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## **HSBC NAMED ASIA'S BEST BANK FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE TWO YEARS RUNNING**

HSBC has been named Asia's Best Bank for Sustainable Finance for the second year, in the Euromoney<sup>1</sup> Awards for Excellence 2019.

It was also named the World's Best Bank for Sustainable Finance and the Best Bank for Sustainable Finance in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA).

"If there is one bank that is bringing the urgency of getting capital working for the planet, it is HSBC," said Euromoney in its coverage of the awards, "The bank dominates in green bonds and green loans, and as a trusted bank in the sector, HSBC nearly always appears with firsts." The publication noted that "the scope of the work at the bank covers every country in which it operates and every business line from retail banking to supply-chain finance."

Daniel Klier, Global Head of Sustainable Finance at HSBC, said: "We are honoured that Euromoney have recognised our achievements to date. HSBC is proud of its work in Sustainable Finance, which is key to our long term strategy. We believe that we are still at the start of an exciting journey to a sustainable, low-carbon economy and will continue to support our customers' investments in this area."

Euromoney noted that in Asia, HSBC has been 'working across the entire region across the spectrum – helping improve livelihoods and helping companies with their low carbon transition'. The award highlighted HSBC as 'the green structuring agent on more than half of the green, social or sustainability deals in the time period reviewed'.

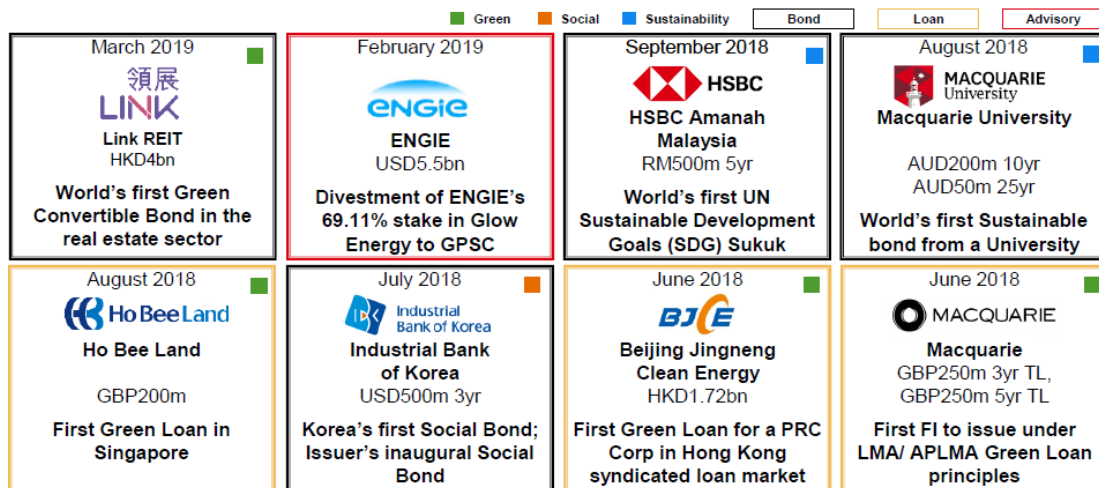
HSBC has acted as Green Structuring Advisor<sup>2</sup> on over half of the bond deals where the bank was a bookrunner, covering more currencies and for more markets than any other bookrunner. HSBC was the leading bookrunner<sup>2</sup> in the Green/Social/Sustainable (GSS) league table in Asia (excluding China) with nearly USD3 billion worth of deals.

HSBC has delivered a range of sustainable finance transactions in Malaysia, Australia, mainland China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore and South Korea.

Stuart Milne, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Malaysia, said: “As the world’s fastest-growing and most populous region, Asia presents unique challenges and opportunities in the transition to a low carbon economy. At HSBC Malaysia, we work closely with our clients to help them understand the impact of climate change on their businesses and use our expertise in financing, investments and supply chain solutions to meet their needs. We want to play our role in ensuring the region’s development is environmentally and socially sustainable, by driving a transformation of the financial system that underpins it. Our goal is to mainstream sustainable finance across all sectors.”

The following landmark deals helped HSBC clinch this award, including:

- HSBC Amanah Malaysia’s UN Sustainable Development Goals Sukuk
- Hong Kong’s inaugural sovereign US\$1bn green bond
- Link REIT’s green convertible bond, the first from the real estate sector
- the first green loan in Singapore for Ho Bee Land
- Macquarie University’s first sustainable bond from a university



*HSBC's sustainable finance highlights in Asia during the award period*

The award also cited HSBC's holistic approach to sustainability, including:

- Research reports and events to communicate ESG to governments, corporates and investors;
- ESG-linked investment products and portfolio tools for retail and private banking clients, and
- SME funding in mainland China and microfinance initiatives in India
- Partnerships across Asia including the creation of a sustainable palm oil alliance and sustainable steel coalition.

"With sustainability integrated in every business line, across geographies, with a commitment to innovation and standard setting, HSBC is central to the evolution of sustainable finance," said Euromoney.

"Recently, HSBC in Malaysia once again took the lead in sustainable investment with the launch of ESG Islamic Structured Product in June 2019. Following the successful launch of the world's first United Nations Sustainable Development Goals sukuk in October 2018, this first-in-the-market ESG-related investment product demonstrates HSBC's leadership in sustainable financing and investments. The introduction of this innovative product is clearly in line with Bank Negara Malaysia's Value-based Intermediation ("VBI") initiative that seeks to shift the focus of the

Islamic finance industry to integrate environmental and social tenets into banking activities,” added Stuart.

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**Footnotes:**

1. For 50 years, Euromoney has been the leading publication for covering the growth of international finance. Over the past 12 months its coverage has included interviews with close to 100 bank CEOs, ministers of finance and central bank governors around the world. Euromoney's Awards for Excellence are the awards that matter to the banks and bankers who matter. They were established in 1992 and were the first of their kind in the global banking industry. This year Euromoney received almost 1,000 submissions from banks in an awards programme that covers 20 global awards, more than 50 regional awards, and best bank awards in close to 100 countries. [Visit their website for more information.](#)
2. Dealogic, from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

**Note to editors:**

**About HSBC Malaysia**

HSBC's presence in Malaysia dates back to 1884 when the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (a company under the HSBC Group) established its first office in the country, on the island of Penang, with permission to issue currency notes. HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad was locally incorporated in 1984 and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. In 2007,

HSBC Bank Malaysia was the first locally incorporated foreign bank to be awarded an Islamic banking subsidiary licence in Malaysia, HSBC Amanah Malaysia Berhad. Today, HSBC in Malaysia has a network of 68 branches nationwide, of which 26 are HSBC Amanah Malaysia Berhad branches. HSBC Bank Malaysia offers a comprehensive range of banking and financial services including Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Commercial Banking, Global Banking and Markets, and Islamic financial solutions. HSBC Bank Malaysia has also led innovation in Malaysia by introducing Malaysia's first ATM and Electronic Touch Banking in the early 1980s. Today, HSBC Bank Malaysia has launched innovative solutions such as HSBCnet for secure banking for businesses, Trade Transaction Tracker and Facial Recognition.

**The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited**

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group, which serves our customers through four global businesses: Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Commercial Banking, Global Banking and Markets, and Global Private Banking. The Group serves customers worldwide in 66 countries and territories in our geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,659bn at 31 March 2019, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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