

PRESS RELEASE

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**JBIC Signs MOU with SID banka, d.d., Ljubljana
Promoting Cooperation between Japan and Slovenia to Create Business
Opportunities**

1. The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC; Governor: MAEDA Tadashi) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on June 14 with the SID banka, d.d., Ljubljana (SID Bank; President: Damijan Dolinar) in the presence of Her Excellency Dr. Ana Polak Petrič, PhD Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the
2. Republic of Slovenia, to further strengthen cooperation between the two policy-based public financial institutions, in areas such as digitalization, clean energy, environment and quality infrastructure in Slovenia and third countries.
3. SID Bank is a specialized development and export bank wholly owned by the Republic of Slovenia, which provides the financing and insurance services to promote sustainable development and improve the competitiveness of the Slovene economy. The MOU aims to strengthen relationship to explore JBIC/SID Bank co-financing opportunities and to create business opportunities for Japanese and Slovene companies, in the fields of digitalization related to Society 5.0, clean energy and environmental projects contributing to carbon neutrality, quality infrastructure and connectivity in Slovenia or third countries including Western Balkan region.
4. In September 2019, at the Europa Connectivity Forum, Japan and European Union (EU) signed the "Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure between Japan and the European Union" to work together on all dimensions of connectivity including digital and energy notably in the regions including of the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe. At the Japan-EU Summit held in May 2021, both sides announced the launch of the "Japan-EU Green Alliance" that intended to promote cooperation in various fields such as energy transition and innovation, and confirmed that Japan and the EU would lead the climate and environmental measures. At the following Japan-EU Summit held in May 2022, both sides also announced the launch of the "Japan-EU Digital Partnership" in order to advance cooperation on a wide range of digital issues. Furthermore, both sides of Japan and Slovenia shared the common views to further develop their relationship including cooperation on Society 5.0 and cyber security, European integration of the West Balkans based on the "Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative" and to further promote Japan-EU cooperation in such areas as resilient supply chains, and climate change.
5. Under these circumstances, in view of the 30th anniversary of the establishment

of Japan-Slovenia diplomatic relations in 2022, enhancing the cooperative relationship between JBIC and SID Bank, by sharing expertise and considering collaboration opportunities, will encourage the creation of business opportunities for Japanese and Slovene companies.


6. SID Bank as Slovenia's national promotional bank is looking forward to building on the signed MOU and furthering its cooperation with JBIC to the benefit of Japanese and Slovene companies. Japanese investors in Slovenia already feature among those with the highest value added and the signed MOU seeks to further the cooperation, most notably in the fields of digitalization, innovation, clean energy and infrastructure while also supporting the exchange of best practices between SID Bank and JBIC.

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Further information

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