

Social Responsibilities

The Bank actively assumed its responsibilities as a state-owned commercial bank. Leveraging the competitive advantages arising from its global and integrated operations, it continually expanded and deepened the practices through in fulfilling its social responsibilities, devoted itself to win-win cooperation with stakeholders and created lasting value for the economy, society and environment.

In pursuit of the nation's major strategic objectives, including building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and achieving poverty alleviation, and by following related requirements regarding reducing poverty through financial measures, the Bank refined its financial resource allocation and increased resource input in certain areas, with a focus on the basic needs of food and clothing as well as proper access to compulsory education, medical care and safe housing for those living in poverty, concentrating on severely impoverished areas and those industries that benefit the impoverished. It created innovative financial products and services, introduced high-quality industrial poverty alleviation entities for poverty-stricken areas and stimulated internal growth drivers in those areas. In addition, the Bank granted small-amount loans for poverty alleviation and government-sponsored student loans to satisfy the funding needs of the registered poverty-stricken population.

The Bank has supported poverty alleviation in the four poverty-stricken counties of Yongshou, Changwu, Xunyi and Chunhua in Xianyang, Shaanxi Province for 18 consecutive years. Since the beginning of 2020,

amid efforts to bolster the four counties in fighting against COVID-19, the Bank drove forward its poverty alleviation programme as scheduled. Consolidating its existing poverty alleviation achievements, it continuously allocated more funds and accelerated the implementation of poverty alleviation schemes. It also carried out poverty alleviation campaigns by stimulating consumption, assisted with local work and production resumption and promoted the connection of poverty alleviation to rural revitalisation, thus making an active contribution to advancing economic and social development and the improvement of living standards in local areas. In the first half of 2020, the Bank provided more than RMB75 million of cost-free capital to the four targeted counties, gave training to more than 10,000 officials and technicians at the primary level, and purchased and helped to sell over RMB0.14 billion worth of agricultural products from poverty-stricken areas.

The Bank continued to provide government-sponsored student loans to support education. As at 30 June 2020, it had cumulatively granted student loans of RMB24.240 billion to sponsor over 1.80 million financially underprivileged students to complete their studies. It has sponsored the Tan Kah Kee Science Award for 17 consecutive years, in order to honour scientists who have made original scientific and technological achievements. The Bank has also carried out strategic cooperation with the National Centre for the Performing Arts for 12 consecutive years, with the aim of popularising the arts through financial channels.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bank has focused on pandemic prevention and control

as well as fighting the virus through financial channels. It has coordinated efforts across its domestic and overseas institutions, and proactively conveyed a vision of building a global community based on a shared future for mankind. The Bank not only cooperated with the domestic pandemic response, but also took the lead in racing against the clock to assist other areas of the world. As at 30 June 2020, the Bank had delivered medical supplies to a total of 57 countries and regions.

The Bank made continuous progress in implementing its green finance strategy. It steadily increased the proportion of green credit, accelerated the launch of new green finance products, advocated low-carbon and environmentally-friendly lifestyles, and vigorously supported public welfare environmental protection campaigns, thus taking concrete action to implement the development concept of “clear waters and green mountains are invaluable assets”.