28 August, 2015

HSBC's 150th Anniversary 'Thank you' to Communities

2015 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of HSBC.

HSBC has depended on the support of its customers, shareholders and employees throughout its history. To mark the 150th anniversary HSBC wants to say 'thank you', by making a US$150m fund available to community projects and local charities over three years (2015-2017).

More than 50,000 HSBC employees voted on charitable themes in 2014. There were three clear winners: young people and their education; medical welfare and research; and the environment and wildlife.

Carefully selected over 140 charities worldwide will benefit from the funding. Each organisation will provide a positive and sustainable change in their area of focus. The selection of charities is based on employee votes.

Here in Armenia, HSBC annually invests around AMD50m in charities to support education and environmental projects. We focus on making innovative and high quality education accessible for children at risk. Tieing up with partners as "TUMO Centre for Creative Technologies", Meghvik NGO, FPWC, CNF, JAA and others, in 2014 alone HSBC invested around AMD40m in 26 charitable education projects in Armenia.

We also invest in environmental programmes tackling the challenges of climate change and natural resources depletion. In 2014 HSBC Armenia donated around AMD7m to environmental efficiency programmes with main focus on water conservation and climate change. Together with partner charities we engage and support programs aimed at conservation of endangered species, biodiversity and promotion of ecotourism.

HSBC Group Chairman Douglas Flint said "We are delighted to mark our 150th anniversary with this additional $150 million community fund. As a business, we believe that education, medical welfare and resources such as safe water and sanitation are essential to resilient communities which are, in turn, the basis of thriving economies and businesses."

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The US$150m fund is in addition to the US$114 million HSBC makes available to community investment programmes globally each year.

HSBC has a long standing commitment towards education and the environment. As part of this commitment HSBC provides financial contributions to community projects, and thousands of employees across the world get involved by volunteering their time and sharing their skills.

HSBC has partnerships with some of the world's leading charities, both large and small. A number of these have been in place for more than a decade enabling for long-term programmes which can result in real and sustainable change. For example, work with WWF began in 2002 and more than 900,000 young people have benefitted from the work of over 700 projects in 62 countries through HSBC's partnership with SOS Children's Village.

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Media contacts
For more information please contact: Mariam Adamyan at + 374 10 515 248 or pressoffice.armenia@hsbc.com

The HSBC Group
HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 6,100 offices in 72 countries and territories in Europe, Asia, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US$2,572bn at 30 June 2015, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

HSBC in Armenia
HSBC Bank Armenia cjsc was established as a closed joint stock company under the name Midland Armenia Bank J.S.C. in 1996 and was renamed HSBC Bank Armenia cjsc in 1999. The bank is a joint venture between the HSBC Group, which has 70 per cent ownership, and members of overseas Armenian businesses with 30 per cent ownership. HSBC Armenia serves around 36,000 customers through 10 offices located in Yerevan and around 383 employees. The bank has assets of AMD 274,887,065,000 as of 30 June 2015 and is one of the leading banks in the foreign exchange market in Armenia.

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