

press release

Saturday 23 October 2010

Standard Chartered Bank Mutare Branch Staff embark on a cleaning Campaign at Sakubva Musika

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. Volunteering and commitment to communities is cited as a key driver for joining and staying with the bank for many employees.

Standard Chartered Bank Zimbabwe CEO, Mr Washington Matsaira said: *"Employee Volunteering is important to Standard Chartered Bank, as it gives staff members the opportunity to be active in assisting the communities in which they live. Staff members identify causes they are passionate about and are allowed to take time off to participate in various initiatives of their choice. The cleaning campaign being carried out at Sakubva Musika today by our Mutare Branch staff is one very good example and the bank is very proud of them"*

Other examples include gardening, cleaning of orphanage premises, cooking at Old People's homes and spending quality time with the under-privileged.

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.

- ENDS -

Notes to the Editor:

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Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

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'.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please visit www.standardchartered.com