

**MUFG Bank, Ltd.**

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For Immediate Release

### **MUFG NOW (Net Zero World) launches in Shanghai, reaffirming China's ascent as global climate leader**

**Shanghai, 6 December 2024** – MUFG Bank, Ltd. (MUFG) last Friday gathered over 60 business leaders, policymakers and industry experts to its inaugural MUFG NOW conference in Shanghai.

MUFG NOW, or Net Zero World, made its debut in Mainland China as the world increasingly looks towards the country to drive global climate collaboration and energy transition through its leadership in green technology and international growth platforms such as the Belt and Road Initiative.

MUFG NOW is a networking and thought leadership platform that was launched in September 2023 in support of the bank's sustainability engagement efforts across the Asia Pacific.

Hosted by the bank's ESG finance team for Asia Pacific and MUFG Bank China (MUFG China), the event saw leading Chinese corporates in attendance alongside public and industry bodies such as the Green Partnership of Industrial Parks in China (GPIPC) and National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (NAFMII).

As one of the first foreign banks to enter China, MUFG has not only connected Chinese corporations to global opportunities but has also actively promoted sustainable finance in the country, having set a target of achieving a sustainable funding balance of RMB15 billion, or over USD2 billion, by 2030.

Since receiving its lead underwriting license for corporate Panda bonds in China in January 2024, MUFG China has also deepened its track record of onshore green bond underwriting, while further connecting regional clients to opportunities in Mainland China. One of the first transactions it underwritten after receiving the license was a RMB100 million syndicated green panda bond for a Hong Kong-listed conglomerate with a diversified portfolio in toll roads, insurance, logistics, construction and facilities management.

MUFG China was also named “Foreign Bank of the Year” at this year’s ESG Frontiers Awards by the China Financial Advancement Forum for the third consecutive time, reaffirming its debt capital markets and ESG financing track record in the country.

Colin Chen, MUFG’s Head of ESG Finance for APAC, said: “Whilst prevailing economic conditions might have impacted regional sustainable debt markets, I am optimistic that China’s leadership in green financing, especially in green bond issuance, will only continue to grow as market sentiment improves and interest rates decline.

“We will continue to proactively engage our clients and other key stakeholders in China to mobilise capital for its national decarbonisation objectives as well as Asia’s net zero transition,” he added.

Benjamin Lam, MUFG China’s Deputy President and Head of Global Corporate and Investment Banking (GCIB) for China said: “There can be no plausible pathway to global net zero without China. As the world looks further to China for climate leadership, MUFG will do everything in its power to mobilise the public and private sectors towards achieving a brighter future. The inauguration of MUFG NOW in Shanghai is further testament of our commitment to facilitating dialogue, engagement, and ultimately, collaborative action, in support of our clients’ sustainability and growth aspirations.”

*(Please refer to the photos and captions below)*



MUFG executives and VIP guest at the MUFG NOW conference in Shanghai. (From left to right) Richard Yorke, MUFG's Head of Global Corporate and Investment Banking for Asia Pacific, Xinyi Liu, Deputy Director, Standing Secretariat of Green Partnership of Industrial Parks in China and Yoshiki Hasegawa, President of MUFG China.





MUFG executives and VIP guests at the MUFG NOW conference in Shanghai. Standing from left to right: Colin Chen, MUFG's Head of ESG Finance for Asia Pacific; Ricco Zhang, International Capital Market Association (ICMA)'s Senior Director, Asia Pacific; Richard Yorke, MUFG's Head of Global Corporate and Investment Banking for Asia Pacific; Zhao Li, Sustainability Lead, Far East Horizon; Yoshiaki Hasegawa, President of MUFG China; Ning Yu, Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, Zhongsheng Group; Tony Lee, MUFG's Head of Global Corporate Banking for East Asia; Langen Shu, Vice President, Royal Golden Eagle; Benjamin Lam, MUFG China's Deputy President and Delia Liao, Vice President, ESG Finance, Asia Pacific, MUFG.



Business leaders at MUFG NOW weighed in on how China is mobilising capital in support of its green transition. From left to right: Ricco Zhang, International Capital Market Association (ICMA)'s Senior Director, APAC; Zhao Li, Far East Horizon's Sustainability Lead; Ning Yu, Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, Zhongsheng Group; Langen Shu, Vice President, Royal Golden Eagle and Delia Liao, MUFG's Vice President, ESG Finance, APAC, moderating the panel.





In a second panel at MUFG NOW, industry experts delve into China's efforts in integrating global climate leadership and its national energy transition. From left to right: Wei Kong, Managing Partner, Zhong Lun Law Firm; Yiran Liu, Director of International Department, National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (NAFMII); Alex Cui, Marketing Director, China Chengxin Green Finance Technology (Beijing) and finally, Janette Chen, Senior Analyst, Head of Greater China, from regional business magazine The Asset, moderating the panel.

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### About MUFG

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG) is one of the world's leading financial groups. Headquartered in Tokyo and with over 360 years of history, MUFG has a global network with approximately 2,000 locations in more than 40 markets. The Group has about 120,000 employees and offers services including commercial banking, trust banking, securities, credit cards, consumer finance, asset management, and leasing.

MUFG Bank, Ltd. is Japan's premier bank, with a global network spanning more than 40 markets. Outside of Japan, the bank offers an extensive scope of commercial and investment banking products and services to businesses, governments and individuals worldwide.

In Asia Pacific, MUFG has a presence across 18 markets – Australia, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

It has also formed strategic partnerships with some of the most prominent banks in South-east Asia, further augmenting its unrivalled network across the region – VietinBank in Vietnam, Krungsri in Thailand, Security Bank in the Philippines and Bank Danamon in Indonesia.

Under the Group's current three-year Medium Term Business Plan ending FY2026, MUFG is dynamically pursuing opportunities to expand and invest in Asia's growth. This will be guided by an unrelenting focus on capturing recurring revenue opportunities; challenging ourselves in new domains; capitalising on the growth of key markets like India, cultivating an Asian digital strategy while consolidating and concentrating on core competencies.

For more information about our Asia Pacific network, click [here](#).

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