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HSBC Vietnam joins hands with multiple NGOs to extend the support for silent victims of COVID-19

HSBC Vietnam's second relief package worth VND7.6 billion, will be provided to Vietnam's silent victims of COVID-19

This includes five long-term programmes lasting from 18 to 24 months in collaboration with prestigious NGOs to lift the beneficiaries up to "growth mode"*

(Ho Chi Minh City) – HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. (HSBC Vietnam) today officially announces the relief package of VND7.6 billion that will assist silent victims in Vietnam, who have been mentally and economically affected by COVID-19 pandemic.

The fund will provide support through a range of HSBC's NGO partners, including Blue Dragon Foundation, Supporting Center for Development Initiatives (SCDI), Institut Européen de Cooperation et de Développement (IECD), Kidspire and World Wide Orphans (WWO) Vietnam, to help the vulnerable groups in Vietnam step into the "growth mode".

The VND7.6 billion adds up to the VND3.4 billion programme the bank provided in April this year, making the total COVID community relief scheme from HSBC Vietnam VND11 billion in 2020. The programme this time will reach 2,500 beneficiaries including COVID-19 affected families, micro entrepreneurs, disadvantaged children and their families, orphans, children in rural areas, and human trafficking survivors.

The budget, allocated to five projects, will support silent victims through helping them prepare for life in a post-COVID world, for example, providing learning opportunities to children-in-need and empowering underprivileged communities to sustain their livelihood and to be resilient in facing economic shocks from COVID-19. The projects include:

- **SCDI's** project provides emergency support including food, temporary shelter, health care and livelihood support to 150 families with school aged children who are at risk of being homeless, jobless or lack of medical treatments. In return, the families have to commit to let their children continue their study for the school year 2020-2022.
- **IECD's** project aims to provide livelihood support to 460 underprivileged street vendors and traders to effectively adapt and survive in the turbulent economic times during and post COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Kidspire's** project will ensure high quality learning is maintained at eight orphanages, which are home to more than 400 students, extending many of the additional educational opportunities in remote locations and provinces of Vietnam.
- **WWO Vietnam's** project will support the physical and mental health as well as educational development for over 1,200 disabled and disadvantaged children, youth and their families, who are in extreme adversity.
- **Blue Dragon Foundation** project will provide the survivors of human trafficking with quality emergency and long-term assistance to ensure they are not re-trafficked and able to reintegrate into their communities and build sustainable lives.

“We are honoured to continue working with our dedicated long-term NGO partners in such meaningful projects,” said Tim Evans, CEO of HSBC Vietnam. “Although the pandemic has been well contained in Vietnam, there remain a number of silent victims who have been impacted by COVID-19 and they continue to need our support. It is for this reason, that we have extended our relief package to assist vulnerable individuals and communities so that we can help them move away from being in a “survival mode” and into a “growth mode”. This additional contribution is also part of our much broader commitment to support Vietnam given that we are celebrating 150 years since establishing a presence in the country”.

In April 2020, HSBC Vietnam joined forces with WWO Vietnam, VinaCapital Foundation and SCDI in the VND3.4 billion relief programme “No one left behind” to help vulnerable communities in the country. That fund also enjoyed contribution from HSBC’s staff. Thanks to this package, 270,000 meals, 320 medical consultation sessions, 268 psychological counselling sessions, 679 home-based physio therapy toolkits and 550 recovery packages have been delivered to 11,000 beneficiaries, who are migrants, the homeless, off-the-book workers and disabled children with a disadvantaged background and their caregivers, directly or indirectly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme then continued supporting approximately 15,000 people more in their access to three clean water filtration systems in hospitals, 10 clean water filtration systems in schools, 200 recovery packages and 400 vaccinations until 2021.

Also in the community relief efforts for Vietnam in 2020, in the same month of November 2020, by the charitable contribution from both staff and the bank, HSBC Vietnam has donated VND880 million to VinaCapital Foundation as a response to the recent natural disaster in the central of Vietnam. The fund will support Nam Tra My commune, the area heavily impacted in the storm Molave, through provision of important medical equipment to Nam Tra My district hospital and 10 commune health centres to ensure the continuity of health service and medical treatment for over 27,297 local people in this critical time.

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Notes for Editors:

HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd.

HSBC has been in Vietnam for 150 years – the bank first opened an office in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in 1870. HSBC was the first foreign bank to launch its locally incorporated entity on 1 January 2009 as HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. The bank’s current network includes two branches and five transaction offices in Ho Chi Minh City, one branch and four transaction offices in Hanoi, and two full-service branches in Binh Duong and Da Nang. HSBC is one of the largest foreign banks in the country in terms of investment capital, product range, and customer base.

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