

## Press release

## CTBC gets go-ahead to issue Taiwan's first social bond

TAIPEI, Taiwan, May 5, 2021—CTBC Bank today received approval from the Taipei Exchange (TPEx) to issue Taiwan's first social bond which will be listed and traded on May 18, responding to the government's promotion of Taiwan's sustainable bond market.

The NT\$1 billion, five-year bond will have a coupon rate of 0.43% and, like Taiwan's first sustainability bond, which CTBC Bank issued in November last year, has already been oversubscribed by investors. The bank also issued the country's first green bond in 2017.

In contrast to green bonds, which focus on environmental issues, social bonds emphasize people and society. The funds raised by the new bond will mainly use for social and economic development and rights protection, including subsidizing projects related to equity and protecting social welfare, which CTBC Bank said reflected its determination to fulfill its corporate social responsibility and promote sustainable finance.

In recent years, TPEx has been heavily promoting the sustainable bonds, including green bonds in 2017, and sustainability bonds in 2020. This is aimed at improving the issuance and listing system for sustainable bonds as well as establishing a complete over-the-counter trading system.

These efforts are proving impactful for Taiwan's capital market by increasing understanding and awareness of Taiwan's sustainable bond market while bringing local conditions in line with international standards — further enhancing the confidence of international issuers and investors in the Taiwanese capital market in the process.

CTBC Bank said the fact that both last year's sustainability bond and this year's social bond were oversubscribed indicated the large rate of investors who were now taking environmental, social and corporate governance considerations into account when making investment decisions.

With commitments to implementing the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and promoting sustainable finance, the bank has been actively taking various roles in the development of innovation sustainable financial products, including as an issuer, investor and underwriter.

Moving forward, CTBC Bank would continue to push Taiwan to stay current with international ESG developments, to support the government's green finance action plan, and to build a sustainable ecosystem of finance, physical industry, and society, thereby promoting the Taiwanese capital market and the development of sustainable finance.

## **Media inquiries**

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## **About CTBC Holding**

CTBC Holding (TPE: 2891) was established in 2002, having grown out of CTBC Bank, which has been



helping build customers' personal wealth and Taiwan's economy since 1966. Headquartered in Taipei, its subsidiaries specialize in diverse services including banking, securities, insurance, venture capital and asset management.

With a global team of over 27,000 people, CTBC Holding operates 268 locations in 14 markets, including the U.S., Canada, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, the Philippines and Australia. It is also a Taiwan industry leader in corporate and environmental sustainability, consistently being an early adopter of emerging international standards and best practices.