

# press release

## **Standard Chartered Laos donates USD 50,000 for COVID-19 emergency relief**

**14 August 2020, Vientiane, Lao P.D.R.**- Standard Chartered Laos has donated USD 50,000 to UNICEF programme that is providing emergency relief to communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The donation will be contributed to UNICEF for the immediate protection and education of vulnerable children. The donation is part of Standard Chartered PLC's \$5 million pledge to support emergency relief activities by UNICEF that provide immediate protection and education of vulnerable children across 12 markets in Africa and South Asia, including Laos. Funding across these markets will focus on activities such as the provision of remote education via TV, radio, online and mobile platforms and child protection measures, including alternative care arrangements and family tracing services for children separated from their families due to COVID-19, training of social workers to conduct home visits to vulnerable children for mental health support, and alternative care and protection services for children of parents or caregivers affected by COVID-19.

Laos has been home to Standard Chartered Bank since 1996. As a financial institution, the Bank plays a key role in the facilitation of investment and the rejuvenation of the financial sector here. To ensure sustainable development, the Bank has also launched a range of Education and Health-related community initiatives to help stimulate economic and social growth. The COVID-19 donation reinforces the Bank's commitment to the Laos community and demonstrates our brand promise, Here for good.

**Vasna Bounmak, Chief Representative of Standard Chartered Bank Laos said:** "Standard Chartered Laos is proud to be able to contribute to UNICEF programme that reach the most vulnerable children in our communities. By working with UNICEF, we are able to support the delivery of rapid and effective emergency relief that aims to address some of the key challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic."

**Gary Stahl, Director, UNICEF Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division, said:**

“In any crisis, the young and the most vulnerable suffer disproportionately. This pandemic is no different. With the majority of the world’s children living with some form of pandemic-related movement restrictions and 1.3 billion children around the globe affected by school closures, UNICEF’s work for children has never been more critical than now. Thanks to this donation from Standard Chartered UNICEF will be able to support remote education via TV, radio, online and mobile platforms and child protection measures for vulnerable children across the world.”

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Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

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