Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited (2023 Green Bond)

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Introduction

In March 2023, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited ("SuMi TRUST") issued a USD 500 million five-year green bond (the "2023 Green Bond") to finance projects that are expected to provide positive environmental impacts. In August 2025, SuMi TRUST engaged Sustainalytics to review the projects financed with proceeds from the 2023 Green Bond (the "Nominated Expenditures") and provide an assessment as to whether they meet the use of proceeds criteria and whether SuMi TRUST compiled with the reporting commitments in the Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank Green Bond Framework (the "Framework").[1] Sustainalytics provided a Second-Party Opinion on the Framework in February 2021.[2] This is Sustainalytics' third annual review of allocation and reporting of the instruments issued under the Framework, following a previous review in September 2023,[3] and September 2024.[4]

Evaluation Criteria

Sustainalytics evaluated the Nominated Expenditures and SuMi TRUST's reporting based on whether they:

1. Meet the use of proceeds and eligibility criteria defined in the Framework; and
2. Reported on at least one key performance indicator (KPI) for each use of proceeds category defined in the Framework.

Table 1: Use of Proceeds Categories, Eligibility Criteria and Associated KPIs

Use of Proceeds Category	Eligibility Criteria	KPIs
Renewable Energy	The acquisition, development, construction and operation of infrastructure, facilities and equipment that generate or transmit renewable energy, including: solar energy, solar thermal energy, wind energy, geothermal energy (restricted to the projects with direct emissions of less than 100 g CO_2/kWh), biomass (restricted to sustainable feedstock not competing with food production and/or waste materials, and restricted to the projects that have direct emissions of less than 100 g CO_2/kWh) energy and small run of river hydro facilities with generation capacity of 25 megawatts or less or run of river hydropower assets without pondage	Tonnes of CO_2 emission equivalent avoided
Green Buildings	The acquisition, development and construction of new, existing or refurbished buildings which have received or will receive during the life of the Green Bond at least one of the following green building classifications.	Number and certification level of green buildings for Green Buildings projects

[1] SuMi TRUST, "Green Bond Framework", at: https://www.smtg.jp/-/media/th/sustainability/greenbond/pdf/framework1_en.pdf
[2] Sustainalytics, "Second-Party Opinion, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank Green Bond Framework", (2021), at: https://www.smtg.jp/-/media/th/sustainability/greenbond/pdf/framework2_en.pdf
[3] Sustainalytics, "Annual Review, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited", (2023), at: https://www.smtg.jp/english/-/media/th/english/sustainability/Initiatives_achievements/esgi/greenbond/pdf/20230309/Sustainalytics_Annual_Review_SMTB2023.pdf
[4] Sustainalytics, "Annual Review, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited", (2024), at: https://www.smtg.jp/english/-/media/tg/english/sustainability/Initiatives_achievements/esgi/greenbond/pdf/20230309/Sustainalytics_Annual_Review_SMTB2024.pdf

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	i. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design): LEED Platinum or Gold ii. BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology): BREEAM Outstanding or Excellent iii. CASBEE (Comprehensive Assessment System for Built Environment Efficiency): CASBEE S Rank or A Rank iv. DBJ (Development Bank of Japan) Green Building Certification: DBJ Green Building 5 Stars or 4 Stars v. BELS (Building-Housing Energy-efficiency Labelling System): BELS 5 Stars or 4 Stars Eligible green buildings may include those owned by J-REITs (Japanese Real Estate Investment Trusts), and in such a case, the allocation amounts to eligible green buildings owned by J-REITs may be calculated based on pro-rata share of the eligible green buildings' acquisition cost. The net proceeds allocated to J-REITs project will be no greater than the amount lent to J-REITs or investment exposure to eligible projects/assets.	

Issuer's Responsibility

SuMi TRUST is responsible for providing accurate information and documentation relating to the details of the projects, including descriptions, amounts allocated and impact.

Independence and Quality Control

Sustainalytics, a leading provider of ESG research and ratings, conducted the verification of the use of proceeds from SuMi TRUST's 2023 Green Bond. The work undertaken as part of this engagement included collection of documentation from SuMi TRUST and review of said documentation to assess conformance with the Framework.

Sustainalytics relied on the information and the facts presented by SuMi TRUST. Sustainalytics is not responsible nor shall it be held liable for any inaccuracies in the opinions, findings or conclusions herein due to incorrect or incomplete data provided by SuMi TRUST.

Sustainalytics made all efforts to ensure the highest quality and rigor during its assessment process and enlisted its Sustainability Bonds Review Committee to provide oversight of the review.

Conclusion

Based on the limited assurance procedures conducted,[5] nothing has come to Sustainalytics' attention that causes us to believe that, in all material respects, the Nominated Expenditures do not conform with the use of proceeds criteria and reporting commitments in the Framework. SuMi TRUST has disclosed to Sustainalytics that the proceeds from the 2023 Green Bond were fully allocated as of March 2025.

[5] Sustainalytics' limited assurance process includes reviewing documentation relating to details of projects, as provided by the issuing entity, which is responsible for providing accurate information. These may include descriptions of projects, estimated and realized costs, and reported impact. Sustainalytics has not conducted on-site visits to projects.

Detailed Findings

Table 2: Detailed Findings

Framework Requirements	Procedure Performed	Factual Findings	Error or Exceptions Identified
Use of Proceeds Criteria	Verification of projects to determine alignment with the use of proceeds criteria outlined in the Framework.	The Nominated Expenditures comply with the use of proceeds criteria.	None
Reporting Criteria	Verification of projects or assets to determine if impact was reported in line with the KPIs outlined in the Framework.	SuMi TRUST reported on at least one KPI per use of proceeds category.	None

Appendices

Appendix 1: Allocation of Proceeds

Use of Proceeds Category	Sub-Category	Amount Allocated (USD million)
Renewable Energy	Solar	173
	Wind	194
Green Buildings	Office and residential buildings	225
Total Amount Allocated		**592**
Total Net Proceeds Raised and Allocated from the 2023 Green Bond		**500**

Appendix 2: Reported Impact

Use of Proceeds	Sub-Category	Reported Impact
Renewable Energy	Solar	49,217 tCO_2e emissions avoided
	Wind	89,261 tCO_2e emissions avoided
Green Buildings	Office and residential buildings	DBJ Green Building 4- and 5-Star certified CASBEE S

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