

# press release

## **Standard Chartered Bank Sponsors HIV Schools Quiz**

*Tuesday 4 October 2011- Hwedza District*

Today Standard Chartered Bank sponsored a Regional Schools Quiz on HIV and AIDS. The Bank partnered with Restless Development, a local NGO, to hold a quiz competition amongst 10 Secondary schools drawn from Hwedza District. This is part of the Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility programme where it aims to raise awareness of the pandemic especially among the young and energetic in the hope of "catching them young". The Bank's overall Corporate Social Responsibility policy is to focus on programmes that benefit the youth in the areas of Education and Health.

Standard Chartered Bank recently announced it will increase the opportunity for employees to volunteer during working hours. The leading international bank will offer its staff three 'volunteer days' per year, in addition to annual leave. Standard Chartered's decision reinforces the bank's commitment to contribute positively to the economies and communities where it operates, a key part of its Here for good brand promise.

The potential impact is significant as Standard Chartered employs 75,000 people world-wide. Since 2007, employees have donated US\$18 million worth of time to community projects across Standard Chartered's footprint. In 2009, combined volunteering days amounted to 73 years' of employee time.

Standard Chartered's commitment to employee volunteering stems from the substantial benefits that it brings not only to local communities but also to employee engagement. Volunteering also enables employees to enhance their skills outside of their usual business roles.

Standard Chartered also encourages employees to donate time to its own global community investment programmes, including:

- Living with HIV - a programme designed to combat the disease through educating over a million people worldwide

- Seeing is Believing - a unique partnership between the Bank, the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness and local NGOs to deliver eye care for 20 million people in deprived communities
- Nets for Life – a programme which aims to eliminate malaria in affected countries.

“Volunteering allows employees to make a unique contribution to the local causes that they support. This helps us as an organisation to forge stronger relationships with our communities and demonstrate our positive intentions as a brand,” says Lillian Hapanyengwi, Standard Chartered Bank, Head of Corporate Affairs.

**- ENDS -**

**Notes to the Editor:**

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Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international bank, listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years.

With 1700 offices in 70 markets, Standard Chartered offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for its 75,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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