



## Media Release

For Release: 03 July 2014

### **ANZ's Carbon Abatement supports an energy-saving project in Vietnam**

ANZ today announced it directed a large portion of its 2013 carbon neutrality budget into a significant energy-saving project in Vietnam. The investment is evidence of ANZ's Corporate Sustainability strategy in action and its efforts to support sustainable development in the region. ANZ's investment in the abatement certificates (carbon offsets) of this project has provided direct benefit to the Vietnamese market, where ANZ has over 20 years of operation.

The energy efficiency program, initiated by EVN and Southern Power Corporation, installed one million energy-efficient light bulbs without cost to almost 570,000 rural Vietnamese homes. The program lowered electricity costs for the householders, created an average of 23,000 tonnes of annual abatement certificates and reduced just over 27,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide in its first year of operation. Additionally ANZ is giving away over 2,000 energy saving light bulbs to its customers and some target groups in the community in July 2014.

Tareq Muhmood, CEO ANZ Vietnam said: "ANZ is committed to growing more responsibly in the market we operate in various ways including the way we support our staff, the products we develop, how we manage our risks or the interactions we have every day with our customers and the communities we serve."

"In Vietnam, we have been helping the Vietnam communities to grow with us by providing financial education programs such as MoneyMinded and support for focused groups in rural community via a joint partnership with local government and local NGO. I'm very pleased that Vietnam also benefits from ANZ Group's substantial investment in carbon reduction projects like such," Tareq added.

Benjamin Muir, Director of Cleaner Climate, ANZ's carbon consultancy partner, said: "We are delighted to be working with ANZ on this innovative and socially engaging offset program. ANZ's carbon offset funding is an integral part of these projects and plays an ongoing role as to the viability and scale of future low-tech, energy efficiency programs in the country."

ANZ's carbon neutrality investment also supports the work of the Vietnamese based Blue Dragon Children's Foundation through 'Cleaner Climate' directing a percentage of their profit, derived from the ANZ expense into the Blue Dragon 'Stay in School' program. The support from Cleaner Climate and ANZ's investment provided 126 disadvantaged children from the Bac Ninh province everything they require to stay in school including: school fees, insurance, uniforms, text books, stationery and any other necessities to enable these 126 children to continue their studies.

ANZ was among the first international banks to operate in Vietnam, establishing its first office in 1993. ANZ was named the most sustainable bank globally in the 2013 Dow Jones Sustainability Index, for the sixth time in seven years.

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