

press release

Standard Chartered invests USD90 million in Vietnam's leading agribusiness firm

New investment highlights long term commitment to Vietnam

1 October 2014, Hanoi, Vietnam – Standard Chartered Private Equity (“SCPE”) announced today the successful acquisition of a significant minority stake in An Giang Plant Protection Joint Stock Company (“AGPPS”), a market leader in the agricultural sector of Vietnam. SCPE is Standard Chartered Bank’s investment arm.

AGPPS is the largest distributor of plant protection chemicals and the largest distributor of rice seeds in Vietnam. The company is also an emerging aggregator and processor of rice. SCPE will provide strategic input into AGPPS’s business planning and support the management in its development plans. SCPE invests in companies in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, backed by best in class management teams in private equity and mezzanine structures.

This is the second investment in Vietnam for SCPE, following its first investment in Golden Gate Group, announced two weeks ago. SCPE is committed to investing in successful businesses across sectors and is actively seeking opportunities across the ASEAN region. SCPE invests in companies in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, backed by best in class management teams in private equity and mezzanine structures.

“We are extremely pleased to be an investor in one of Vietnam's flagship enterprises. We are privileged to support AGPPS's laudable mission of bringing to the market commercially sound products and services that bolster the profitability of the Vietnamese rice value chain, while raising the standard of living for potentially millions of farmers. We worked closely with Mr Thon and his highly capable management team over the past nine months during the due diligence process, and are confident that SCPE is well positioned to play a constructive role going forward as AGPPS's shareholder partner,” said Bert Kwan, Head of Southeast Asia (excluding Indonesia), Standard Chartered Private Equity.

"Standard Chartered is one of the few financial institutions that have been committed to supporting the growth of the agricultural sector in Africa, India, China and South East Asia. With their experience and the global scope of their operations, I believe Standard Chartered will play a vital role in contributing to the growth of AGPPS's operations in the rice, plant protection chemicals and seed segments, and other promising operations across the agricultural value chain in Vietnam as well as in the global context in the coming years. Standard Chartered is a shareholder that fully understands and strongly supports AGPPS's strategy in developing the agricultural value chain. We believe that Standard Chartered will become a

strategic shareholder that supports AGPPS to successfully develop an agricultural value chain, thereby contributing to the development of agriculture in Vietnam and bring more value to the farmers." said Huynh Van Thon, Chairman of AGPPS.

These latest private equity investments underscore Standard Chartered's long term commitment to Vietnam in a year that sees the Bank celebrate the 110th anniversary of the opening of its first branch in the country.

"We are deeply committed to supporting our clients in Vietnam. I believe that our broad international network, coupled with our full suite of innovative, customised products and services, will support AGPPS in achieving their growth aspirations. This investment is a reaffirmation of our long-term commitment to Vietnam, where we have been since 1904 and are investing more resources to capture the business opportunities available, and to drive investment, trade and the creation of wealth in Vietnam.", said Nirukt Sapru, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam).

Standard Chartered currently operates three branches and employs over 850 staff in Vietnam. The Bank provides a full suite of Corporate and Retail Banking products and services for companies, financial institutions, small and medium enterprises and individuals.

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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 Ho Chi Minh City).

Following the official approval from the State Bank of Vietnam, effective 1 August 2009, Standard Chartered commenced operations in its locally incorporated entity – Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited. Local Incorporation was an important milestone in Standard Chartered's development in Vietnam.

Standard Chartered now has three branches and employs over 850 staff. The Bank provides a full of suite banking products and services for corporates, financial institutions, small and medium enterprises and individuals.

Standard Chartered brings its international expertise and experience in other growing markets to Vietnam, where it actively contributes to the development of the banking and finance sector in the country. The Bank also plays an active role in the Vietnamese community and has demonstrated this through many social and charitable activities.

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 90,000 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, where we earn around 90 per cent of our income and profits. 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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