

press release

Standard Chartered Bank accelerates efforts to eliminate blindness

Hue, 16 May 2018 – Standard Chartered Bank today flagged off its 300km “Ride for Sight” challenge in Vietnam to raise funds for Seeing is Believing (SiB), the Bank’s global charitable initiative to tackle avoidable blindness and visual impairment by improving access to affordable and quality eye care. This is part of a series of activities launched by the Bank in its footprint markets to celebrate the 15th anniversary of SiB.

The start at the historic site of Ngenh Luong Dinh sees 27 Standard Chartered staff from Vietnam and across ASEAN and South Asia, supported by a crew of their Vietnam colleagues, cycle from Hue through Lang Co, Hai Van Pass then Hoi An before finishing at Da Nang on May 18. The three day challenge seeks to raise at least USD60,000 for the program, including the Bank matching fund. The riders will also support eye doctors of Da Nang Eye Hospital in providing eye screening service for students of Nguyen Hue secondary school in Da Nang on 19 May.

“Standard Chartered’s brand promise is Here for good and we never settle for good enough in everything we do, including serving our clients and supporting the communities. The challenge that our colleagues are undertaking is a vivid demonstration of that, which furthers our non-stop efforts to help tackling issues that may hinder sustainable social and economic development. This is important because we believe that the long-term success of our business depends on the health and prosperity of the communities in which we operate.” said Nirukt Sapru, CEO Vietnam and ASEAN & South Asia Cluster Markets, Standard Chartered Bank.

The money raised will help Standard Chartered progress closer toward its SiB fundraising target of USD100 million by 2020, which has now crossed USD98.4 million. In this campaign, the Bank matches every donation dollar for dollar to double the impact on the ground.

Seeing is Believing is a collaboration between Standard Chartered Bank, the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and leading international eye health organisations. Since its inception in 2003, the program has reached 163.5 million through medical interventions, eye examinations, eye health education and training, trained 294,500 health workers in eye health, implemented 167 projects in 37 countries and dispensed 1.1 million pairs of spectacles and low vision devices.

In Vietnam, Standard Chartered Bank has been actively working with partners to promote and support sight-restoration and eye-care programs. Local SiB projects have provided eye screening service for more than 2.5 million Vietnamese, conducted more than 47,400 eye surgeries and presented over 34,600 pairs of spectacles to people in need. Three projects with USD2.4 million in funding are currently being implemented in Vietnam, aimed at reaching more than 2.2 million people. They include “Improving vision to empower female factory workers in Vietnam” project running in Da Nang and Quang Nam, “Vietnam Child Eye Care” project deployed in Hai Duong, Da Nang and Tien Giang and “Sight for Children and Elderly People in the Mekong Delta” conducted in Can Tho and Ca Mau.

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Notes to Editors

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. Standard Chartered has acted as the sole Sovereign Credit Ratings Advisor to the Vietnamese Government since March 2012.

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.

For more information, please visit: www.sc.com/vn and www.facebook.com/standardcharteredVN

Standard Chartered

We are a leading international banking group, with more than a 150-year history in some of the world's most dynamic markets. 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.

We are present in more than 60 markets, with over 1,000 branches and around 3,000 ATMs.

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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