

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 September 2006

Standard Chartered Bank launches “For a Better Tomorrow ~ Standard Chartered Bank Foundation for Educational Development”

(Shanghai: 22 September 2006) Standard Chartered Bank today announced the launch of “For a Better Tomorrow ~ Standard Chartered Bank Foundation for Educational Development” (FED) jointly with the Shanghai Charity Foundation to provide better prospects for education and development for young talents in China.

FED is one of the key corporate social responsibilities (CSR) projects facilitated by Standard Chartered Bank, which marks the culmination of careful planning and thorough organization by the Bank to realise its objective of fostering youth development through educational endeavours in China. With full support from the Shanghai Charity Foundation, the programme will provide financial support to Primary Hope Schools, youths in underprivileged rural regions as well as outstanding university students for them to complete their education. Furthermore, young practitioners in the banking industry who would like to further their education in elite overseas universities can also become the beneficiaries.

Apart from providing education subsidies, FED also has two unique features, which can fully reflect the beliefs and the characteristics of Standard Chartered Bank being the leading international Bank in China:

1. Internship opportunities will be offered to scholarship beneficiaries with outstanding academic excellence. Senior management of the Bank will also provide mentorship to these young talents so as to give them an all-rounded development.
2. Customers of Standard Chartered Bank can join forces with the Bank to contribute to the education industry in China by opting to automatically donate part of their interest income to the “Caring Account for FED”.

To celebrate the launching of the FED, over 300 distinguished guests from various sectors were invited to participate in a charity dinner held today in Shanghai to witness the inauguration of the programme.

Katherine Tsang, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank China said, “Standard Chartered Bank is committed to grow together with the market and make valuable contribution to the development of financial industry in China. We firmly believe that investing in youth development is investing in China’s future, and we hope that FED can help offer the optimum opportunity for young talents in China.”

Standard Chartered Bank will donate an initial fund to subsidize the tuition for at least 100 underprivileged university students until the completion of their study according to the standards set up by the Shanghai Charity Fund. The Governing Committee of the FED will review other scholarship programmes in the second phase. Committee directors will also oversee the implementation of such programmes. Starting from today, the FED welcomes donations from all sectors. We hope that through the funds contributed by Standard Chartered Bank and the

generous donations from our staff, customers and various partners, FED can raise a minimum of RMB 6 million in the coming three years to provide for the youth in need.

Standard Chartered has a long history of supporting the communities where it operates. Besides the FED that was launched today, the Bank had made contributions of more than RMB 2 million in the past year in the education arena, including the setting up of a few Primary Hope Schools in Sichuan and Gansu, providing financial training to students and athletes, and sponsoring talented youths to study aboard in elite overseas universities like Oxford.

Other CSR projects the Bank facilitated in China include:

1. Seeing is Believing – a global community fundraising project of Standard Chartered aiming to restore the sight for blind people;
2. Living with HIV – another global project aiming to educate the Bank's employees, as well as their families, of the facts and realities of the disease, while actively involving in HIV/AIDS community activities to enhance awareness;
3. "A Legend of the Future - China's Leading Enterprises of Tomorrow" Award – a recognition program launched nationwide in China this May aiming to trigger more support for SMEs in China and create a better environment for their growth and expansion.

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Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is consistently ranked in the top 25 among FTSE-100 companies by market capitalisation.

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest-growing markets with an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in over 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas.

As one of the world's most international banks, Standard Chartered employs almost 50,000 people, representing over 90 nationalities, worldwide. This diversity lies at the heart of the Bank's values and supports the Bank's growth as the world increasingly becomes one market.

With strong organic growth supported by strategic alliances and acquisitions and driven by its strengths in the balance and diversity of its business, products, geography and people, Standard Chartered is well positioned in the emerging trade corridors of Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Standard Chartered uniquely derives over 90 per cent of profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Serving both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers worldwide, the Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability to offer a wide range of innovative products and services as well as award-winning solutions.

Trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility, Standard Chartered takes a long term view of the consequences of its actions to ensure that the Bank builds a sustainable business through social inclusion, environmental protection and good governance.

Standard Chartered is also committed to all its stakeholders by living its values in its approach towards managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in communities and working with regulators.

In China, the Bank set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has remained in operation throughout the past 150 years. Recently, Standard Chartered Bank has been named as "2005 Best Foreign Bank" by Hexun Web. It has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with eleven branches (Qingdao to be opened soon), six sub-branches and three representative offices in China. There are altogether 7 branches in China that can provide full banking services including RMB to corporate clients (namely Shanghai, Shenzhen, Beijing, Nanjing, Xiamen, Zhuhai and Tianjin).

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