

**FAQ for the Sustainability Category**

#	Related document	Target category		Question	Answer
1	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	May we apply to both the Financial Innovation Category and the Sustainability Category?	Applicants may apply to both categories. Provided, however, that applicants are eligible for the award in only one of those categories.
2	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	What is the definition of “sustainable finance?”	In this project, sustainable finance is defined as follows:  “Sustainable finance is a framework for utilizing funds for the purpose of transitioning to a more sustainable society, by addressing environmental issues such as climate change, social issues such as human rights and poverty, and other widespread common global issues.” (Source: Official website of the Tokyo Financial Award)
3	Application form	All	Application requirement	Can financial products such as loans and insurance be treated as sustainable finance?	Loans and insurance are also financial products for sustainable finance.
4	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	Can we apply for more than one subcategory among the Investment, Business, and Sustainable Financial Human Resource Development subcategories?	Yes, both subcategories may be applied for. However, each company may only receive the award in a single subcategory.
5	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	How many initiatives can a single company apply for?	Each company may apply up to two initiatives in the three subcategories of “Investment,” “Business,” and “Sustainable Financial Human Resource Development.” (Cross-category applications are also possible.)
6	Application guidelines	Investment Subcategory	Application requirement	May we apply for initiatives other than investment activities for the Investment subcategory?	Yes, you may apply. We are inviting investment activities as well as other activities that contribute to the realization of a sustainable society from various perspectives, including fund providers (institutional investors), funds intermediaries (banks, securities firms, asset management companies, etc.), investee companies (operating companies , etc.), and supporters (market infrastructure, service providers, etc.).
7	Application guidelines	Business Subcategory	Application requirement	May we apply for initiatives other than those that are financed by sustainable finance for the Business Subcategory?	Yes, we are inviting initiatives that are financed by a wide range of methods including, but not limited to sustainable finance (Sustainability-linked loan, sustainable fund, etc.), regular VC investments, loans, etc.
8	Application guidelines	Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory	Application requirement	May we submit initiatives at universities and other educational institutions or initiatives of our own company, as well as those that provide services to other companies for the Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development Subcategory?	Yes, you may. We are inviting proposals from a wide range of positions, including business companies and educational institutions, for initiatives that help develop human resources in finance who can contribute to the realization of a sustainable society. Initiatives may include those of your own company/organization, as well as those that provide services to other companies (whether paid or unpaid).
9	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	May we submit the proposal for a service that has already been developed?	Yes, you may.
10	Application guidelines	All	Application requirement	May we submit the proposal for a service that is currently in a planning stage?	No, you cannot apply. Please make sure to include initiatives that have already been implemented. (Additionally, you may include additional information about initiatives that are still in the planning stage.)
11	Application guidelines	Investment/Business Subcategories	Application requirement	May we submit the same content as that of a previous year’s application?	Yes, both subcategories may be applied for. However, the uniqueness and novelty of the initiative are the evaluation criteria. Thus, please confirm if the initiative is unique and novel as of the current fiscal year when you apply for the award.
12	Application guidelines	Investment/Business Subcategories	Application requirement	May winners of the award in previous years apply again?	Yes, you may.
13	Application guidelines	Investment Subcategory	Application method	May we select multiple themes?	You may only select one theme.
14	Application guidelines	All	Application method	In the case of joint projects, may we submit applications with the names of all the companies involved?	Yes, you may. However, please decide on which company will represent the others and write the name and information of that company on the application. (Please include the names of the other companies and the roles they played in the field where the service overview and business model are described.)
15	Application guidelines	All	Application method	Would it pose a problem to provide materials and presentations entirely in Japanese or entirely in English?	Doing so would not pose any problems. Submitted materials and presentations can be interpreted and/or translated into both Japanese and English, so please contact the Tokyo Financial Prize Secretariat if such assistance is required. (support is only provided for Japanese and English)
16	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	How many companies are selected in the screening?	About 15 Japanese/foreign companies will be selected in the first round, and about 4 Japanese/foreign companies will be selected in the final round. In addition, the “Governor’s Special Prize for Green Finance” will be given to one company for its particularly outstanding green finance initiatives. Furthermore, the “Special Award” may also be awarded to other companies by the screening committee.
17	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	Is there a fixed number of winners in each subcategory?	A total of about three businesses will be selected from Japan and overseas in the two subcategories of investment and business. In the Sustainable Finance Human Resource Development subcategory, about one business will be selected from Japan and overseas.
18	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	Who are the judges?	Please click <a href="#">here</a> for details on the judges.
19	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	What are the judging criteria?	Please click <a href="#">here</a> for details on the judging criteria.
20	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	Do all companies that applied for the award get the opportunity to present?	Plans are only for about 15 companies selected in the first stage of screening to give a presentation.
21	Application guidelines	All	Screening method	What is the difference between the first and final screenings?	The screening process differs. In the first-stage screening, applications are reviewed based on the information provided in the application form. In the final screening, businesses passing the first-stage screening will make a presentation to the screening committee members, and a Q&A session will be held.
22	Application guidelines	All	Benefits	Will the Special Prize winners also receive prize money?	No prize money will be awarded to the Special Award winners.
23	Application guidelines	All	Benefits	How many companies will receive the Special Award?	The number of recipients has not yet been determined, as the Special Award will be given to those applicants deemed worthy of the award by the Screening Committee.
24	Application guidelines	All	Benefits	Can all applicant companies receive feedback on the screening process?	Feedback on the screening contents will be provided to the applicants who have passed the first-stage screening. To ensure fairness, feedback will be provided after screening of all applications is complete.
25	Application guidelines	All	Award ceremony	In the case of foreign companies already expanded to Japan, does the overseas representative need to participate in the award ceremony?	The representative relevant to the Japan project may attend the ceremony.

26	Application guidelines	All	Award ceremony	May we apply for the award even if we are unable to participate in the award ceremony?	No, companies that are unable to participate in the award ceremony may not submit applications. Since such participation is mandatory, please confirm your company's ability to attend the ceremony before submitting an application. A separate announcement will be provided with details about the award ceremony.
27	Application form	All	Application requirement	Should the location of the implementation for the initiative be limited to Tokyo?	It does not necessarily have to be initiatives implemented in Tokyo.
28	Application form	All	Application method	Should only the full-time employees of our company count for the "number of employees"?	Yes, please write the number of full-time employees.
29	Application form	All	Application method	Should annual sales be specified with specific periods and currencies (JPY or USD)?	Please record annual sales according to your company's fiscal year. Please select either JPY or USD for the currency. For other currencies, please convert to USD.
30	Application form	All	Application method	Is there any currency that should be used when responding to the amount raised and AUM?	Please select either JPY or USD as the currency. For other currencies, please convert to USD.
31	Application form	All	Application method	What sort of associations/organizations may we describe as those that we are members of?	Please record the names of associations/organizations that are related to Sustainable finance or Sustainable initiatives.
32	Application form	All	Application method	What should be done if the contents of an application must change after it has already been submitted? (e.g., attendees to the award ceremony)	Please contact the secretariat of the Tokyo Financial Award: tfa@jp.ey.com. Please contact the TFA secretariat with particular urgency if it relates to the details of the registered company and/or the details of the activity.