

For Immediate Release**BEA Receives Accolades at the Inaugural WSBI-ESBG SDG Awards**

Recognised for achievements in 'Digital Transformation and Technological Innovation' and 'Climate Finance'

Hong Kong, 17 October 2025 – The Bank of East Asia, Limited ("BEA" or "the Bank") today announced that it has been named one of the winners at the inaugural WSBI-ESBG SDG Awards for its achievements in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") and exemplifying best practices in the areas of 'Digital Transformation and Technological Innovation' and 'Climate Finance'.

The World Savings and Retail Banking Institute – The European Savings and Retail Banking Group ("WSBI-ESBG") launched the WSBI-ESBG SDG Awards as part of its broader SDG initiative to acknowledge the contributions of its member banks. Since 2023, WSBI-ESBG has been publishing the WSBI-ESBG SDG Report, with data compiled from annual surveys to showcase the positive impact of its members in leading the way to inclusive and responsible finance.

Mr Adrian Li, Co-Chief Executive of BEA, said: "This significant honour underscores our unwavering dedication to delivering a high-quality digital customer experience while driving positive environmental and social impact through our green and sustainable finance ("GSF") portfolios. Innovation and Commitment are two of the core values of the Bank, propelling us to continually enhance our digital capabilities and work towards achieving our net zero goals."

Kudos Coins earned the Bank the 'Digital Transformation and Technological Innovation' award for its innovative implementation of blockchain applications alongside operational enhancements. Launched as a proof-of-concept in 2024, Kudos Coin is a non-monetary token built on Distributed Ledger Technology with stablecoin-like characteristics that staff may earn while sending e-Thank You cards. The coins are redeemable for real-world benefits such as well-being leave and retail vouchers. BEA is the first bank in Hong Kong to introduce a self-minting blockchain-based internal token, laying the foundation for future decentralised finance tools that may extend to customer-facing services.

BEA has also sharpened its focus on 'Climate Finance', rapidly expanding its GSF business since 2020. As financed emissions account for the majority of the Bank's total emissions, BEA has been encouraging customers and investee companies to transition to low-carbon and sustainable business models through providing GSF and related advisory services. In 2024, the Bank's GSF loans and ESG bond investments amounted to HK\$81.5 billion, about a three-fold increase since 2021.

BEA is one of the first Hong Kong-based banks to make net zero commitments, announcing its goals to achieve net zero operations by 2030 and net zero financed emissions by 2050. Going forward, the Bank will continue to advance its digital transformation, contribute to the low-carbon transition, and help pave the way for a sustainable future.

To learn more about WSBI-ESBG, please visit: [SDG 2025 report webpage](#).

Photo Caption:



(Middle) Mr Adrian Li, Co-Chief Executive of BEA, attended the 2025 WSBI-ESBG SDG Awards Ceremony, in recognition for the Bank's achievements in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") and exemplifying best practices in the areas of 'Digital Transformation and Technological Innovation' and 'Climate Finance'.

About The Bank of East Asia, Limited

Incorporated in Hong Kong in 1918, The Bank of East Asia, Limited ("BEA") is a leading Hong-Kong-based financial services group listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HK\$891.4 billion (US\$113.5 billion) as of 30 June 2025.

BEA provides a comprehensive range of wholesale banking, personal banking, wealth management and investment services to customers through an extensive network of about 120 outlets covering Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland, Macau, Taiwan, Southeast Asia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. For more information, please visit: www.hkbea.com.

– End –

Media enquiries:

Ms Marcella Yeung
Head of Corporate Communications
The Bank of East Asia, Limited
T +852 3608 0271
E yeungmps@hkbea.com

Ms Kaman Ho
Senior Corporate Communications Manager
The Bank of East Asia, Limited
T +852 3608 0213
E hokkm1@hkbea.com