

**Joint Statement on Promoting Green Transformation (GX)  
and Regional Revitalisation in Hokkaido**

by

**Climate Bonds Initiative, Hokkaido Government and the City of Sapporo**

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Today, Climate Bonds Initiative, Hokkaido government and the City of Sapporo jointly called for the acceleration of regional revitalisation in Hokkaido and Sapporo through the promotion of Green Transformation (GX) in the region. This will be achieved with government support and through collaboration to develop the GX Finance and Asset Management Special Zone in Hokkaido.

Climate Bonds acknowledges that the rapid growth of data centres using artificial intelligence (AI) applications is driving an increase in Japan's energy demand. In response, Japan could ensure that these are in regional areas like Hokkaido, which have abundant renewable energy resources and need economic stimulus. Climate Bonds is committed to promoting the expansion of green financial initiatives in Hokkaido and Sapporo, focusing on the advancement of renewable energy and GX-related industries, and building on its expertise to support these efforts.

The Hokkaido government anticipates that the growing demand for energy, particularly renewable energy, will drive the development of renewable energy-related supply chains in the region. This growth will also strengthen the presence of Green Transformation/Digital Transformation related industries, such as the semiconductor sector and data centres, which will be highly dependent on renewable energy. These present a significant opportunity for regional revitalization. By promoting GX/DX through the utilisation of the Special Zone, Hokkaido will continue to develop as a vibrant region where the environment and economy are in a virtuous cycle. It will contribute to GX efforts both in Japan and globally as a base for the supply and utilisation of renewable energy.

The City of Sapporo recognises the critical need to strengthen financial infrastructure to support the rapid growth of GX-related industries. By utilising the GX Finance and Asset Management Special Zone, Sapporo aims to foster innovation, nurture startups, and attract key financial institutions, including asset management firms. Moreover, the city is dedicated to promoting industrial growth through renewable energy and is actively working on developing and expanding GX-related industrial supply chains.

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