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## **HSBC announces Vietnam's first LEED rated bank branch**

*\*Our E-Town Transaction Office has just been awarded LEED Gold certification, making it the first LEED rated bank branch in Vietnam\**

*\*\*This prestigious recognition marks a significant milestone in our sustainability journey\*\**

(Ho Chi Minh City) – HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. (HSBC Vietnam) has recently become the first bank in Vietnam to obtain the LEED Gold certification, demonstrating our commitment to Vietnam's net-zero transition. We received this prestigious certification for our E-Town Transaction Office located at E-Town 3 Building, 364 Cong Hoa, Ward 13, Tan Binh District, Ho Chi Minh City. It has achieved gold certification under the LEED v4 Interior Design and Construction: Commercial Interiors rating system. To achieve LEED certification, we have adhered to prerequisites and credits that address carbon, energy, water, waste, transportation, materials, health and indoor environmental quality.

This achievement represents our commitment to sustainable business practices and reflects on our collective effort towards making responsible and eco-conscious choices throughout the refurbishment process. From optimising energy-efficient equipment, incorporating sustainable materials and reducing waste, we have achieved substantial energy savings contributing to the overall reduction in carbon footprint.

"We're focused on helping to deliver a net zero global economy. It's a pillar of our strategy as a business. As such, we are committed to net zero carbon emissions in our own operations and supply chain by 2030. Receiving the LEED Gold certification for our E-Town Transaction Office is a proof of our climate commitment delivering. We are proud of our team's hard work and dedication towards achieving this certification and their commitment to the pursuit of environmental stewardship across all our branches. Together, we have taken another step towards a greener future for us all. Looking ahead, HSBC Vietnam will continue this efforts and consider ways we can reduce our impact on the environment at every possible opportunity", said Phillip Wright, Chief Operating Officer, HSBC Vietnam.

The LEED Gold certification marks another step towards making our organisation more sustainable, which is part of our broader climate strategy. We want to do more than simply play our part in the transition to a more sustainable world. We've committed to help arrange up to USD12 billion of direct and indirect sustainable financing for Vietnam and the corporate sector in Vietnam by 2030, supporting our customers to transition to a low carbon future, especially in carbon challenged industries and accelerating new climate solutions. Besides, we've also committed to becoming a net-zero bank and reducing carbon emissions from our supply chain to net-zero by 2030 or sooner. This includes managing the emissions of 14 offices and branches in Vietnam plus those of our suppliers. We minimise our environmental impacts by cutting carbon and waste, and using less energy, water and paper. For instance, we have managed to reduce 22% of CO2 emissions against the baseline, from 784 tonnes CO2 (2019) to 153 tonnes CO2 (2022), our energy consumption also reduced 22% against the baseline, from 1,515 MWh (2019) to 301 MWh (2022).

To achieve a pathway of net zero CO2 emissions by 2050, the International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that overall buildings sector CO2 emissions should fall to around 5 GtCO2 in

2030, or by 0.6 GtCO<sub>2</sub> per year. According to their World Energy Outlook report, cost-effective, proven energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures in buildings could contribute over 6.5 GtCO<sub>2</sub> reductions in annual emissions by 2040. Reductions in emissions from buildings represent one-third of the total reductions required to align with the Paris Agreement's goals<sup>1</sup>, presenting a large potential for significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to other major emitting sectors.

Buildings account for around 37% of global energy and process-related emissions<sup>2</sup>, and high-performing green buildings, particularly LEED-certified buildings, provide the means to reduce the climate impacts of buildings and their inhabitants. A LEED rated building like our E-Town Transaction Office can help create a healthier and more sustainable future for not only the environment but also offers social benefits. LEED-certified buildings focus on occupants well-being, offering a healthier and more satisfying indoor space while addressing community and public health. People who work in green, well-ventilated offices record a 101% increase in cognitive scores (brain function)<sup>3</sup>. For such positive impacts coupled with a number of economic benefits including lower operational costs than non-green buildings, LEED is an essential strategy for achieving ESG, decarbonisation and equity goals.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. LEED certification provides a framework for healthy, highly efficient, and cost-saving green buildings, which offer environmental, social and governance benefits. It is a globally recognised symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership.

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**Notes to Editors:**

**HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd.**

HSBC has been in Vietnam for over 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 four 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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<sup>1</sup> IEA's [The Global Roadmap for Buildings and Construction](#)

<sup>2</sup> UNEP's [2022 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Syracuse University's The Impact of Green Buildings on Cognitive Function Study](#)