



## Media Release

For Release: 28 May 2015

### **ANZ partners with Australian Water Association to support water management programs in SE Asia - builds on existing innovation programs in Australia -**

ANZ today announced a new partnership with the Australian Water Association (AWA) to support its water and wastewater management programs in South-East Asia.

AWA's programs focus on knowledge sharing, capacity building, trade and investment initiatives and strengthening governance arrangements in Vietnam, India and Indonesia. This includes organising outbound and inbound trade delegations of water professionals, facilitating trade exhibitions and business matching. ANZ will add expertise in infrastructure and public-private partnership (PPP) financing.

The partnership builds on ANZ's existing relationship with AWA in Australia, which seeks to promote innovation and best practice in water and wastewater management around the country.

ANZ Managing Director of Global Loans and Advisory Christina Tonkin, said: "Australia has developed world leading capabilities in water management, in particular during the millennium drought which affected most parts of the country for the best part of a decade.

"As part of our commitment to sustainable finance, we believe this partnership will help disseminate Australian expertise in key markets identified by AWA and where ANZ has operations, as well as leverage private sector involvement in aid funded water projects. We hope to develop similar programs in other Mekong countries in due course."

Australian Water Association Chief Executive, Jonathan McKeown, said that with support from ANZ, coupled with the support of the State and Federal Governments, AWA will be able to build the capacity of the water sectors in these fast emerging economies and raise the profile of the Australian water sector's skills and capabilities.

"Australia's water sector has much to offer our regional neighbours to enable sustainable urban and rural growth and economic productivity. Our collaboration with ANZ will support institutional strengthening necessary for improved performance of water and wastewater services and support government objectives for transitioning Asian countries towards a more market-orientated water sector," said Mr McKeown.

AWA is Australia's peak water organisation for sustainable water management and has a network of 5,200 members ranging from commercial to large scale operators. AWA's coverage also extends into Asia including Indonesia, Vietnam, India, Thailand, Singapore, China, Malaysia, Cambodia, Hong Kong and Korea.

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