

press release

Standard Chartered and VCCI join hands to support SMEs in international trade

Hanoi, 31 October 2017 - Standard Chartered Bank Vietnam, in collaboration with Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), today organised the workshop “Supporting international trade for small-and medium-sized enterprises” in Hanoi, attracting over 100 businesses from diverse industries.

The workshop discussed key issues for local SMEs, including the latest government policies to support SMEs, an outlook on the economy and foreign exchange trends looking forward to 2018, and how international banks like Standard Chartered can support SMEs with their international trade needs. Speakers included experts from Standard Chartered Bank and VCCI, including Pham Hoang Tien, Director of Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Centre, VCCI, Vo Tri Thanh, Chairman of the Vietnam National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, and Lu Quoc Thien, Head of Business Banking, Standard Chartered Bank Vietnam.

At the event, Standard Chartered Bank Vietnam also announced the campaign to offer 50% cash back on commission fee of 10 first overseas payment transactions made before 30 December 2017. The campaign is applicable for new clients who open business banking current account(s) at the Bank using the 50% cash back coupon obtained from VCCI or at the event.

Pham Thu Hang, General Secretary of VCCI, said: “Given the SME sector is a key contributor to trade, employment and economic growth of Vietnam, it is critical that the sector receive adequate support to grow strongly and sustainably. We highly appreciate the opportunity to work with Standard Chartered Bank to host this meaningful workshop, which provides SMEs with useful knowledge and experience to succeed in international trade. This is particularly important in the context of Vietnam’s increasing integration into the regional and global economies.”

Nirukt Sapru, CEO of Standard Chartered Vietnam and ASA Cluster Markets, said: “For the last two decades, Vietnam has benefited greatly from the expansion of trade and investment links with various countries around the globe – and SMEs play a crucial role in that process. As Vietnam continues to expand trade with the rest of the world, SMEs will be a key part of this growth: in particular SMEs will be critical to further integrating Vietnam with global supply chains. As one of the oldest international banks in Vietnam, Standard Chartered Bank offers a wealth of experience and expertise to help Vietnamese businesses navigate the global economy and expand their business”.

Standard Chartered is one of the world's most international banks, with over 1,100 branches, offices and outlets in 68 countries across the globe. The Bank has strong footprint in Asia, Africa and the Middle East and is currently the only international bank present in all ten ASEAN markets.

Standard Chartered Business Banking solutions cover all aspects of SME operations, from working capital management, business expansion and protection, to yield enhancement and cross-border business. All are designed to make banking easy for SMEs so that they can focus on the growth of their business.

Standard Chartered has been recognised as “Best Foreign Bank in Vietnam” for three consecutive years by many prestigious organisations, including Global Banking & Finance Review in 2014 & 2015, and Global Business Outlook in 2016. The Bank has over 110 years of history in Vietnam.

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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 three branches (two in Hanoi and one 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 around 80,000 employees and a 150-year history in some of the world's most dynamic markets. We bank the people and companies driving investment, trade and the creation of wealth across Asia, Africa and the Middle East. 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 as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

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