

November 27, 2017

The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited

Dai-ichi Life Invests in First Ever ADB “Gender Bond” to Support Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment

The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited (the “Company”; President and Representative Director: Seiji Inagaki) is pleased to announce that it has purchased the first ‘Gender Bond’ issued by the Asian Development Bank (“ADB”; President: Takehiko Nakao; Headquarters: Manila). The Company has purchased the entire amount (approximately JPY 10 billion) issued as the sole investor.

Since the adoption of its Policy on Gender and Development in 1998, ADB has recognized that to reduce poverty, helping women and girls must be a priority in its work. ADB reaffirmed its commitment to integrating gender equality into its mission with the adoption in 2008 of its long-term framework of Strategy 2020, which identified gender equality as one of the five “drivers of change” that is stressed in all ADB operations. ADB’s approach to gender equality will continue to be emphasized as an important component of its upcoming corporate plan, Strategy 2030.

The proceeds raised through the gender bond will be used by ADB to finance projects that promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. One example is the Second Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Development project in Bangladesh, which in addition to access to credit provides women with tools to increase financial literacy and training.

While the Company secures stable returns through investment in this bond, it will also support projects for gender equality and women’s empowerment in Asia and the Pacific through financing and by regularly following up on the progress of these projects.

The Company continues to improve its investment returns through enhancement and diversification of its investment methods, while proactively expanding ESG investment¹ in an effort to contribute to creating a sustainable society as a responsible institutional investor.

¹ ESG stands for Environment, Society and Governance. Dai-ichi Life follows ESG investment principles that combine safety and profitability with social and public interest (environmental protection, social contributions, promotion of diversity and corporate governance)



“Gender equality and women’s empowerment are valuable in their own right, but they are also an integral part of fostering more inclusive development outcomes in Asia,” said ADB Treasurer Pierre Van Peteghem. “Through the issuance of this bond, ADB is demonstrating that we can integrate gender considerations into our funding operations. Incorporating gender equality into ADB’s work is essential in our mission to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in Asia and the Pacific.”

« Reference »

< Summary Terms of the Bond >

Issuer	The Asian Development Bank (S&P: AAA, Moody’s: Aaa)
Notional Amount	NZD 130 million (approximately JPY 10billion)
Tenor	10 years
Lead Manager	Crédit Agricole Corporate & Investment Bank

About ADB

ADB, based in Manila, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. Established in 1966, ADB is celebrating 50 years of development partnership in the region. It is owned by 67 members—48 from the region. In 2016, ADB assistance totaled \$31.7 billion, including \$14 billion in cofinancing. For more information, please visit its website at www.adb.org/.

[Featured pictures of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment projects]



(Photo credit: ADB Photo Library)