

Press Release

LANDBANK was awarded The Best Small Business Bank for 2018 at The Asian Banker Philippines Country Awards 2018

- **LANDBANK saw an expansion of its small and middle-sized enterprise loan business**
- **The bank has collaborated with the government to offer programmes that increased financial inclusion by reaching underserved markets**
- **The bank has enhanced its operating via partnerships to cater the funding needs of domestic farmers**

Manila, October 5th 2018 — **LANDBANK** received **The Best Small Business Bank** award for the Philippines at The Asian Banker Philippines Country Awards 2018. The awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the prestigious The Future of Finance Philippines 2018, the annual gathering for decision makers in the financial services industry in the country, held at the Fairmont Makati, Manila on October 5th, 2018.

LANDBANK saw an expansion of its small and middle-sized enterprise (SME) loan business

LANDBANK's small and middle-sized enterprise (SME) loan business expanded rapidly in 2017. The bank's loan book grew by 23% year-on-year, with the overall SME portfolio reaching \$ 956.67 million (PHP 52 billion). The bank provided loans for up to 120,000 SME accounts in the Philippines. It was able to boost its loan business through programmes such as the 'Sikat Saka' loan programme, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, to promote financial inclusion by catering to the needs of the underserved market of palay and corn farmers.

The bank has collaborated with the government to offer programmes that increased financial inclusion by reaching underserved markets

The bank continuously enhanced the quality of products to cater to the needs of the underserved markets. It did so by collaborating with the government in various programmes. The 'Sikat Saka' loan programme, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, provided direct credit to small palay and corn farmers who were not yet members of LANDBANK-assisted cooperatives. Since its implementation in, cumulative loan releases reached \$4.1 trillion (PHP 6,223 billion) to support more than 15,000 small farmers. Furthermore, LANDBANK assisted the government with the Public Transport Modernization Program to fund a new modern public transport system by putting up a \$118.4 million (PHP1 billion) credit facility to replace roughly 220,000 older vehicles

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The bank has enhanced its operations through partnerships to cater to the funding needs of domestic farmers

LANDBANK supported entrepreneurs in the Philippines through its lending program. The bank assists SMEs with successful operations, making a significant impact on the economic and social development of local communities through its intensive network across 81 provinces nationwide. In 2018, LandBank adopted a direct marketing strategy when lending to farmers as part of its aggressive thrust to channel financial assistance to agripreneurs. The bank partnered with Agri Corporative Corporations to provide low interest rate loans for the small farmers, aiming to increase farm production to global standards and raise the income of farmer family above the Poverty Line Threshold.

About The Asian Banker

The Asian Banker is the region's most authoritative provider of strategic business intelligence to the financial services community. The Singapore-based company has offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Manila, Hong Kong, Beijing, and Dubai, as well as representatives in London, New York, and San Francisco. It has a business model that revolves around three core business lines: publications, research services and forums. The company's website is www.theasianbanker.com

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