

Global Finance Announces the Best Banks by Region 2012

NEW YORK, March 20, 2012 – *Global Finance* magazine has announced its annual awards for the World's Best Banks in Developed and Emerging Markets. The list of regional winners is on the next page. A full report on the regional and country selections will appear in the May issue of *Global Finance*.

This is the nineteenth year that the magazine has selected top banks by country and region. The report covers best banks in Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Developed Europe, Latin America, Middle East, and North America. The editors of *Global Finance* made the selections after extensive consultations with corporate financial executives, bankers, and analysts throughout the world. In selecting these top banks, editors considered factors that range from the quantitative objective to the informed subjective.

Criteria for choosing the winners included growth in assets, profitability, strategic relationships, customer service, competitive pricing, and innovative products. Subjective criteria included the opinions of equity analysts, credit rating analysts, banking consultants and others involved in the industry. The mix of these factors yields leading banks that may not be the largest, the oldest or the most diversified in a given region, but rather the best—the banks with which companies around the world would most likely want to do business.

“We recognize these banks for their outstanding accomplishments,” says *Global Finance*'s publisher, Joseph D. Giarraputo. “Global financial markets are extremely difficult and conditions in each market may have differed, but the winning banks were all noteworthy in their dedication to satisfying their customers' needs.”

The full list of the Best Banks by Region is on the next page.



The reach of *Global Finance*

Global Finance, founded in 1987, has a circulation of 50,050 and readers in 163 countries. Its circulation is audited by BPA. *Global Finance*'s audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers and other senior financial officers responsible for making investment and strategic decisions at multinational companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 international portfolio investors responsible for more than 80% of all global assets under professional management. Its website — GfMag.com — offers analysis and articles that are the heritage of 25 years of experience in international financial markets, and provides a valuable source of data on 192 countries. Headquartered in New York, with offices in London and Milan.

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Africa	Ecobank
Asia	Standard Chartered
Central & Eastern Europe	Raiffeisen Bank International
Developed Europe	Santander
Latin America	Santander
Middle East	National Bank of Kuwait
Nordic Region	SEB
North America	JPMorgan Chase



AWARDS CEREMONY

An Awards Ceremony for all winners will be conducted at the same time as the World Bank/IMF Meetings on the morning of Saturday, October 13, 2012 at The Foreign Correspondents' Club in Tokyo, Japan.

For more information on the awards and/or ceremony please contact: Katharine Frey, email: kfrey@gfmag.com

To obtain the Best Bank Award logo, please write to Chris Giarraputo: chris@gfmag.com

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