

UOB China reinforces its commitment to forging a sustainable future with customers, colleagues and communities

Shanghai, 16 September, 2021 – UOB China is reinforcing its commitment to forging a sustainable future with its customers, colleagues and communities as the Bank sharpens its sustainability strategy based on four pillars. These are Drive Growth Sustainably, Keep Customers at the Centre, Develop Professionals of Principle and Uphold Corporate Responsibility.

Providing the Bank with clear direction and purpose, the four pillars are consistent with UOB Group's overall sustainability strategy, which is aligned to the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals¹. The pillars also serve to guide the Bank's initiatives in line with its business focus, China's 14th Five-Year Plan and the country's economic and social development strategies.

Mr Peter Foo, President and Chief Executive Officer, UOB China, said, "At UOB China, our sustainability strategy is rooted in our values and embedded into our business model, reflecting the role we can play for the long-term benefit of our stakeholders. By incorporating environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations into our risk management and business decisions and nurturing the right mind set at all levels of the organisation, we can drive our growth in a sustainable manner for the long term. In facilitating our customers' growth while contributing to China's economic development and connectivity with ASEAN, we continue to help businesses advance responsibly, to steer consumer wealth to sustainable investments and to foster social inclusiveness and environmental well-being."

In forging a sustainable future with its customers, UOB China is drawing on the strengths of UOB Group and its sectoral expertise to help businesses drive their sustainability agenda. For example, the Bank supported a leading electric vehicle manufacturer in China on its energy-saving and research and development projects by offering a suite of financial solutions, including advance payment guarantee and letter of credit. The Bank also extended financing support to help a leading commercial real estate developer implement its sustainable commercial property project. In the first

¹ The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Source: <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals>

half year of 2021, UOB China's number of corporate clients that received green loans and the volume of green financing provided by the Bank posted double-digit growth year on year.

The Bank also offers progressive, sustainable financing solutions to help companies transition to a lower carbon economy and will continue to deepen its support of key sectors such as renewable energy, electrical vehicles, green technologies and sustainable infrastructure.

Just as UOB China works with its customers to drive sustainable development, it is focused on ensuring a future-ready workforce. The Bank expanded its learning and development programme, Better U, to equip its employees with skills in data analytics and project management, two areas essential to future employability. The Bank will also host a Career Development Week, during which there will be cross-functional and cross-level dialogues to help the Bank's colleagues explore more career growth opportunities.

In July, the Bank also launched its Greater Bay Area (GBA) Trainee programme, with seven young talents from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region joining the GBA Commercial Banking team in Guangzhou and Shenzhen. This is part of UOB's support to the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme² (GBAYES) to offer young talents cross-border work experience and exposure.

As part of supporting community development, UOB China remains steadfast in promoting social inclusiveness in the areas of art, children and education, and encourages environmental stewardship through initiatives including:

- UOB Group's flagship volunteerism and fundraising event, UOB Heartbeat Walk/Run. The virtual event this year saw UOB China colleagues, partners and the public raise funds through sports, donations and online charity sales. Part of the proceeds went towards the Bank's Preschools of the Future programme and relief efforts for the Henan floods.
- a collaboration with Lujiazui Financial City Development Foundation to host the UOB Heartbeat Upcycling Campaign. From 12 July to 11 August 2021, the Bank organised various activities,

² The Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme (GBAYES) is launched by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. GBAYES encourages enterprises with operation in both Hong Kong and Mainland cities of GBA to recruit and deploy Hong Kong university/tertiary institution graduates to work in the Mainland cities.

Source: <https://www.youth.gov.hk/en/career-and-study/stories/detail.htm?content-id=2393722§ion=CSA>

such as an educational exhibition, art installations, workshops and online quizzes to share the benefits of and creative ideas in plastic upcycling;

- the “The Future is Now” art exhibition on 30 July 2021, which featured three UOB Painting of the Year award-winning artists and their 11 artworks that addressed different topics on art and sustainability;

In recognition of UOB China’s commitment to forging a sustainable future, the *China Business Journal* presented the Bank with the Most Innovative Case in Sustainability Award at its China Enterprise Corporate Social Responsibility Forum and Awards Ceremony on 14 September 2021.



Ms Cynthia Xin, Head of Corporate Banking, UOB China received the award on behalf of the Bank.

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About United Overseas Bank (China)

United Overseas Bank (China) Limited (UOB China) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB). Headquartered in Shanghai, UOB China was incorporated in the People's Republic of China on 18 December 2007. UOB

China is rated 'A+' with a stable outlook by Fitch Ratings and 'AAA' with a stable outlook by China Cheng Xin International. UOB China now has 16 branches and sub-branches in the major cities across China.

As we continue to grow, UOB China focuses on nurturing employees to carry through entrepreneurial spirit, the focus on long-term value creation and an unwavering commitment to do what is right for our customers and our colleagues.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB China is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

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