

For immediate release

**Dah Sing Bank Collaborates with HKSMEA to
Champion Sustainable Economic Transition for SMEs
Engaging Almost 300 Enterprises through the SME ESG Charter 2025 Online
Assessment Tool**

(Hong Kong, 27 January 2026) Dah Sing Bank, Limited ("Dah Sing Bank" or "the Bank") and the Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association ("HKSMEA") renewed their collaboration last year to launch the "SME ESG Charter 2025" ("ESG Charter 2025") and introduced the ESG Online Self-Assessment Platform for the first time. This initiative attracted almost 300 SMEs, enabling them to assess their knowledge and practices in relation to environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria.

A total of 59 SMEs participated in the ESG Charter 2025, with 48 successfully receiving free independent assessments and certifications. Among those certified SMEs, the vast majority (97.4%) said that implementing ESG practices was very important or important for SMEs. The positive impact on corporate image (89.7%) is just one of the benefits, with improved management efficiency (82.1%) and an increase in clientele (64.1%) also being notable.

The new free ESG Online Self-Assessment Platform is a key educational tool for the "SME ESG Charter". This self-assessment covers several key ESG areas, including energy conservation, resource management, employee development and training, employee welfare, community investment, corporate governance, consumer data protection, and anti-corruption measures. The platform aims to enhance SMEs' understanding and interest in ESG through a straightforward and interactive approach, encouraging them to assess and improve their ESG performance. Since its launch, it has effectively engaged almost 300 SMEs in evaluating their ESG knowledge and practices.

"SMEs are one of Dah Sing Bank's key customer segments. In recent years, Hong Kong has increasingly focused on sustainable economic development, and the growing global emphasis on ESG practices has made investing in ESG a significant trend. Dah Sing Bank has always been committed to supporting SMEs in embracing transformation and seeking new opportunities. To encourage ESG practices among SMEs, we are not only launching a new online self-assessment platform but also offering banking benefits to attract more SMEs to participate in this sustainable economic transformation and seize new opportunities for growth as early as possible," said Ms. Phoebe Wong, Deputy Chief Executive, Senior Executive Director and Group Head of Personal Banking of Dah Sing Bank.

Mr. Andrew Kwok, President of HKSMEA, said: "ESG Charter 2025 introduced "ESG Ambassadors" to share their experiences and motivate more SMEs to participate and deepen their understanding of ESG. In fact, most SMEs involved in ESG Charter 2025 think that it is very important to implement ESG practices. We hope that more SMEs will incorporate ESG elements into their operational and governance structures to enhance their competitiveness and take a significant step towards sustainable development."

Dah Sing Bank and the HKSMEA will continue to provide comprehensive support to participating SMEs through promotional activities, workshops, technical consultations, audits and certifications, public education, and strengthening corporate connections, all of which are aimed at assisting SMEs in their transition towards economic sustainability.

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Ms. Phoebe Wong, Deputy Chief Executive, Senior Executive Director and Group Head of Personal Banking of Dah Sing Bank and Mr. Andrew Kwok, President of Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association said, the SME ESG Charter will continue to provide comprehensive support to participating SMEs, helping them to transition towards economic sustainability.



(Front row, from left) Dr Yeung Hoi-shan, President of Hong Kong Commerce & Industry Associations, Dr Lawrence Cheung, Chief Technology Officer of Hong Kong Productivity Council, Ms. Pam Mak, Life Honorary President and Chairman of the ESG Committee of HKSMEA, Mr. Ronald Young, Head of Sustainable Banking Development Division, Banking Policy Department, Hong Kong Monetary Authority, Mr. Andrew Kwok, President of HKSMEA, Mr. Xu Xiao Lin, the Deputy Director-General of the Coordination Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, Ms. Phoebe Wong, Deputy Chief Executive, Senior Executive Director and Group Head of Personal Banking of Dah Sing Bank, Legislative Council Member Hon Elizabeth Quat and Ir Hon LEE Chun-keung, Mr. Calvin Cheng, Chairman of HKSMEA and Mr. Michael Lai, President of The Hong Kong General Chamber of Small and Medium Business attended the Closing Ceremony of the SME ESG Charter 2025.

About Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association

Founded in 1996, Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association is one of the most important SME chambers of commerce in Hong Kong. As a non-profit making organisation, we have been working for the development of SMEs from manufacturing, the food & beverage industry, professional service sectors, marketing and associated industrial and business sectors for almost three decades.

Our main missions are to serve as a bridge of communication between SMEs and the Hong Kong SAR Government, increasing the competitiveness and productivity of SMEs, assisting them in upgrading, restructuring, entering Greater Bay Area market and developing globally.

About Dah Sing Bank Limited

Dah Sing Bank, Limited (the "Bank") is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dah Sing Banking Group (HKG:2356). Founded in Hong Kong over 75 years ago, the Bank has been providing quality banking products and services to its customers with a vision to be "The Local Bank with a Personal Touch". Over the years, the Bank has been rigorous in delivering on its brand tagline to grow with its customers in Hong Kong, the Greater Bay Area and beyond – "Together We Progress and Prosper". Building on our experience and solid foundation in the industry, our scope of professional services now spans retail banking, private banking, business and commercial banking. Meanwhile, the Bank is also making significant investments in its digital banking capabilities to stay abreast with smart banking developments in Hong Kong and to support financial inclusion at large.

In addition to its Hong Kong banking operations, the Bank has wholly-owned subsidiaries including Dah Sing Bank (China) Limited, Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A., and OK Finance Limited. It is also a strategic shareholder of Bank of Chongqing with a shareholding of about 13%. Dah Sing Bank and its subsidiaries now have 63 operating locations in Hong Kong, Macau and Chinese Mainland.

About "SME ESG Charter 2025"

The ESG Charter 2025 is a nonprofit assessment framework that references the sections of the ESG Reporting Guide in Appendix C2 of the HKEX Listing Rules, applicable to SMEs. Participating SMEs will be assessed by and will receive an assessment report from a third party professional consultancy.