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Public Bank Ensures Access to Financing Remains Widely Available in Supporting the Nation's Economic Recovery.

Public Bank has been ensuring equitable access to suitable and affordable financial products and services to people from all segments of the society since opening its doors for business in 6 August 1966.

Emphasising financial inclusion through the provision of affordable financing to support all segments of society, especially financing for affordable housing, Public Bank facilitated the financing of affordable homes, amounting to RM11.85 billion as of end 2022.

This is aligned with Public Bank's commitment of mobilising RM48 billion in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) friendly financing by 2025, including RM15 billion for affordable home financing.

Notwithstanding, Public Bank's RM67 billion domestic exposure to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) based commercial lending as at end 2022, equivalent to an 18.6% industry market share, is a clear indication of its strong support for Malaysian SMEs.

Public Bank's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek said Public Bank's comprehensive financial products and facilities catering to both individuals and SMEs remain widely available.

"Public Bank has been ensuring that access to financing remains available to facilitate a conducive environment for sustainable economic growth while supporting the livelihood of the society at large," Tan Sri Tay said in support of the government's ongoing efforts throughout the economic recovery phase.

To further enhance the financial access for SMEs, Public Bank has ongoing strategic collaboration with Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Berhad (CGC) and Syarikat Jaminan Pembiayaan Perniagaan Berhad (SJPP) in a series of guarantee schemes which enable eligible SMEs that lack collateral to obtain financing.

Public Bank has also been actively participating in special schemes initiated by the Government and Bank Negara Malaysia since the COVID-19 pandemic and has approved about RM3.7 billion of financing, benefiting more than 18,800 SMEs.

On top of ensuring access to financing, as part of Public Bank's sustainability agenda, Public Bank has also been providing a diverse range of green financing solutions to SMEs, aimed at encouraging the adoption of environmentally friendly practices, while reducing financing for high-risk climate-related purposes.

Going further from just providing financing schemes, Public Bank has also organised activities for SME capacity building initiatives, including roadshows, seminars, digitalisation collaborations and initiatives involving transitioning toward ESG. One of them being the Train-The-Trainers programme where virtual SME Financing Roadshows are conducted to create awareness on the various financing solutions offered by Public Bank.

Such initiatives provide an avenue for SMEs to address any financial or funding information asymmetry.

Next, Public Bank has also planned to organise a series of seminars to keep SMEs updated with market developments, with the maiden seminar held on green real estate seminar. Key knowledge and information conveyed to the SMEs include issues covering climate change, ESG and the benefits and opportunities of pursuing sustainability.

With industry experts' insight to raise the awareness on sustainable development for SME developers, the seminar, held on 14 June 2023 in Klang Valley region received overwhelming response, paving the way for such seminars in the near future.

To find out more, customers may contact the Bank at 03-2176 6008 or visit the Bank's website at <https://www.pbebank.com>.



Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Public Bank

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