</li></ul>
Uniqueness of the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (All subcategories) Does the proposed initiative have originality?</li><li>• (Investment and Business Subcategories) Is the market itself targeted by the proposed initiative novel, or is the proposed initiative</li></ul>

	novel, regardless of the novelty of the targeted market?
Social impact/Initiative's Potential for Diffusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the scope of impact wide enough?</li> <li>• Is the content useful as a reference for other companies and organizations?</li> <li>• Can it be expected to be disseminated and deployed throughout the industry?</li> </ul>
Outcome of the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (All subcategories) Are there clear results from the proposed initiative?</li> <li>• (Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory) Does the proposed initiative contribute to the development of human resources in the field of sustainable finance, and does it achieve its ultimate objective?</li> </ul>
International competitiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the proposal relevant to an area or initiative that is internationally recognized?</li> </ul>
Compatibility with the TMG' initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the benefits of the proposed initiative easy to understand for Tokyo residents?</li> <li>• Does the proposed project contribute to the development of human resources in the field of sustainable finance, and does it achieve its ultimate objective?</li> </ul> <p>Examples of TMG's initiatives: "Global Financial City: Tokyo" Vision 2.0, Tokyo 2050 Strategy, Tokyo Bay eSG Project, etc.</p>

#### 4. Number of Winners

- ( 1 ) Tokyo Financial Award (Sustainability Category): Top four businesses  
 (Investment and Business Subcategory: around three companies, Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory: around one company)
- ( 2 ) Governor's Special Prize for Green Finance: One business (One business that is particularly outstanding in its green finance initiatives among the winning companies)

\* In addition to the award for the top four winners, "Special Award" may be given for outstanding initiatives.

## 5. Benefits

The following benefits will be granted to the businesses that pass certain screenings.

### (1) Recognition at the Award Ceremony

Businesses selected in 3 above will receive awards from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government at the award ceremony to be held in February 2026 or later.

### (2) Feedback on screening contents

Feedback on the screening contents will be provided to enable the applicants to brush up and realize their proposal.

### (3) Priority to be invited to speak at events hosted by the TMG

Businesses that are selected for the final screening may be asked to speak at events hosted by the TMG on a preferential basis.

## 6. Program Schedule, etc.

The following schedule is tentative and subject to change without notice.

- (1) Submission of applications (May 29 - August 31, 2025)
- (2) First-stage screening (September - October 2025)
- (3) Final screening (November - December 2025)
- (4) Award Ceremony (announcement of winners) (After February 2026)

## 7. Terms of Participation

The companies passing the first-stage screening shall comply with the following (1) and (3). Additionally, the companies selected for the award are required to comply with (2) as well.

\*(1) and (2) may be conducted online (TBA).

### (1) Participation in the final screening session and delivery of a presentation

Selected companies are required to participate in the final screening session to be held in Tokyo (November - December 2025) and to deliver a presentation on the proposed initiative.

### (2) Participation in the award ceremony

The person in charge is required to participate in the ceremony and communicate each content externally.

### (3) Others

- If a selected company is found to have violated any of the items listed above in section 2, or found to be engaged in activities deemed by the TMG as inappropriate for a participant of the Award and subsequently, cannot offer the TMG a valid explanation, their selection as a winner and award may be revoked even after the

award ceremony.

- Selected companies shall agree to cooperate in providing any necessary information for screening or answers to questions, etc. to ensure that the screening process proceeds smoothly.
- Selected companies shall pay for their own international travel costs, accommodation costs, travel costs within Japan, meal costs and all other related costs.
- Selected Companies shall agree to have their information (company name, business overview, etc.) made public on the TMG's website.

## 8. Points to Keep in Mind when Applying

### (1) Handling of personal data submitted upon application

Program applicants shall agree to the following:

- Personal data submitted in an application form will only be provided to and used by the TMG and the Tokyo Financial Award Secretariat only for the purposes of the Tokyo Financial Award.
- Applicants shall obtain consent for the above use from the individuals whose personal information they have entered in the application form. In addition, the applicants for the program shall be deemed to have agreed that the personal information entered in the application form will be provided to the TMG and the Secretariat within the scope of the above-mentioned purposes of use upon submission of the application for the program.
- Part of the information registered in a language other than Japanese upon application shall be sent to Google and temporarily stored in order to be translated into Japanese by the Secretariat on behalf of the TMG using the Google Translate tool.

\*When using Google Translate to translate portions of data submitted by program applicants, Google will temporarily store the inputted texts on their servers in order to send back the requested translation.

\*Generally, the stored texts will be deleted after a few hours. However, depending on the status of Google's systems, texts may be stored for a longer period.

\*For details on Google's data security measures, please refer to the following site:

<https://www.google.com/about/datacenters/inside/data-security/index.html?hl=ja>

### (2) Submitting the personal data of individuals residing in the EU

In addition to the conditions above, residents of EU countries shall also agree to the

following terms before applying to the program:

- Submitted personal data will be sent and stored in a server located in Japan. Japan has received an adequacy decision by the European Commission and the personal data of applicants will be securely stored to the TMG and the Secretariat.
- Portions of data submitted by program applicants will be translated into Japanese with the Google Translation tool. In this case, inputted data will be sent to Google and stored temporarily on their servers. Google protects the security of data in accordance with the security measures established for its cloud services.  
(<https://www.google.com/about/datacenters/inside/data-security/index.html?hl=ja>)
- The data subjects may request access to their personal data, correction of inaccurate personal data, or restrictions on data processing of their personal data.

## 9. Application for the Award

Companies that wish to apply for the award should access the application form on the Tokyo Financial Award website and fill in the necessary information and confirm application by the application deadline.

### (1) Application procedure:

- Access the application form for from the website of the Tokyo Financial Award.  
(For the Investment Subcategory, please click [here](#). )  
(For the Business Subcategory, please click [here](#).)
- Complete all required fields in the application form on a company basis.
- \* Up to 2 activities can be registered in each subcategory.
- Confirm all fields are correct before submission.

### (2) Deadline for submission:

11:59 p.m., Sunday, August 31, 2025 (Japan Standard Time)

### (3) Selection process, etc.

After the application deadline, the screening panel will strictly select businesses for awards, which will be announced at an awards ceremony in after February 2025. Businesses that pass the first-stage screening will be notified individually. The selection process will not be made public, and no inquiries will be responded to.

For questions concerning the Tokyo Financial Award, contact  
“2025 Tokyo Financial Award” Secretariat at  
[tfa@jp.ey.com](mailto:tfa@jp.ey.com)