

**MUFG Bank, Ltd.**

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For Immediate Release

### **MUFG NOW (Net Zero World) re-imagines Philippine's energy landscape and sustainable supply chains**

**Manila, 26 May 2025** – MUFG Bank, Ltd. (MUFG) last week gathered over 160 business leaders, policymakers and industry experts to its MUFG NOW conference in Manila.

MUFG NOW, or Net Zero World, is the bank's flagship regional networking and thought leadership platform launched in September 2023 to support the bank's sustainability engagements across the Asia Pacific. This year's event in the Philippines follows the success of the inaugural MUFG NOW in Manila last June.

Hosted by the bank's sustainability finance team for Asia Pacific and its Manila branch, the event was attended by distinguished guests, including Undersecretary Ma. Angela Ignacio, Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Investment and Economic Affairs and Pia Roman Tayag, Assistant Governor, Strategy Innovation and Sustainability, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). Senior executives from Philippines' leading conglomerates and industry leaders in green energy, finance and manufacturing also participated in lively discussions on advancing renewable energy and sustainable supply chain management strategies.

In her keynote address, Undersecretary Ignacio said that the government is committed to achieving energy security by 2028 in support of a vision of a country powered by clean energy, where communities thrive and benefit from systems that are reliable, accessible and affordable for all. Today, about 22% of the Philippines' power generation mix comes from renewable energy, and the government's goal is to increase that by 35% by 2030 and over 50% by 2040 and beyond.

"For the Philippines, opportunities lie in our growing economy - game changing reforms, liberalizing policies and rich green energy sources – but above all, it is in the partnerships with organizations and business leaders, who share and invest in the mission of a better and more sustainable future. The rise in renewable energy investments and projects backed by defined policy targets and key initiatives shows that we are not merely waiting for the world to change. MUFG NOW serves as a reminder that the road to net zero is not one that we take alone, it is a shared journey," she added.

During the leadership dialogue, BSP Assistant Governor Tayag affirmed the BSP's commitment to advancing its green agenda, which is anchored in supporting adaptation and resilience. "The country is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, regardless of geopolitical shifts. As (BSP) Governor Remolona has pointed out, a climate-resilient economy and financial stability are mutually reinforcing goals. Our green agenda, therefore, is mandate-driven," she emphasized.

Assistant Governor Tayag also highlighted the significance of the Philippine Sustainable Finance Taxonomy Guidelines (SFTG), launched in February 2024 by the country's financial sector regulators, as a key enabler in mobilizing capital toward the country's climate mitigation and adaptation priorities. She noted that the SFTG is a living document that will be progressively enhanced to include other environmental objectives relevant to the Philippine context, such as circular economy and biodiversity. She also shared the plans to develop a taxonomy supplement that will offer more granular guidance on adaptation and resilience financing.

MUFG has played significant roles in landmark transactions, including Ayala Corporation's first sustainability-linked loan signed in November 2023. With the support of its strategic partner Security Bank Corporation (SBC), one of the lead arrangers for Ayala Land's inaugural sustainability-linked bond (SLB) in July 2024, MUFG was able to support the launch of Philippines' first SLB as well.

Colin Chen, MUFG's Head of Sustainability Finance for Asia Pacific, reiterated the importance of engagement in raising awareness of the opportunities inherent in the Philippines' pivot towards sustainable energy sources and business practices: "As a net energy importer, the Philippines is all too familiar with the need to accelerate energy transition while meeting its growing energy requirements as a fast-developing nation.

"While MUFG continues to innovate and pioneer tailored solutions for our clients, our true strength lies in our ability to leverage our global and regional franchises to connect the public and private sectors, which we continue to do with the MUFG NOW series," he said.

Nobuya Kawasaki, MUFG's Chief Executive for Asia Pacific said: "As a bank with a longstanding history in the Philippines, MUFG is proud and honored to be a trusted financial partner in the country's long-term development. Beyond corporate and infrastructure financing, we are extending our sustainability financing capability and expertise to help corporations catalyze and sustain decarbonization initiatives in the Philippines.

"It is my sincere hope that MUFG's contributions will continue to be a win-win-win proposition for this wonderful country, its people and the precious environment," he added.

MUFG's 72-year presence in the Philippines has been bolstered by strategic investments in SBC, consumer finance company Home Credit Philippines and digital finance firm, Mynt (parent of GCash). Beyond supporting the broader economic development of the country through its relationships with Philippines' leading companies, MUFG has in recent years also actively engaged with corporate clients in support of their sustainability aspirations.

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



MUFG Bank executives and Undersecretary Ma. Angela Ignacio at MUFG NOW. From left: Colin Chen, Head of Sustainability Finance for APAC; Diane Singson, MUFG Manila Deputy Country Head, Undersecretary Ma. Angela Ignacio; Nobuya Kawasaki, Chief Executive for APAC; Masami Yoshitake, MUFG Manila Country Head and Goh Kiat Seng Goh, Head of Global Corporate Banking for Malaysia, Vietnam and Philippines.





BSP Assistant Governor Pia Roman Tayag at the MUFG NOW leadership dialogue alongside Colin Chen, Head of Sustainability Finance for MUFG, APAC.



Undersecretary Ma. Angela Ignacio delivering her keynote speech at MUFG NOW.





At the MUFG NOW event, industry experts and business leaders shared their insights on topics such as the emerging green technologies prevailing in the Philippine energy landscape.

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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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