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HSBC partners with JA Korea to support high school students with entrepreneurship

HSBC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Junior Achievement (JA) Korea on 21 July 2015 to sponsor their local “Company Programme” targeted at high school students.

To mark its 150th anniversary, HSBC is making an additional global fund of US\$150m over three years (2015-2017) available to local charities. JA Korea is one of the charities that will receive a grant from this fund to deliver its Company Programme, with about 750 students expected to participate.

JA is an international NGO dedicated to deliver economic education for students. The Company Programme is designed to take students through a step-by-step entrepreneurial journey. Students partner with mentors to learn leadership skills, identify business opportunities, then develop a business plan, launch a product and end by reporting back to shareholders through filing their annual report. Currently, the Programme is launched in over 100 countries around the world.

Martin Tricaud, President and CEO, HSBC Korea, said: “Developing entrepreneurial spirit in young people is important for a society to thrive and sustain. We are delighted to build on this long standing commitment by partnering with the Junior Achievement Korea to support Korean students to realise their hopes and dreams.”

HSBC and JA Korea have been working together on a similar programme “Aim High Camp” since 2013. This camp is designed to help Korean high and middle school students make a business plan and develop entrepreneurial skills. So far, 290 students have been involved with 11 HSBC employees volunteering as mentors. The Company Programme is a further developed version of the Aim High Camp.

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Notes to editors:

The Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement, founded in 1919, is one of the largest global NGOs dedicated to addressing fundamental social and economic challenges of young people by educating and empowering them to transform their future and own their economic success.

Junior Achievement Korea is a non-profit organisation that brings the real world to students through hands-on curriculum delivered by a trained classroom volunteer.

Junior Achievement Korea offers education programs in the areas of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy, delivered at no cost to elementary, middle, high schools and universities. Since its foundation in 2002, Junior Achievement Korea reaches over 140,000 students annually with 10,000 dedicated volunteers.

The HSBC Group

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from over 6,100 offices in 73 countries and territories in Asia, Europe, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,670bn at 31 March 2015, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

HSBC in Korea

HSBC has had a long presence in South Korea for over 115 years entering the Korean market in 1897 in Jemulpo (Incheon). HSBC is the leading provider of global banking and market services in Korea, and is one of the largest investors amongst foreign banks in Korea with total assets of 20,095 billion won as of December 2014. HSBC Korea was awarded 'Best Foreign Commercial Bank' in Korea by FinanceAsia in 2013, and was voted the 'Best Domestic Cash Management Bank' in Korea for the fifth consecutive year in Euromoney Cash Management Survey in 2014.

HSBC's US\$150m community fund

HSBC marks its 150th anniversary in 2015. As part of this, HSBC has made a US\$150m fund available to community projects over three years (2015-2017). More than 140 charities worldwide have been selected by HSBC's management team, based on votes from HSBC employees, to receive funds. The US\$150m fund is in addition to the US\$114m HSBC makes available to community investment programmes globally each year. Further details:

<http://www.hsbc.com/citizenship/sustainability>

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