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【Press Release】

**Hang Seng Bank and Value Partners Group  
join hands to support ESG talent development in Hong Kong**

- The “Hang Seng x Value Partners – University Elite ESG Challenge 2023” is a six-month program that helps students become an “ESG Elite”
- Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of HKSAR to address the Launch Forum of the event

**(Hong Kong, 31 October 2022)** —**Value Partners Group Limited** (“Value Partners”, Hong Kong Stock Code: 806) is pleased to announce that the Group has collaborated with Hang Seng Bank to sponsor the “University Elite ESG Challenge 2023” (“the ESG Challenge”). The ESG Challenge, hosted by The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, is open to all undergraduate university students in Hong Kong. It is an ESG-themed competition, where 47 teams, which is 141 students, from 9 local universities joined the ESG Challenge. A series of events are prepared in order to help every participant to grow to become an “ESG Elite”, through the e-learning and trading simulation provided.

A Launch Forum of the ESG Challenge was held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong on 29 October 2022. This marks the official start of the ESG Challenge. **Officiating at the Launch Forum was Mr. Joseph Chan Ho-lim, JP, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the Hong Kong SAR government. Other guests included Ms. Rosita Lee, Director and Chief Executive Officer of Hang Seng Investment Management Limited; Ms. June Wong, Chief Executive Officer of Value Partners Group Limited; Professor Louis Cheng, Dr. S H Ho Professor of Banking and Finance at The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong; and Professor Kalok Chan, Wei Lun Professor of Finance and Chairman of The Department of Finance at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Business School.** About 100 students and industry representatives joined the Launch Forum and witnessed the official start of the ESG Challenge.

**Mr. Joseph Chan Ho-lim, JP, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, The Government of Hong Kong SAR, said:** “ESG is a topic of increasing strategic importance in the world today. The Hong Kong SAR has also made various efforts and implemented ESG related guidelines and measures to support ESG development locally in recent years. We are glad to see the strong support of various parts of the business and academic community in promoting ESG to local students, and are excited to see the launch of the Hang Seng x Value Partners – University Elite ESG Challenge 2023.”

**Ms. Rosita LEE, Director and Chief Executive Officer of Hang Seng Investment Management Limited,** said: “With the increasing number of ESG products and services coming to the market in recent years, Hang Seng Investment Management believes that helping the younger generation to better understand the principles of responsible investing would help promote the sustainable development of the financial industry and society as a whole. We look forward to enhancing students' knowledge on ESG, and also raising their interest in ESG finance through this ESG Challenge.”

**Ms. June WONG, Chief Executive Officer of Value Partners Group Limited,** said: “The ESG and sustainability universe is rapidly growing and evolving over the past decade. As one of the leaders of ESG investing in Greater China, we hope to equip students with techniques to conduct financial analysis from an ESG perspective through training and coaching, in a way to achieve better investment returns in the long run. We believe the ESG Challenge will help to nurture the next generation on ESG

investing, and will bring positive values and contributions to society. We look forward to seeing the fruits of this program.”

**Professor Louis Cheng, Dr. S H Ho Professor of Banking and Finance at The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong**, said: “ESG is an important concept nowadays for students interested in working in the business sector. The overwhelming responses from students within two weeks of soft opening resulted in 47 teams from 9 universities being selected for the Challenge. Through a series of physical and online training events, this ESG Challenge aims to train all student participants to become an “ESG Elite”. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Hang Seng Bank and Value Partners in providing financial support for such a meaningful program for university students in Hong Kong.”

Following the Launch Forum, Professor Louis Cheng held a breakout session, where students had the opportunity to seek advice on best practices in ESG-related topics from senior industry executives from Hang Seng Bank, Value Partners, and well-known auditing and financial institutions.

As one of the lead sponsors of the ESG Challenge, Value Partners will also provide guidance and knowledge on ESG to participating students through training and coaching. The Group will also offer career development opportunities to students via internships.

Value Partners has always been committed to investing in and nurturing asset management and financial talents in Hong Kong and in Asia. Over the years, the Group has partnered with local universities and other organizations to offer graduate recruitment campaigns and internship programs. Value Partners has also mentored students in other ESG-related competitions, such as the Case Competition 2022, organized by the Hong Kong Securities and Investment Institute, for two consecutive years.

#### Event photos:



A Launch Forum of the ESG Challenge was held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong on 29 October 2022. *From left: Professor Louis Cheng*, Dr. S H Ho Professor of Banking and Finance at The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong; **Ms. June Wong**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Value Partners Group Limited; **Mr. Joseph Chan Ho-lim, JP**, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of the Hong Kong SAR government; **Ms. Rosita Lee**, Director and CEO of Hang Seng Investment Management Limited; and **Professor Kalok Chan**, Wei Lun Professor of Finance and Chairman of The Department of Finance at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Business School.



Group photo: **Guest of Honor Mr. Joseph Chan Ho-lim, JP, Ms. June Wong, Ms. Rosita Lee**, professors and industry representatives joined the Launch Forum and witnessed the official start of the ESG Challenge.



Group photo: **Guest of Honor Mr. Joseph Chan Ho-lim, JP**, about 100 VIP guests and participating students celebrating the official launch of the “Hang Seng x Value Partners – University Elite ESG Challenge 2023” together.

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### **About Value Partners Group Limited**

Value Partners, one of Asia’s leading independent asset management firms, seeks to offer world-class investment services and products. Since its establishment in 1993, the Company has been a dedicated value investor in Asia and around the world. In November 2007, Value Partners Group became the first asset management firm to be listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (Stock code: 806 HK). In addition to its Hong Kong headquarters, the firm operates in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and London. Value Partners’ investment strategies cover equities, fixed income, multi-asset, alternatives, real estate and quantitative investment solutions, for institutional and individual clients in the Asia-Pacific, Europe and the United States. Value Partners is also one of the leaders in ESG investing in Greater China and is committed to developing its ESG capabilities further. For more information, please visit [www.valuepartners-group.com](http://www.valuepartners-group.com).



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