



Press Release

Standard Chartered launches new proposition to support sustainable supply chains

Suite of trade finance products and services will help clients meet ESG-related sustainability objectives

16 April 2021, Hanoi – Standard Chartered is launching sustainable trade finance solutions across Asia, Africa and the Middle East, Europe and the Americas. The Bank's new Sustainable Trade Finance Proposition is designed to help companies implement more sustainable practices across their ecosystems and build more resilient supply chains.

The Sustainable Trade Finance Proposition builds the Loan Market Association's Green and Sustainability-linked Loan Principles into Standard Chartered's trade financing framework, encouraging clients to improve disclosure, reporting and definition of use, while meeting their Environmental, Social and Governance goals. The initial focus will be on Supply Chain Finance, Invoice Financing, Receivables Services, Bonds and Guarantees and Letters of Credit, and the product set will be expanded in due course. These products will help global supply chain activities – estimated at USD19 trillion by the World Trade Organisation – become more sustainable.

The new Sustainable Trade Finance Proposition allows the Bank to support the following:

1. **Sustainable goods:** Working with customers and partners to finance underlying goods that meet agreed sustainability standards.
2. **Sustainable suppliers:** Supporting trade for suppliers who meet acceptable thresholds against ESG ratings or metrics such as gender equality, responsible sourcing criteria and water use.

3. **Sustainable end-use:** Focusing on trade financing in sustainable industries including renewable energy, energy efficiency, the blue economy, sustainable infrastructure, water management and clean transportation.
4. **Transition industries:** Helping industries transition and reduce their carbon footprint by offering trade financing that recognises efforts to help reduce emissions.

Simon Cooper, CEO, Corporate, Commercial & Institutional Banking and CEO of Europe & the Americas, said: “Trade finance has an enormous opportunity to help make global supply chain activities more sustainable by offering companies the products and solutions they need to achieve their sustainability agendas. Our new Sustainable Trade Finance Proposition will help companies build more resilient supply chains, as we work to make global trade more sustainable and inclusive.”

Michele Wee, CEO for Vietnam, Standard Chartered Bank, said: “To accelerate sustainable finance, we need to re-think how we can deliver financing to where it is needed most. Trade finance can help us reach across complex supply chains to drive long-term resilience and growth. For a market like Vietnam, which is playing an increasingly important role in the global supply chain and one of ASEAN’s most open economies, I am excited about the opportunities ahead.”

Some examples of the Bank’s sustainable trade finance solutions that have driven positive impact include:

- A sustainability-linked supply chain finance solution for an international sportswear manufacturer, linked to their ESG/Sustainability performance to incentivise more sustainable practices across the supply chain.
- An import invoice finance facility for an electric vehicle manufacturer.
- Bonds/guarantees and trade finance solutions for renewable energy companies.
- Enabling the import of personal protective equipment via import invoice financing under our [COVID-19 USD1 billion financing commitment, launched in March 2020](#). The Bank also offers trade finance at cost to companies that meet the criteria for that programme.

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Note to Editors

Standard Chartered

We are a leading international banking group, with a presence in 59 of the world's most dynamic markets and serving clients in a further 85. Our purpose is to drive commerce and prosperity through our unique diversity, and our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges.

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Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited

In Vietnam, Standard Chartered's history can be traced back to 1904 when the Bank opened its first branch in Saigon (now is Ho Chi Minh City). We believe in the long-term prospect of Vietnam and are fully committed to the Vietnamese market and our clients and customers since coming back to the country in 1990.

On August 1, 2009, we commenced operations in our locally incorporated entity – Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited, an important milestone of Standard Chartered's development in Vietnam. The bank currently has four branches (two in Hanoi and two in HCMC). Its Head Office is based in Hanoi.

We bring our international expertise and experience in Asia, Africa and the Middle East to Vietnam, building a broad business that helps to develop the Vietnamese financial service sector as well as helping clients to develop their businesses.

The Bank provides a full suite of banking products and services for corporates, financial institutions as well as small and medium enterprises and individuals. We also play an active role in building the communities through many programs that promote social and economic development focusing on health, youth and financial education.

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