

Press release

CTBC Bank protects Taiwan's largest lagoon with seed-planting event

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Oct. 1, 2022—CTBC Bank recently gathered nearly 100 employees, along with friends and family, to plant 1,000 seedlings at a sandbank in Southern Taiwan's Tainan City.

The event marked the third consecutive year the bank has participated in the Plant a Tree for the Future initiative, a part of the Vision Project.



Kuo-Chun Luo, CEO of the Vision Project, right, plants seedlings with Yung-Sheng Lin, VP of CTBC Bank's Public Relations and Public Welfare Division, in Tainan City. (Provided by CTBC Bank)

The planted *Lumnitzera* — a type of mangrove tree — will help safeguard Taiwan's largest lagoon, Cigu Lagoon, against sea erosion while also reducing carbon emissions.

In 2022, CTBC Bank jointly purchased 2,000 seedlings with the Vision Project, with employees planting them in Tainan City and along coastline in Yilan County.

The sandbank at Wangziliao, a natural barrier west of Cigu Lagoon, was chosen for the Tainan team. The lagoon is also an active spot for fishing and oyster farming, making it a unique natural, industrial, and cultural landscape.

Climate change has caused the coastline to shrink, putting the wetland ecosystem at risk and making sandbank conservation a top priority.

Yung-Sheng Lin, Vice President of CTBC Bank's Public Relations and Public Welfare Division, underscored the bank's unwavering commitment to corporate sustainability, noting its membership in the Coalition of Movers and Shakers on Sustainable Finance.

CTBC Bank actively engages in green procurement, transparent information disclosure, investment and financing initiatives, and the promotion of international practices, Lin said.

Lin added that the bank sponsors Sanchong World Trade Park near its Taipei Nangang headquarters, where it has planted roughly 130 types of ferns and indigenous plants to preserve the fern ecosystem's biodiversity.

CTBC Bank encourages employees to embrace environmental conservation both at work and in their daily lives. To date, nearly 200 employees and their families have participated in the Plant a Tree for the Future initiative, planting 5,000 seedlings in total.

And notably, the youngest member of CTBC Bank’s tree-planting team was just 4 years old.

Yi-Ching Chen, a member of the Sales Division, who brought his wife and 4-year-old son to the event, said that afforestation was a valuable learning opportunity in addition to being a worthy activity to support the environment and future generations.

“I told my son, ‘the seedling that you plant will come to protect you some day,’” Chen said.

Fellow CTBC Bank staffer Yi-Ya Liao joined the event with her husband and two daughters. Liao said she hoped the activity could teach her children how to care for nature and protect the planet.

The bank’s parent company CTBC Holding actively addresses climate change and fosters sustainable development as part of the Financial Supervisory Commission’s Coalition of Movers and Shakers on Sustainable Finance.

The company’s recent efforts include setting the goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

CTBC Bank, meanwhile, underwrites sustainable deposits and sustainability-linked loans while transitioning to green services, including paperless operations. In August, the bank’s ATM services led the industry in obtaining ISO 14067 carbon footprint verification, saving 70 million receipts annually and reducing carbon emissions by nearly 200 tons.



CTBC Bank employees pose with a seedling at the seed-planting event in Tainan. (Provided by CTBC Bank)



CTBC Bank employee Yi-Ya Liao poses with her husband and two daughters at the event. (Provided by CTBC Bank)



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About CTBC Bank

CTBC Bank, a subsidiary of CTBC Holding (TPE: 2891), was established in 1966 and has been helping build customers' personal wealth and Taiwan's economy for more than 50 years. In addition to its 152 branches nationwide, CTBC Bank has the most extensive international presence of any Taiwanese bank, with 116 overseas branches across 14 countries and regions. Having purchased a subsidiary, The Tokyo Star Bank, in Japan and having established CTBC Bank subsidiaries in the U.S., Canada, the Philippines and Indonesia, the Bank has laid a strong foundation for regional business, providing international enterprises with comprehensive transnational financial services.

Looking ahead, we plan to continue optimizing our international service network as well as to provide our customers with even more convenient global services. We will also continue to expand our efforts in operational performance, corporate governance, corporate social responsibility and environmental sustainability as we cement our status as "Taiwan Champion, Asia Leader."