

# About the Bank of Japan

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The Bank of Japan is the central bank of Japan. It is a juridical person established based on the Bank of Japan Act (hereafter the Act), and is not a government agency or a private corporation (Table 1).

**Table 1**
**History of the Bank of Japan**

1882	June	The Bank of Japan Act of 1882 is promulgated; the Bank is to have capital of 10 million yen and is given a license to operate for 30 years from the start of business.
	Oct. 10	Business operation begins.
1887	Mar.	An increase in the Bank's capital is announced from 10 million yen to 20 million yen.
1895	Aug.	An increase in the Bank's capital is announced from 20 million yen to 30 million yen.
1896	Apr.	The Head Office is moved to a new building at the present location.
1910	Feb.	The Bank is given a license to operate for 30 more years from October 10, 1912, and an increase in the Bank's capital is announced from 30 million yen to 60 million yen.
1942	Feb.	The Bank of Japan Act of 1942 is promulgated; the Bank is to have capital of 100 million yen.
	May 1	The Bank is reorganized under the Bank of Japan Act of 1942.
1949	June	The Policy Board is established.
1997	June	The Bank of Japan Act of 1997 is promulgated; the Bank is to have capital of 100 million yen.
1998	Apr. 1	The Bank of Japan Act of 1997 comes into effect.

**I. CORE PURPOSES**

The Act determines the Bank's core purposes as follows:

**Article 1**

- (1) The purpose of the Bank of Japan, or the central bank of Japan, is to issue banknotes and to carry out currency and monetary control.
- (2) In addition to what is prescribed in the preceding paragraph, the Bank of Japan's purpose is to ensure smooth settlement of funds among banks and other financial institutions, thereby

contributing to the maintenance of stability of the financial system.

The Act also stipulates the principle governing the Bank's currency and monetary control as follows:

**Article 2**

Currency and monetary control by the Bank of Japan shall be aimed at achieving price stability, thereby contributing to the sound development of the national economy.

## II. CAPITAL

The Bank is capitalized at 100 million yen in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 1 of the Act. As of the end of March 2017, 55,008,000 yen is subscribed by the government, and the rest by the private sector (Table 2).<sup>1</sup>

The Act does not grant holders of subscription certificates the right to participate in the Bank's

management, and, in the case of liquidation, only gives them the right to request distribution of residual assets up to the sum of the paid-up capital and, if any, the special reserve fund.<sup>2</sup> Dividend payments as a proportion of paid-up capital are limited to 5 percent or below in each fiscal year.<sup>3</sup>

Table 2

### Subscribers by Category

Subscribers	Amount of subscription (thous. yen) <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of the total subscription (%)
The government	55,008	55.0
The private sector	44,991	45.0
Individuals	40,039	40.0
Financial institutions	2,209	2.2
Public organizations	191	0.2
Securities companies	23	0.0
Other firms	2,526	2.5
Total	100,000	100.0

Note: 1. Rounded down to the nearest 1,000 yen. As of the end of March 2017.

1. Article 8, paragraph 2 of the Act states as follows: "Of the amount of stated capital set forth in the preceding paragraph, the amount of contribution by the government shall be no less than fifty-five million yen."

2. Stipulated by Article 60, paragraph 2, and Supplementary Provisions Article 22, paragraph 2.

3. Stipulated by Article 53, paragraph 4.

### III. THE BANK'S OFFICERS

The Bank's officers are the Governor, Deputy Governors, Members of the Policy Board, Auditors, Executive Directors, and Counsellors.<sup>4</sup> Of the above, the Governor, Deputy Governors, and Members of the Policy Board make up the Policy Board.<sup>5</sup>

The Governor, Deputy Governors, and Members of the Policy Board are appointed by the Cabinet, subject to the consent of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors. Auditors are appointed by the Cabinet. Executive Directors and Counsellors are appointed by the Minister of Finance based on the Policy Board's recommendation.<sup>6</sup>

The terms of office are five years for the Governor, Deputy Governors, and Members of the Policy Board; four years for Auditors and Executive Directors; and two years for Counsellors.<sup>7</sup> The Bank's officers, excluding Executive Directors, are not dismissed against their will during their terms of office, except in the cases prescribed in the Act, such as the formal commencement of bankruptcy proceedings against them.<sup>8</sup>

For duties and powers of the Bank's officers, see Table 3.<sup>9</sup>

Table 3

#### Duties and Powers of the Bank's Officers

	Duties and powers
Policy Board members	Decide the guideline for currency and monetary control and other important matters concerning the Bank's operations, and supervise the officers (excluding Auditors and Counsellors) in the fulfillment of their duties.
Governor	Represents the Bank and exercises general control over the Bank's business in accordance with decisions made by the Policy Board. At the same time, fulfills the duties of an independent Policy Board member.
Deputy Governors	In accordance with decisions made by the Governor, represent the Bank, administer the business of the Bank assisting the Governor, act for the Governor whenever the Governor is prevented from attending to his/her duties, and perform the Governor's duties during a vacancy in the office of the Governor. At the same time, fulfill the duties of independent Policy Board members.
Members of the Policy Board	Comprise the Policy Board, together with the Governor and Deputy Governors.
Auditors	Audit the business of the Bank. May, when they find it necessary based on the audit results, submit their opinions to the Minister of Finance, the Prime Minister (the Commissioner of the Financial Services Agency when the Prime Minister delegates such authority under Article 61-2 of the Act), or the Policy Board.
Executive Directors	In accordance with decisions made by the Governor, administer the business of the Bank assisting the Governor and Deputy Governors, act for the Governor when the Governor and Deputy Governors are prevented from attending to their duties, and perform the Governor's duties during a vacancy in the office of the Governor and Deputy Governors.
Counsellors	Give advice to the Policy Board when consulted on any important matter concerning the Bank's business operations. May also express their opinions to the Policy Board when they find it necessary.

4. Stipulated by Article 21. The officers of the Bank consist of a Governor, two Deputy Governors, six Members of the Policy Board, three or fewer Auditors, six or fewer Executive Directors, and a small number of Counsellors.

5. Stipulated by Article 16, paragraph 2.

6. Stipulated by Article 23.

7. Stipulated by Article 24.

8. Stipulated by Article 25.

9. Duties and powers are stipulated by Article 16, paragraph 2, and Article 22.



# Policy Board Members<sup>1, 2</sup>



Standing from left to right: Hitoshi Suzuki, Makoto Sakurai, Yutaka Harada, Yukitoshi Funo, Takako Masai, and Goushi Kataoka  
Seated from left to right: Kikuo Iwata, Haruhiko Kuroda, and Hiroshi Nakaso

## Haruhiko Kuroda

*Governor (the 31st) and Chairman of the Policy Board*

### Date of Birth

October 25, 1944

### Education

The University of Tokyo  
(1967, B.A. in Law)  
University of Oxford  
(1971, M.Phil. in Economics)

1967	Joined Japan's Ministry of Finance (MOF)
1987	Director, International Organizations Division, International Finance Bureau
1988	Secretary to the Minister of Finance
1989	Director, International Tax Affairs Division, Tax Bureau
1990	Director, Income Tax and Property Tax Policy Division, Tax Bureau
1991	Director, Co-ordination Division, Tax Bureau
1993	Regional Commissioner, Osaka Regional Taxation Bureau, National Tax Agency
1994	Deputy Director-General, International Finance Bureau, MOF
1996	President, Institute of Fiscal and Monetary Policy
1997	Director-General, International Finance Bureau
1998	Director-General, International Bureau
1999	Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs
2003	Special Advisor to the Cabinet and Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Hitotsubashi University
2005	President, Asian Development Bank
2013	Present position

Notes: 1. Members are as of August 7, 2017.

2. The texts of speeches by Policy Board members are available on the Bank's website ([http://www.boj.or.jp/en/announcements/press/koen\\_speaker/index.htm](http://www.boj.or.jp/en/announcements/press/koen_speaker/index.htm)).

## Kikuo Iwata

Deputy Governor

**Date of Birth** October 3, 1942

**Education** The University of Tokyo (1966, B.A. in Economics; 1970, M.A. in Economics; and 1973, withdrew from doctoral program in Economics after completion of course requirements except for dissertation)

1973 Lecturer, Sophia University  
1976 Associate Professor, Sophia University  
1983 Professor, Sophia University  
1998 Professor, Gakushuin University  
2013 Present position

## Yutaka Harada

**Date of Birth** September 1, 1950

**Education** The University of Tokyo (1974, B.A. in Agricultural Economics) University of Hawaii (1979, M.A. in Economics) Gakushuin University (2012, Ph.D. in Economics)

1974 Joined the Economic Planning Agency  
1995 Director, Social Research Division, Social Policy Bureau  
1997 Director, Overseas Research Division, Research Bureau  
1998 Director, Price Policy Division, Price Bureau  
1999 Vice President, Institute of Fiscal and Monetary Policy, Ministry of Finance  
2002 Executive Research Fellow, Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office  
2004 Chief Economist, Daiwa Institute of Research, Ltd.  
2012 Professor, Waseda University  
2015 Present position

## Makoto Sakurai

**Date of Birth** June 16, 1946

**Education** Chuo University (1969, B.A. in Economics) The University of Tokyo (1972, M.A. in Economics; and 1976, withdrew from doctoral program in Economics after completion of course requirements except for dissertation)

1976 Joined the Export-Import Bank of Japan  
1980 Visiting Fellow, Economic Growth Center, Yale University  
1989 Senior Economist, Research Institute for International Investment and Development, Export-Import Bank of Japan  
Director General and Chief Economist, Taisho Marine Research Institute Co., Ltd.  
1990 Also served as Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Fiscal and Monetary Policy, Ministry of Finance  
1996 President, Research Center for International Finance, Mitsui Marine Research Institute Co., Ltd  
2007 President, Sakurai & Associates International Finance Research Center  
2016 Present position

## Hitoshi Suzuki

**Date of Birth** January 8, 1954

**Education** Keio University (1977, B.A. in Economics) New York University (1984, MBA)

1977 Joined The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd.  
2005 Executive Officer and General Manager, Treasury Planning Office and Treasury IT Planning Office, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Ltd. (BTM)<sup>4</sup>  
2006 Executive Officer and General Manager, Global Markets Planning Division, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd. (BTMU)<sup>5</sup>  
2007 Executive Officer and General Manager, Strategic Credit Portfolio Management Division, BTMU  
2011 Senior Managing Director, Chief Executive, Global Markets Unit, BTMU  
2012 Deputy President, BTMU  
2014 Corporate Auditor, BTMU  
2016 Director, Audit and Supervisory Committee Member, BTMU  
2017 Advisor, BTMU  
Present position

## Hiroshi Nakaso

Deputy Governor

**Date of Birth** October 12, 1953

**Education** The University of Tokyo (1978, B.A. in Economics)

1978 Joined the Bank of Japan  
1997 Director, Head of Financial System Division, Financial and Payment System Department  
2000 Deputy Director-General, Financial and Payment System Office  
Transferred to the Bank for International Settlements  
2001 Deputy Director-General, Financial Markets Department and International Department, Bank of Japan  
2003 Director-General, Financial Markets Department  
2008 Executive Director  
2010 Assistant Governor  
2013 Present position

## Yukitoshi Funo

**Date of Birth** February 1, 1947

**Education** Kobe University (1969, B.A. in Business Administration) Columbia University (1976, MBA)

1970 Joined Toyota Motor Corporation (TMC)  
2000 Director, TMC  
2003 President, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. (TMS)  
2005 Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, TMS  
2006 Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Toyota Motor North America, Inc. (TMA)  
2009 Executive Vice President and Member of the Board, TMC  
2013 Senior Advisor to the Board, TMC  
Chief Executive Officer, Institute for International Economic Studies  
2015 Present position

## Takako Masai

**Date of Birth** March 8, 1965

**Education** Jissen Women's University (1988, B.A. in English Literature) Hosei University (2007, MBA)

1988 Joined Scotiabank, Tokyo  
1989 Joined The Toronto-Dominion Bank, Tokyo  
1998 Joined Credit Agricole Indosuez, Tokyo  
2004 Joined Calyon Corporate and Investment Bank,<sup>3</sup> Tokyo  
2007 General Manager, Capital Markets Division, Shinsei Bank, Ltd  
2011 General Manager, Markets Division, Shinsei Bank, Ltd.  
General Manager, Markets Sub-Group, Shinsei Bank, Ltd.  
2013 Executive Officer, Head of Markets Research Department, Markets Sub-Group, Shinsei Bank, Ltd.  
2015 Executive Officer, General Manager of Markets Research Division, Shinsei Bank, Ltd.  
2016 Executive Officer, General Manager of Financial Research Division, Shinsei Bank, Ltd.  
Present position

## Goushi Kataoka

**Date of Birth** November 30, 1972

**Education** Keio University (1996, B.A. in Business and Commerce; and 2001, M.A. in Business and Commerce)

1996 Joined Sanwa Research Institute  
2005 Senior Economist, Economic & Social Policy Department, UFJ Institute Ltd.<sup>6</sup>  
2006 Senior Economist, Economic & Social Policy Department, Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.<sup>7</sup>  
2016 Senior Economist, Economic Policy Department, Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.  
2017 Present position

Notes: 3. Established in 2004 through merger of Credit Agricole Indosuez and Credit Lyonnais.

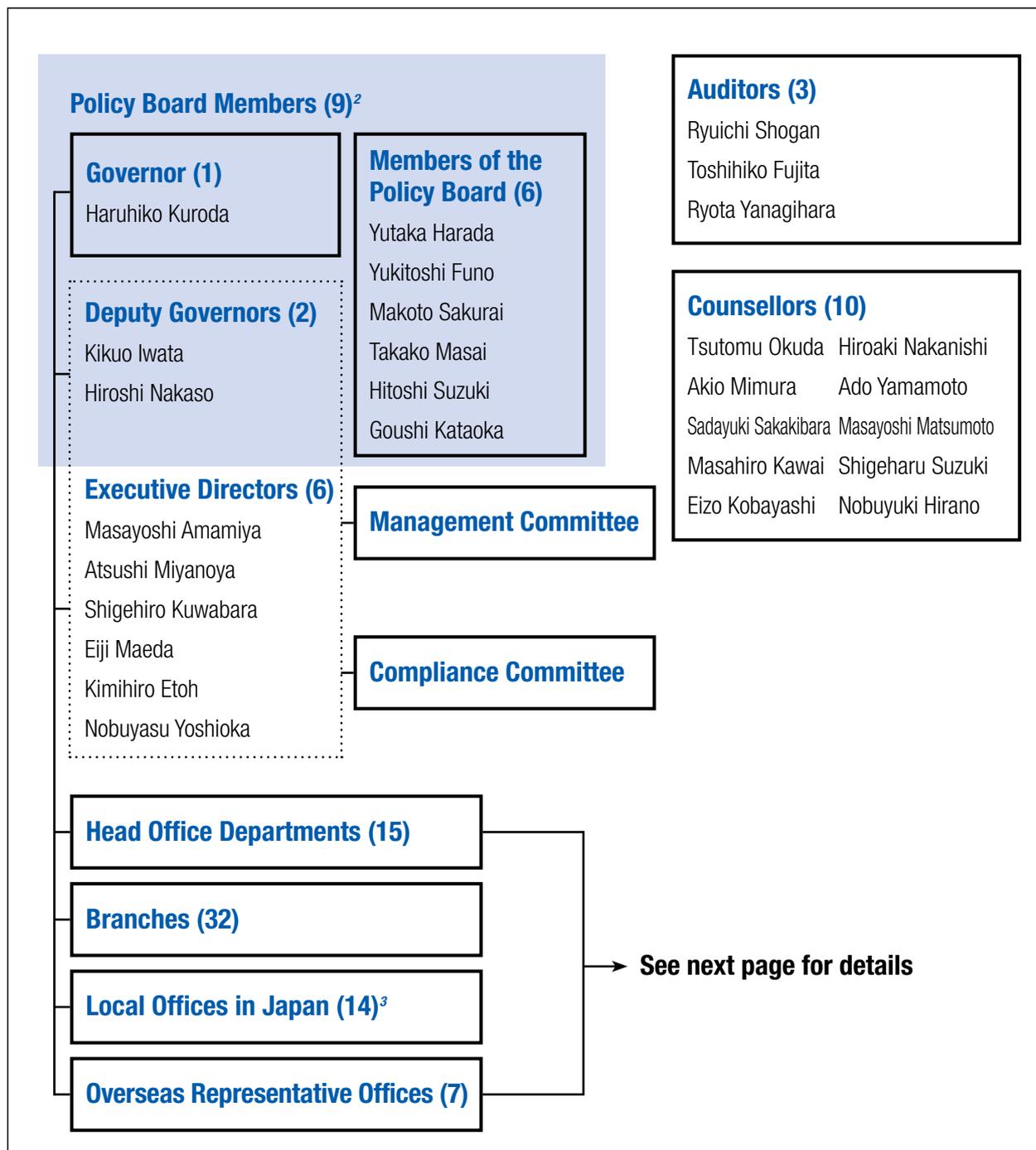
4. Established in 1996 through merger of The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd. and The Bank of Tokyo, Ltd.

5. Established in 2006 through merger of The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Ltd. and UFJ Bank Ltd.

6. Established in 2002 through merger of Sanwa Research Institute and Tokai Research & Consulting Inc.

7. Established in 2006 through merger of UFJ Institute Ltd., The Diamond Business Consulting Co., Ltd., and Tokyo Research International Co., Ltd.

## IV. ORGANIZATION

Organization Chart of the Bank<sup>1</sup>

Notes: 1. As of August 7, 2017.

2. As stipulated by Article 16, paragraph 2 of the Act, the Policy Board shall consist of the Governor, two Deputy Governors, and six Members of the Policy Board.

3. Includes the Computer Center represented by the Director-General of the Information System Services Department, and the Banknote Operations Center represented by the Director-General of the Currency Issue Department.

Head office departments	Officials
Secretariat of the Policy Board	Yoji Onozawa (Director-General) Ken Matsushita (Director-General, Senior Secretary to the Governor) Takeshi Nakajima (Director-General for Parliamentary Affairs and Media Relations) Tetsuya Sakamoto (Director-General for Management Strategy, Budget, and Accounting)
Internal Auditors' Office	Morichika Hattori (Director-General)
Monetary Affairs Department	Takeshi Kato (Director-General)
Financial System and Bank Examination Department	Yasuhiro Yamada (Director-General)
Payment and Settlement Systems Department	Hiromi Yamaoka (Director-General)
Financial Markets Department	Seichi Shimizu (Director-General)
Research and Statistics Department	Toshitaka Sekine (Director-General)
International Department	Yoshinori Nakata (Director-General)
Currency Issue Department	Yutaka Okada (Director-General)
Operations Department	Shinichiro Hayashi (Director-General)
Information System Services Department	Masayuki Mizuno (Director-General)
Public Relations Department	Seiichi Tsurumi (Director-General)
Personnel and Corporate Affairs Department	Mitsuru Nomura (Director-General) Hirohide Koguchi (Director-General for Personnel Management)
Administration Department	Taro Teruuchi (Director-General)
Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies	Shigenori Shiratsuka (Director-General)

Overseas representative offices		Telephone numbers	General managers/ chief representatives
New York	Bank of Japan Chief Representative Office for the Americas Bank of Japan Representative Office in New York 140 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10005, U.S.A.	+1-212-269-6566	Kazushige Kamiyama (General Manager for the Americas and Chief Representative in New York)
Washington, D.C.	Bank of Japan Representative Office in Washington, D.C. 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 505, Washington, D.C. 20037, U.S.A.	+1-202-466-2228	Shinichiro Okawa (Chief Representative in Washington, D.C.)
London	Bank of Japan Chief Representative Office for Europe Bank of Japan Representative Office in London Basildon House, 7-11 Moorgate, London EC2R 6AF, U.K.	+44-20-7606-2454	Tokiko Shimizu (General Manager for Europe and Chief Representative in London)
Paris	Bank of Japan Representative Office in Paris 17 Avenue George V, 75008 Paris, France	+33-1-4720-7295	Yuji Yokobori (Chief Representative in Paris)
Frankfurt	Bank of Japan Representative Office in Frankfurt Taunusanlage 21, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany	+49-69-9714310	Jun Mifune (Chief Representative in Frankfurt)
Hong Kong	Bank of Japan Representative Office in Hong Kong Suite 1012, One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Central, Hong Kong	+852-2525-8325	Ryota Kojima (Chief Representative in Hong Kong)
Beijing	Bank of Japan Representative Office in Beijing 19th Floor, Unit 12C, China World Tower 2, No. 1 Jian Guo Men Wai Avenue, Beijing 100004, China	+86-10-6505-9601	Kenji Wada (Chief Representative in Beijing)

# Functions of Committees/Departments/Offices

## COMMITTEES AND HEAD OFFICE DEPARTMENTS

### Management Committee

Examines and manages Bank-wide issues regarding the Bank's operations. The members of this committee comprise the Deputy Governors and all Executive Directors.

### Compliance Committee

Ensures that the officers and employees perform their duties fairly and in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations. The members of this committee comprise members appointed from among the Deputy Governors and Executive Directors by the Governor, the Director-General of the Internal Auditors' Office, and one or more legal experts from outside the Bank.

### Secretariat of the Policy Board

(1) Arranges proceedings for Policy Board meetings, (2) liaises with the Diet and the media, (3) reviews the content and wording of important documents, and offers a legal perspective on them, (4) plans and formulates measures relating to the Bank's business operations and organizational management, (5) handles the Bank's budget, settlement, and accounting, (6) provides administrative services for the Bank's officers, and (7) supports Auditors in auditing.

### Internal Auditors' Office

Audits the Bank's business operations.

### Monetary Affairs Department

Plans and formulates monetary policy measures.

### Financial System and Bank Examination Department

(1) Plans and formulates measures that contribute to the maintenance of an orderly financial system, (2) conducts on-site examinations and off-site monitoring of financial institutions that hold current accounts at the Bank, (3) judges financial institutions' eligibility to hold current accounts at the Bank and to have access to its lending facilities, and (4) determines the specifics of credit extension and discounting of bills by the Bank.

### Payment and Settlement Systems Department

Plans and formulates measures in the following areas: (1) policy issues relating to payment and settlement systems; (2) financial institutions' access to payment and settlement services provided by the Bank; and (3) the Bank's business continuity planning.

### Financial Markets Department

(1) Determines the specifics of daily market operations, (2) conducts foreign exchange interventions, (3) works toward improving the functioning of Japanese financial markets, including the foreign exchange market, and (4) monitors and analyzes developments in financial markets in Japan as well as overseas, including foreign exchange markets.

### Research and Statistics Department

(1) Conducts research on the domestic economy and fiscal situation, and (2) compiles and releases statistics.

### International Department

(1) Liaises and coordinates with overseas central banks and international organizations, (2) makes arrangements for investment in yen assets by overseas central banks, and conducts operations aimed at providing international financial support, (3) manages foreign currency assets held by the Bank, (4) conducts research on global economic and financial conditions, and (5) compiles Japan's balance of payments and other such statistics.

### Currency Issue Department

(1) Conducts planning and operations relating to banknotes, and (2) conducts payment/receipt of coins, and examines and takes custody of them.

### Operations Department

Conducts banking operations including the following: (1) discounting of bills; (2) credit extension; (3) purchasing/selling of bills, Japanese government securities, and other securities; (4) borrowing/lending of securities with cash collateral; (5) accepting of deposits; (6) domestic funds transfers; (7) handling of treasury funds; and (8) operations relating to stocks purchased by the Bank.

### Information System Services Department

Manages the development and operation of the Bank's computer systems.

### Public Relations Department

(1) Is responsible for public relations, (2) administers the Bank's library, and (3) works toward raising the public's awareness and understanding of financial and economic issues.

### Personnel and Corporate Affairs Department

Handles business in corporate affairs, personnel policy issues relating to recruitment, assessment of job performance, career planning and training, wages and salaries, and the Bank's code of ethics.

### Administration Department

Conducts administrative operations relating to the Bank's facilities, supplies, security, and transportation.

### Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies

(1) Studies theoretical, institutional, technological, and historical aspects of monetary and economic issues, (2) collects, preserves, and exhibits historical materials and documents related to monetary and economic issues, and (3) exchanges views with academics.

## BRANCHES AND OFFICES

### Branches

The 32 branches mainly conduct operations relating to currency issue and banking operations, and research on the economic and financial situation in their respective areas.

### Local Offices in Japan

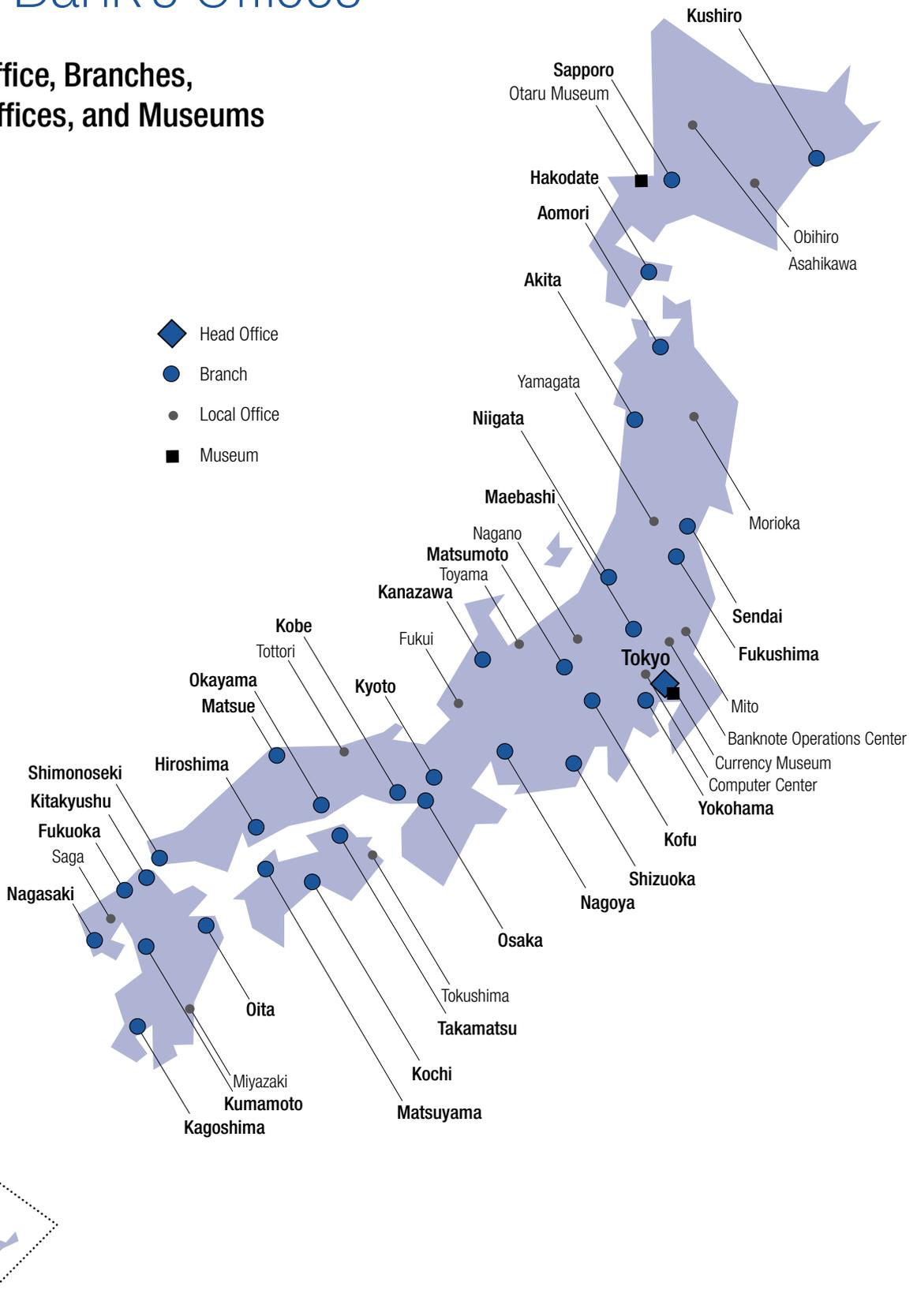
The Computer Center in Fuchu City, Tokyo, operates the Bank's systems. The Banknote Operations Center in Toda City, Saitama Prefecture, receives, pays, and stores banknotes. The other 12 local offices handle some of the operations of the Head Office or branches.

### Overseas Representative Offices

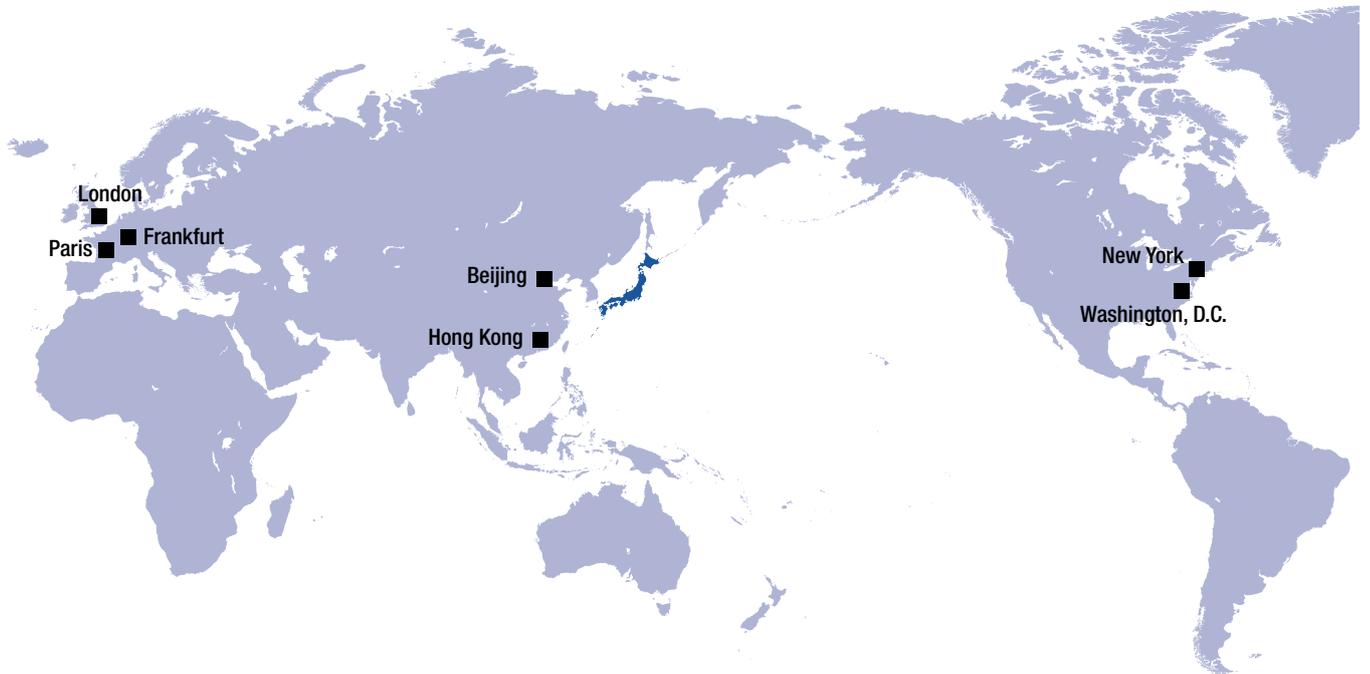
The seven overseas representative offices perform a liaison function, gather information, and conduct research.

# The Bank's Offices

Head Office, Branches,  
Local Offices, and Museums



## Overseas Representative Offices<sup>1</sup>



Note: 1. For details, see page 15.