

**For immediate release**

**HKIB and MIFS organise the second Macao Financial Talent Development Day**

*Jointly launch new certification programme*

*Strengthen support for the green finance industry and talent development in Macao*

**27 May 2025, Hong Kong** – Jointly organised by The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) and the Macau Institute of Financial Services (MIFS), the second Macao Financial Talent Development Day was successfully held recently, attracting more than 250 financial industry practitioners and university students from Hong Kong and Macao, both in person and online.

A key highlight was the official launch of the ‘Enhanced Competency Framework (ECF) on Green and Sustainable Finance Macao (Core Level)’ professional certification in Macao. This initiative supports the development of local green talent and professional qualifications. Additionally, HKIB and MIFS held a ceremony to award professional qualification certificates to learners.

The Macao Financial Talent Development Day promotes industry growth across the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA), bringing together industry experts from diverse regions and sectors to share insights on emerging trends and cultivate a skilled financial workforce. The event underscores the commitment to synchronised development in Hong Kong, Macao, and the broader GBA.

This year’s event focused on ‘Cybersecurity in Sustainable Finance’, aligning with the Macao SAR Government’s emphasis on cybersecurity and sustainable finance. While green finance relies on digital tools—such as ESG data platforms and carbon trading systems—technical vulnerabilities can expose sensitive environmental data or lead to greenwashing risks. As financial institutions accelerate their green finance initiatives, they will need professionals skilled in enhancing data and system security to build a secure and trustworthy sustainable finance ecosystem.

**Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers**, said, “The Macao Financial Talent Development Day serves as an important exchange platform for the financial industries between Hong Kong and Macao. This year’s theme, ‘Cybersecurity in Sustainable Finance’, responds to critical industry needs in advancing Macao’s long-term financial growth. We are pleased to strengthen our partnership with the Macau Institute of Financial Services (MIFS) to cultivate cross-sector expertise through our newly-launched Green and Sustainable Finance certification programme. By integrating cybersecurity with sustainable finance in the digital age, this initiative reinforces Macao’s efforts to build a resilient and secure financial ecosystem. Furthermore, it will contribute to fostering high-quality development across the GBA financial sector.

**Esther LEI, Executive Director of the Board of Directors of the Monetary Authority of Macao and Chairperson of the Executive Board of Macau Institute of Financial Services**, stated: “To promote moderate economic diversification in Macao and align with national development strategies such as the 14th Five-Year Plan, the Macao SAR Government is placing a strong emphasis on developing a modern financial sector. Efforts are also underway to enhance the infrastructure and broader environment necessary for the growth of financial markets. Among these efforts, talent development is essential to ensuring the sector’s long-term sustainability. The Macau Institute of Financial Services continues to align with the Macao SAR Government’s talent

development policies by implementing a range of training and capacity-building initiatives. Since 2009, MIFS has maintained close collaboration with The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers, consistently delivering professional qualification training courses in Macao. These programmes help local financial practitioners deepen their expertise and effectively apply their knowledge in the workplace."

During the event, HKIB and MIFS jointly hosted a launch ceremony for the 'ECF on Green and Sustainable Finance Macao (Core Level)' certification programme. This advanced programme builds on the positive industry feedback for the 'Specialist Certificate in Green Finance and Sustainability' course. Developed in response to market needs, the programme specifically addresses Macao's growing demand for training in green and sustainable finance, aiming to further enhance the professionalism of industry practitioners in this field.

Over the years, both institutes have been committed to promoting professional qualification courses in Macao to cultivate professional, high-quality talent that is recognised by the local financial industry, while also strengthening the local talent pipeline. In addition, the event featured a graduation ceremony for learners of 'Certified Banker Macao (Stage I)', 'Certified Banker (Stage II)', 'ECF on Retail Wealth Management Macao', 'ECF on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism Macao (Core Level)', and 'Specialist Certificate in Green Finance and Sustainability'. Esther LEI, Executive Director of the Board of Directors of the Monetary Authority of Macao and Chairperson of the Executive Board of Macau Institute of Financial Services, Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers, and Professor Lewis TAM, Representative of Faculty of Business Administration of University of Macau, presented certifications to 21 graduates. The ceremony recognised two exceptional learners with the prestigious Outstanding Student Award for their academic excellence. Notably, one awardee even achieved excellence awards in two professional qualifications simultaneously—a remarkable accomplishment that truly deserves commendation.

HKIB also organised an annual membership seminar during the event featuring Teddy KO, Head of Business Development and Sales, North Asia, ViewQwest, and Mark LAM, Country Director, Greater China, HK & Macau, SecurityScorecard. The speakers delved into cybersecurity governance, offering actionable strategies for banks to strengthen risk mitigation and operational resilience within a sustainable finance framework. Their insights encouraged industry practitioners to gain cross-sector knowledge in green finance and cybersecurity and navigate potential challenges during the industry's transformation.

To further support practitioners in acquiring cross-sector professional knowledge, HKIB will conduct a Continuing Development Programme in Macao this June. Titled 'The Global Bond Market: Investment Trends, Latest Developments in ESG Bonds, and Greenwashing Mitigation Strategies', the course will equip banking practitioners with essential and practical anti-greenwashing skills for ESG bond investments, ensuring that their professional competency is up to date and that they can respond effectively to the challenges arising from the industry's transformation while expanding their global perspective.

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**Photo Captions:**



**Photo 1**

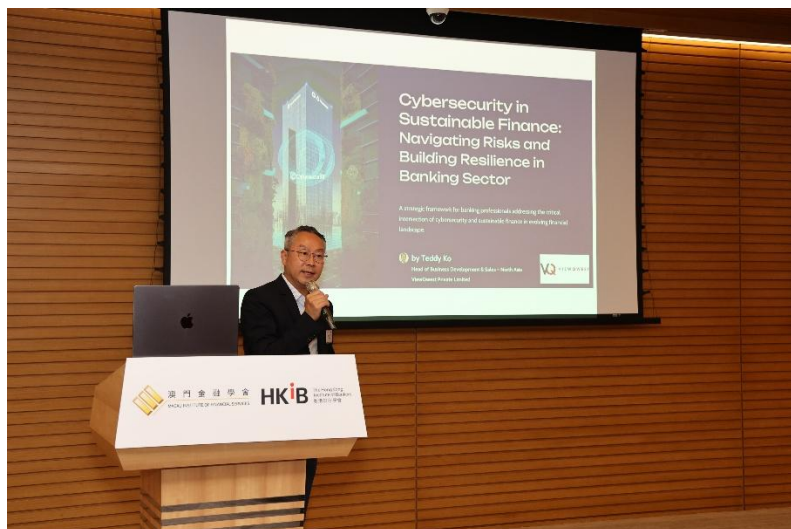
Esther LEI, Executive Director, Board of Directors, the Monetary Authority of Macao and Chairperson, Executive Board, MIFS (third from left); Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of HKIB (third from right); Walker LOK, Deputy Chairperson, MIFS and Executive Director, The Macau Association of Banks (ABM) (second from left); Sandra LOI, Secretary General, ABM and Secretary General, MIFS (first from left); Philip KAM, Chief Institute Development Officer, HKIB (second from right); and Kevin LUNG, General Manager, Professional Competence Development, HKIB (first from right) co-host the launch ceremony of the 'Enhanced Competency Framework (ECF) on Green and Sustainable Finance Macao (Core Level)' course.



**Photo 2**

Esther LEI, Executive Director, Board of Directors, the Monetary Authority of Macao and Chairperson, Executive Board, MIFS (centre); Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of HKIB (second from left); and Prof Lewis TAM, Representative, Faculty of Business Administration,

University of Macau (second from right) present the Outstanding Learners Award to learners who achieved excellent results (first from left, first from right).



**Photo 3**

Teddy KO, Head of Business Development and Sales, North Asia, ViewQwest, speaks at HKiB's annual membership event to share insights on cybersecurity.



**Photo 4**

Mark LAM, Country Director, Greater China, HK & Macau, SecurityScorecard, speaks at HKiB's annual membership event to share insights on strategies for banks to mitigate risks and enhance resilience.



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**Notes to editors:**

**About The Macau Institute of Financial Services**

The Macau Institute of Financial Services (MIFS) was established in March 2002. Its founding members include the Monetary Authority of Macao, Macao Association of Banks, Macao Insurers' Association and Macao Insurance Agents and Brokers Association. According to the Insurance Intermediaries Quality Assurance Scheme, MIFS has been designated by the AMCM as an examination center for the Insurance Intermediaries Qualifying Examination since its inception. Additionally, MIFS organizes a variety of training activities tailored to the needs and development of the financial industry. These activities include practical training courses and lectures that provide the latest information, enabling students to apply their knowledge effectively. Furthermore, since 2018, MIFS has been appointed by the AMCM as the training institution for the "Continuing Professional Development Programme for Insurance Intermediaries". Insurance practitioners in fulfilling their required continuing professional training, MIFS will continue to offer relevant training activities included in the program.

Official website: <http://www.ifs.org.mo>

**About The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers**

Established in 1963, The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers ("HKIB") is the first not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing training and certification services to the banking community in Hong Kong. It is also the first professional body in the city to offer banking qualifications equivalent to a Master's degree level. For more than six decades, HKIB has been equipping hundreds of thousands of practitioners and young graduates with the essential professional skills and knowledge to succeed as holistic bankers. HKIB supports capacity building and talent development by working closely with the local banking industry to identify training needs, provide a comprehensive range of professional qualifications and collaborate on initiatives to attract, nurture and retain talent.

Official website: <https://www.hkib.org/>

LinkedIn: <https://hk.linkedin.com/company/the-hong-kong-institute-of-bankers>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/thehkib>

Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/thehkib>