

July 20, 2023
Bank of Japan

The Bank of Japan Launches the CBDC Forum

In line with its release "Commencement of Central Bank Digital Currency Experiments: Pilot Program" on February 17, 2023, the Bank of Japan launched a pilot program for Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in April, and has established the CBDC Forum ("the Forum") with a view to utilizing the skills and insights of private businesses in proceeding with the program. Members of the Forum consist of 60 enterprises from a range of industries including banking, payment services, retail, information technology, and fintech.

The Forum held its inaugural meeting on July 20.

Thematic working groups will be formed within the Forum to facilitate discussions. Shortly after the first meeting, two working groups will be created to discuss "Connection between CBDC System and Fundamental External Systems" and "Overlay Services and CBDC Ecosystem." Some other working groups will be set up in accordance with discussions in the Forum (see Annex).

CBDC Forum: Working Groups in Consideration (Provisional)

- Taking into account linkages among discussion topics in consideration, thematic working groups will be formed within the Forum with a view to stimulating and facilitating discussions.
- The configuration and topics of working groups are subject to change in accordance with discussions in the Forum.

