

# Environmental and Social Responsibilities

The Bank continued to actively carry out its responsibilities as a state-owned commercial bank. Leveraging the competitive advantages arising from its global and comprehensive operations, it continually expanded and deepened its social responsibility practices, devoted itself to promoting win-win cooperation with stakeholders and created sustainable value for the environment, society and economy.

Centring on the overall objectives of China's rural revitalisation strategy, the Bank continued to increase resource inputs in order to meet various financial needs related to rural revitalisation, with a focus on key regions and weak links. It endeavoured to increase financial services coverage by setting up more service outlets and smart devices in rural areas, in order to boost rural revitalisation. As at 30 June 2021, BOC outlets covered 1,172 counties, with a coverage ratio of 62.34%. BOC Fullerton Community Bank, meanwhile, has cumulatively established 124 village banks and 184 sub-branch outlets. In the first half of 2021, the Bank continued to consolidate progress in poverty alleviation, providing more than RMB40.00 million of cost-free funding to the four targeted counties and implementing nearly 30 projects including assistance with key development industries and projects aimed at improving people's livelihood.

Upholding the principles of "serving society, contributing to society and repaying society", the Bank continued to carry out dedicated public welfare programmes. Through the "Bank of China Philanthropy" online fundraising platform, the Bank provided convenient, transparent and safe donation services for charities and the public. In the first half of

2021, the platform hosted a total of 104 fundraising activities on behalf of 48 charitable organisations, raising RMB1.81 million from 36.3 thousand donors. The Bank developed and popularised the "Bank of China Philanthropy Mutual Assistant Platform for Elderly Care", which serves as a bridge for information exchange between the elderly and volunteers, and helps the government to carry out the socialisation reform of elderly care. It continued to provide government-sponsored student loans to support education, cumulatively granting student loans of RMB24.7 billion to sponsor over 1.80 million financially underprivileged students to complete their studies as at 30 June 2021. It has sponsored the Tan Kah Kee Science Award for the 18th consecutive years, boosting the development of technology and the cultivation of innovative professional talents. As the official banking partner of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 (Beijing 2022 Games), the Bank promoted financial services to the winter sports industry and supported the joint development of winter sports and related industries among all sectors of society.

The Bank actively implemented the national green development concept and continued to support the building of the green finance sector, made contribution to peak carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality. Guided by *Bank of China's Green Finance Plan during the 14th Five-Year Plan Period*, green development requirements are now being integrated into all areas of the Bank, including its organisational structure, corporate governance, policies and systems, product design and risk management processes. The Bank enhanced its top-level organisational structure by setting up a steering group for the planning and

## Environmental and Social Responsibilities

---

development of green finance and green industries, and by establishing the Green Finance Committee to provide overall leadership on green finance management and decision-making. It also continued to deepen innovation in green financial services, including green credit, green bonds, green deposits and green asset management, and remained committed to being the number one choice for green banking services. The Bank also actively participated in the green finance projects and initiatives of international organisations. It performed the role of Co-Chairman of the Task Force of Green Financial Product Innovation under the Green Investment Principles (GIP) for the Belt and Road Initiative, and was a member of the 2020/2021 Advisory Council of the Green Bond Principles and Social Bond Principles Executive Committee of the International Capital Market Association (ICMA). In

the first half of 2021, the Bank became a supporter of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), as well as joining and participating in the work of the Task Force on UK-China Climate and Environmental Information Disclosure Pilot and the Task Force on Support for Carbon Peak and Carbon Neutrality by the Chinese Banking Industry. Furthermore, it actively identified climate-related risks and opportunities, and formulated action plans in response to climate risks. At the same time, the Bank integrated low carbon and environmental protection requirements into its routine operations and practiced the development philosophy of “harmony and coexistence between humankind and nature” by encouraging employees to adopt green working practices and lifestyles and carrying out a diverse range of public welfare environmental protection campaigns.