



MEDIA RELEASE

OCBC Hong Kong to Scale Up SME Sustainable Financing as Part of Group-Wide Ambition to Support 12,000 SMEs

This is the first time an Asian bank has set a dedicated sustainable finance goal for SMEs

Hong Kong, 7 May 2026 – OCBC Hong Kong will scale up its support for local small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) through sustainable financing, as part of OCBC Group's ambition to support 12,000 SMEs across its core markets by 2028.

Achieving this Group-wide ambition is expected to broadly double both the number of SMEs supported and total SME sustainable finance commitments by 2028, increasing commitments from nearly S\$13 billion to S\$25 billion (approximately HK\$78 billion to HK\$150 billion). This reflects growing awareness among SMEs that sustainability is increasingly important in strengthening competitiveness, resilience and long-term growth.

OCBC Hong Kong's efforts will build on its existing support for **close to 1,500 SMEs** through sustainable finance solutions, as part of the Group's broader ambition to scale support across its core markets. The bank will continue to focus on providing practical and cost-competitive solutions aligned with business needs, to help SMEs progress towards more sustainable business practices.

SMEs Play a Critical Role in Hong Kong's Economy

In Hong Kong, SMEs account for over 98% of the city's enterprises and employ approximately 1.2 million people¹, playing a critical role in economic growth, employment, and innovation. As sustainability increasingly shapes business and financing decisions, SMEs are also becoming an important enabler of transition efforts across supply chains.

OCBC Hong Kong aims to support SMEs in overcoming common challenges such as limited resources, expertise and access to financing by providing tailored sustainable financing solutions, complemented by tools and frameworks that make sustainability more practical and achievable.

Building on Strong Momentum

OCBC Group's refreshed corporate strategy, *The Next Frontier*, accelerates growth through four Strategic Shifts, including the Net-Zero Shift to strengthen support for green transition across Asia.

Guided by the belief that the sustainable transition is for businesses of all sizes, OCBC Hong Kong's SME sustainable financing efforts will build on strong momentum and continue to contribute meaningfully to the Group's ambition.

¹ [HKSARS Trade and Industry Department, Support and Consultation Centre for SMEs](#)

OCBC leverages its capital and expertise across both corporate and SME segments, having committed more than HK\$50 billion in sustainable finance for corporates, while actively supporting SMEs to kick-start and scale their sustainability journeys.

As at end-2025:

- OCBC Hong Kong has supported **close to 1,500 SMEs** with sustainable financing, representing **over 40% increase year-on-year**
- Total SME sustainable finance commitments in Hong Kong **grew by over 45% year-on-year**

These trends are consistent with broader Group-wide developments, as SMEs increasingly recognise sustainability not only as a compliance consideration, but as a strategic business imperative.

Practical and Accessible Support for SMEs

OCBC Hong Kong supports SMEs by providing tailored sustainable financing solutions, alongside tools and frameworks designed to make sustainability more practical and achievable across different stages of their transition journey.

To deliver this support effectively, OCBC adopts “triple-A” approach, covering awareness, action and access to capital—including targeted support for women-led businesses through initiatives such as OCBC Women Unlimited programme, which has seen strong traction among women-led SMEs, helping Hong Kong SMEs advance their sustainability efforts in a practical and accessible manner.

A Hong Kong-based engineering subcontractor specialising in construction expanded its operations with the support of OCBC Hong Kong’s sustainable financing solutions. Through OCBC’s Sustainable Finance Framework and Small and Medium Enterprise Environmental Assessment (SMEEA), the company gained practical insights into the energy performance of its industrial properties, supporting more informed and energy-efficient asset management decisions. The SME subsequently secured multiple mortgage facilities, which strengthened cash flow, reduced long-term operating costs and enabled the business to scale responsibly while managing transition risks.

Ms Ruby Yiu, Head of Emerging Business, OCBC Hong Kong, said, “Many SMEs expanding their businesses and investing in assets today are facing very real challenges around cost control and managing transition-related risks. From gaining clearer insights into energy performance to strengthening cash flow to support long-term development, businesses need practical, actionable tools and financing support. Through solutions such as SMEEA and our sustainable finance frameworks, OCBC helps SMEs make more informed decisions, enhance operational efficiency, and advance their sustainability transition. As a Group, we are committed to providing accessible sustainable finance solutions that support SMEs in building resilient and future-ready businesses.”

OCBC has recently been recognised by The Digital Banker as the “Best SME Bank – HKSAR, China” for 2026 and by Global Finance as the “Best Bank for Sustainable Finance in Hong Kong” for three consecutive years, — alongside a Top 2 ranking as Mandated Lead Arranger for ESG loans in Asia-Pacific (excluding Japan) FY2025 by London Stock Exchange Group, reflecting its ongoing commitment to support corporates through the green transition.

For more information on OCBC Hong Kong's SME solutions, please visit: <https://www.ocbc.com.hk/business-banking/smes.page>

Beyond financing, OCBC Hong Kong works closely with industry partners, policymakers and ecosystem players to strengthen sustainability capabilities across supply chains, advance financial inclusion, and contribute to Hong Kong and Asia's long-term sustainability goals.

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About OCBC

OCBC is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with Aa1 by Moody's and AA- by both Fitch and S&P. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC is consistently ranked among the World's Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

OCBC is the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets. The Group offers a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals. Its insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the leading asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Its brokerage subsidiary, OCBC Securities, is one of the leading securities firms in Singapore.

The Group's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has close to 400 branches and representative offices in 19 countries and regions.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.hk to learn more about OCBC Hong Kong.

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