

## **Standard Chartered scoops best in class sustainability commendations**

**Wins 'Best Overall Bank', 'Best Corporate Finance', 'Banking the Unbanked'**

The 'Banking the Unbanked' Commendation recognises Standard Chartered Bank's continued commitment to microfinance, with currently a portfolio in 13 countries worldwide. Now viewed as an investment-grade asset rather than charitable endeavour, the Bank's microfinance positions are managed through its wholesale banking division, as is best practice. Its strength in this area contributes to growing the sector as a profitable enterprise whilst helping to bring people out of poverty.

Mike Rees added: "Our commitment to empowering people by improving access to financial services has been recognised with this commendation. Standard Chartered has partnered with 41 Microfinance Institutions, providing access to local currency funding, transaction banking services and financial markets products. Since September 2006, we have disbursed US\$277 million, and we are also on track to deliver on our Clinton Global Initiative commitment to distribute \$500 million by 2011."