

31 March 2020

HSBC UNVEILS VISIONGO IN BETA A DIGITAL COMMUNITY PLATFORM FOR HONG KONG SMEs

** Developed with the latest AI and machine learning technologies **

** Virtually connects SMEs and start-ups in challenging times **

** Nearly 500 original articles at beta launch with new content every day **

** Enrolment of webinars and online tutorials for the Special 100% Loan Guarantee under SFGS **

** Networking opportunities to exchange business ideas **

HSBC unveiled today a beta version of HSBC VisionGo (www.visiongo.hsbc.com.hk), a digital community platform designed to connect small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Hong Kong, empower them with timely business insights, and create a knowledge-sharing environment for like-minded entrepreneurs.

HSBC VisionGo is open to all SMEs, start-ups and prospective entrepreneurs. Non-HSBC customers are also welcome to sign up for the platform. Using the latest artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies, the platform curates relevant content for users based on their preference and reading history.

Terence Chiu, Head of Commercial Banking, Hong Kong, HSBC, said: “The SME community is key to Hong Kong’s economy. HSBC understands they need more than just financial support. HSBC VisionGo complements our banking services by offering a business network and powerful knowledge base catered to the needs of SME owners and start-ups. After months of preparation, we decided to unveil this digital platform in beta for companies to virtually connect and exchange practical ideas – at a time when we must come together to support each other.”

- ***Access to insights from entrepreneurs and industry professionals***

Users will be able to access a growing database of resources across a wide spectrum of business related topics, such as finance, marketing, legal and technology. Nearly 500 original articles, contributed by entrepreneurs and industry professionals, are available on the platform from start. New content, covering companies’ responses to the COVID-19 outbreak, useful tips about the Special 100% Loan Guarantee under the SME Financing

Guarantee Scheme (SFGS), will be added regularly.

- ***Enrolment of events including SFGS webinars and online tutorials***

Starting this week, SMEs can register for free webinars and online tutorials about the Special 100% Loan Guarantee under SFGS on HSBC VisionGo, saving them time and minimising the need for face-to-face meetings. Additional events will also be made available on the platform over time.

- ***Leverage the network to exchange business ideas***

HSBC VisionGo connects SMEs and help them explore business opportunities. Members can exchange ideas with like-minded peers through online consultation sessions and workshops. HSBC's experts will also join these events to give participants the insights required to optimise and scale their businesses.

“HSBC VisionGo is another building block in our comprehensive suite of support for SMEs. It gives SME owners and aspiring entrepreneurs another avenue to learn from each other and grow together. We are here to help them pull through this difficult period,” Chiu added.

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Notes to editor:

Photo 1: HSBC unveiled today a beta version of HSBC VisionGo, a digital community platform designed to connect SMEs in Hong Kong, empower them with timely business insights, and create a knowledge-sharing environment for like-minded entrepreneurs.

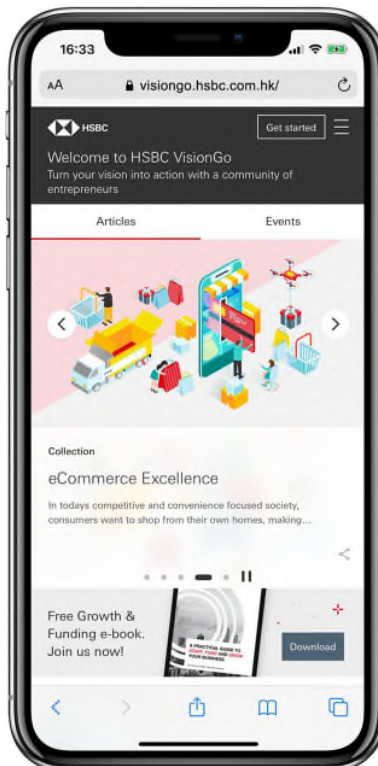


Photo 2: SMEs can register for free webinars about the Special 100% Loan Guarantee under the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme on HSBC VisionGo. Additional events will also be made available on the platform over time.

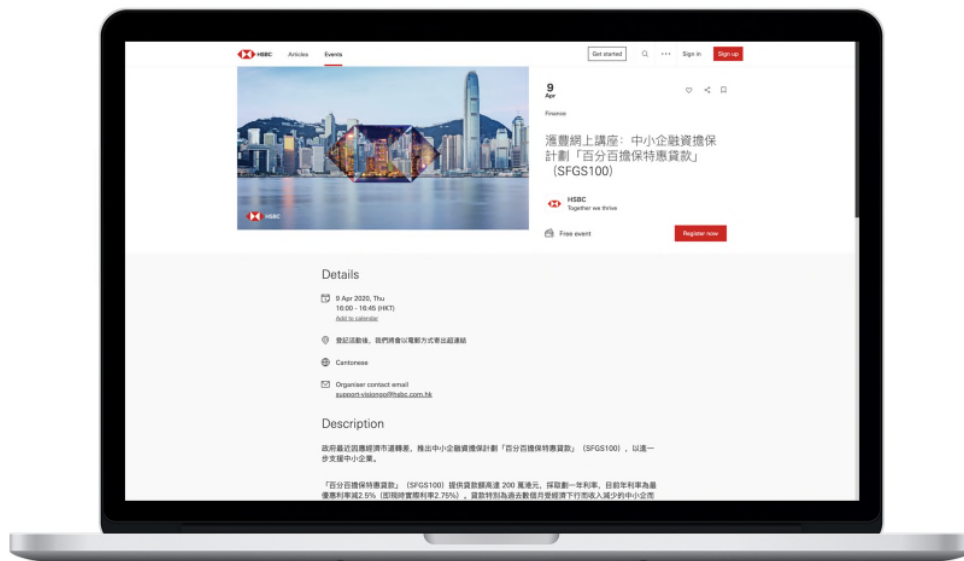
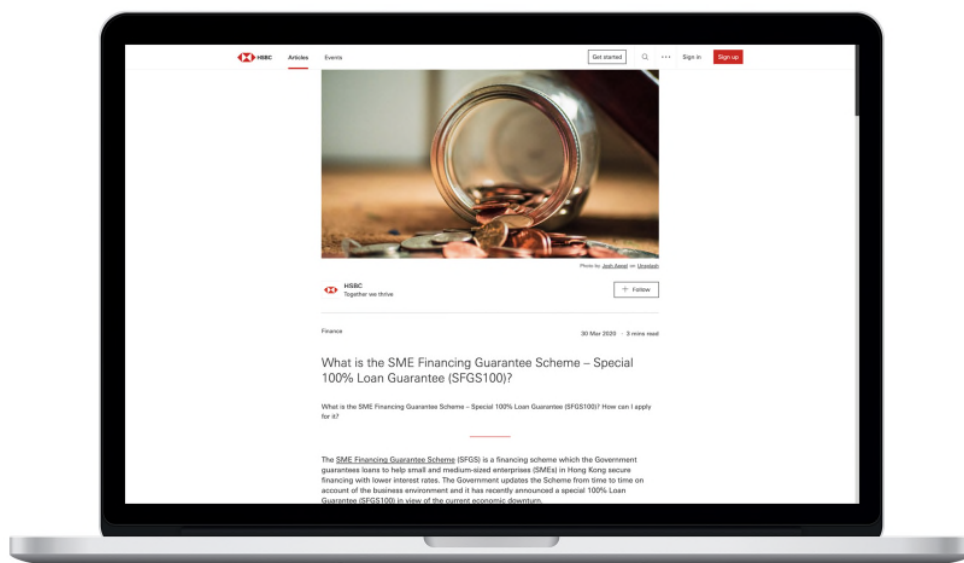


Photo 3: Users will be able to access a growing database of resources across a wide spectrum of business related topics. Nearly 500 original articles, contributed by entrepreneurs and industry professionals, are available on the platform from start. New content, such as useful tips about the Special100% Loan Guarantee under SFGS, will be added regularly.



The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 64 countries and territories in our geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,715bn at 31 December 2019, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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