

October 18, 2021

Conclusion of Collaboration Agreement with Yamaguchi Financial Group and YMFG ZONE Planning

～ Utilizing Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) to Solve Social Issues ～

Dream Incubator, Inc. (headquartered in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President & COO Takayuki Miyake; “DI”) has signed a collaboration agreement (hereinafter “collaboration agreement”) with Yamaguchi Financial Group, Inc. (headquartered in Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture; Representative Director, President & Group CEO Keisuke Mukunashi; “YMFG”) and YMFG ZONE Planning Co., Ltd. (headquartered in Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture; Representative Director Yoshinobu Kurashige; “YM-ZOP”) regarding social impact bonds.

The companies will promote initiatives related to SIBs to help solve social issues going forward.



In Japan, many social issues are becoming more complex and serious due to the rapid aging of the population and the declining birthrate, as well as various changes in the social environment. In particular, social issues in rural areas are becoming more serious as a result of the population outflow to Tokyo and other metropolitan areas. Social impact bonds (SIBs) have garnered attention as a new type of public-private partnership aimed at solving social issues in which governments conduct social projects using private funding on a pay-for-success basis. SIBs have been launched mainly in the UK and other countries, but are gradually becoming more common in Japan as well.

DI promotes industry production activities to solve various social issues by organically integrating the power of strategy, technology, and policy, and has been carrying out advanced projects in collaboration with relevant ministries and local governments, as well as multiple private companies. Most recently, DI has been working on a business aimed at reducing the number of seniors requiring nursing care in Toyota City through the use of SIBs, a new public-private partnership system.

As a regional financial institution, YMFG's mission is to promote regional development, and its vision is to go beyond the boundaries of finance and transform itself into “a company that adds value to the region” by solving social issues. To achieve this vision, YMFG promotes initiatives that help enhance regional value, including the establishment and implementation of regional ecosystems that solve social issues while involving regional stakeholders. In addition, YMFG ZONE Planning Co., Ltd (YM-ZOP) , as

YMFG's consulting company specializing in regional development, provides comprehensive support for business activities aimed at improving the productivity of regional and local companies.

Through this collaboration, the companies will share and utilize one another's know-how and resources to promote initiatives utilizing SIBs, such as exploring ways to implement SIBs schemes, collaborating with local and national governments, and investing in specific projects. These efforts will help solve social issues in regional areas and contribute to regional revitalization.

Going forward, DI will continue to work together with its many partners and supporters to pave the way for solving social issues and achieve DI's mission to “create businesses and change societies”.

■ **About Dream Incubator Inc.** (<https://www.dreamincubator.co.jp/>)

DI works not only to develop services for client companies, but also to produce businesses that transform society and infuse energy into the Japanese economy. DI achieves this by combining strategic consulting skills—the most universal, valuable, and fundamental skills in the business sphere—with managerial abilities honed by a pragmatic and ownership-spirited mindset fostered through our incubation initiatives.

■ **About Yamaguchi Financial Group, Inc.** (<https://www.ymfg.co.jp/>)

As a regional financial group serving the Yamaguchi, Hiroshima, and Kitakyushu regions, YMFG has the Yamaguchi Bank, the Momiji Bank, and the Kitakyushu Bank under its umbrella, and is working to enhance regional value by engaging the regional community and going beyond the boundaries of finance to become “a company that adds value to the region”.

■ **About YMFG ZONE Planning Co., Ltd.** (<https://www.ym-zop.co.jp/>)

YM-ZOP is a subsidiary of YMFG that specializes in consulting services for regional development. In promoting public-private partnerships and private finance initiatives, it proactively handles everything from project creation to commercialization, including independently planning and operating regional platforms in the Yamaguchi, Hiroshima and Kitakyushu regions.

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