

# press release

## **Standard Chartered hosts Treasury Workshop for MBRE and leading entrepreneurs**

**8 July 2009, Dubai, United Arab Emirates** – Standard Chartered Bank' recently hosted a successful Treasury workshop entitled 'Hedging and Investment Products' for members of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders (MBRE) and a number of leading local entrepreneurs.

The workshop reinforces the first of its kind government led partnership between Standard Chartered's SME Banking division and the MBRE. More than 50 of the Emirate's leading Arab talent and established SMEs arrived to hear the Bank's specialists discuss hedging and investment product solutions for Small and Medium Enterprises.

**Chris de Bruin, Head of Consumer Banking, Standard Chartered Bank, UAE said,** "The initial launch of the strategic partnership between Standard Chartered Bank and the MBRE marked a significant step-change in the training and development of SMEs in the UAE. We believe that these programmes will prepare local businesses to effectively compete under the current challenging environment and differentiate themselves by identifying and managing their FX and interest rates risks. The Treasury workshop is just one of the training programmes provided by Standard Chartered SME Banking. We are proud to offer these sessions to members of the MBRE as part of our wider focus on customer-centric solutions."

Standard Chartered SME Banking customers and MBRE members can look forward to a series of training sessions designed to help develop and foster relationships among the UAE's growing SME sector.

**Abdul Baset Al Janahi, CEO of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders** said, "This workshop is a significant milestone in our commitment to partner with the private sector in Dubai and especially support the small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Today, SMEs play a crucial role in the economy, and by strengthening their efficiency and enabling them to achieve their growth goals we are partnering in the overall socio-economic growth of the nation. By participating in workshops like this, members of MBRE can further enhance their competitiveness."

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### **About Standard Chartered**

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 25 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered Group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its income and profits have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Bank derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, generated from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has over 1600 branches and outlets located in over 70 countries. The extraordinary growth of its markets and businesses creates exciting and challenging international career opportunities.

Leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders, the Group is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. It employs more than 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women.

The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which 68 are represented among senior management.

For more information, please visit: [www.standardchartered.com](http://www.standardchartered.com)

### **About Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders**

Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders was launched on June 12, 2002 and was formed with a vision to nurture the entrepreneurial spirit in Dubai, encourage and facilitate the development of business and entrepreneurial activity among UAE nationals and catalyze the development and growth of a key sector of the economy, the small and medium business sector.

The Establishment's key activities focus on creation of new businesses by offering a platform for ideas and financial support, inspiring entrepreneurial spirit among UAE nationals, raising awareness of business opportunities and spreading business knowledge and assisting and supporting enterprises run by UAE nationals through instilling best practice and providing them with market opportunities.

For more information, please visit: [www.sme.ae](http://www.sme.ae)