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## **HSBC COMPLETES PILOT TRIAL OF CROSS-BOUNDARY CREDIT REFERENCING IN HONG KONG**

*\*\*HSBC is one of the pioneering banks participating in the initiative that facilitates cross-boundary corporate financing activities\*\**

HSBC announced today it has completed a pilot test of Cross-Boundary Credit Referencing (CBCR), an initiative led by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the People's Bank of China (PBoC) that leverages the cross-boundary transfer of credit data to enhance credit assessment by banks.

This initiative marks another key development in financial cooperation between Hong Kong and mainland China, facilitating cross-boundary financing for enterprises across the region. With customer consent, credit reference agencies will provide banks in Hong Kong with corporate credit data in mainland China for assessment.

Under the pilot test, HSBC Hong Kong has obtained credit data for a digital travel agency's parent company in mainland China through Dun & Bradstreet. By accessing the company's onshore credit profile, HSBC was able to directly gain a clearer understanding of its credit status and financial performance, thereby facilitating the process of renewing its line of credit in Hong Kong.

**Frank Fang, General Manager, Head of Commercial Banking, Hong Kong and Macau, HSBC**, said: "As a dominant gateway between mainland and the rest of the world, Hong Kong plays to its strength as a leading financial hub to support burgeoning cross-boundary business activities. HSBC is pleased to have participated in the pilot trial of the CBCR, an initiative that allows banks to evaluate the creditworthiness of companies in the region with greater ease and improves access to financing. With the growing demand for seamless cross-boundary financing, we will continue to enhance our solutions for businesses and foster their growth in Hong Kong and beyond."

HSBC is dedicated to strengthening its capabilities to provide customers with easier access to financing. As one of the first financial institutions to connect with the Commercial Credit Reference Agency under the Commercial Data Interchange initiative, HSBC has been leveraging data to streamline credit applications and assessments for SMEs. Additionally, HSBC has partnered with commercial entities, including Octopus and Dowsure, to offer data-driven financing solutions for merchants.

Reminder: "To borrow or not to borrow? Borrow only if you can repay!"

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**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 62 countries and territories. With assets of US\$3,001bn at 31 March 2024, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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