



ธนาคารแห่งประเทศไทย
BANK OF THAILAND



HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
香港金融管理局

Press release

Fintech Collaboration between the Bank of Thailand and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority

The Bank of Thailand (BOT) and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 12 May 2019 to foster collaboration between the two regulatory authorities in promoting financial innovation.

The MoU was signed between Mr. Veerathai Santiprabhob, Governor of the BOT, and Mr. Norman Chan, Chief Executive of the HKMA, in Basel, Switzerland. Under the MoU, the BOT and the HKMA may collaborate on referral of innovative businesses information and experience sharing, and joint innovation projects. One potential collaboration under consideration by the two authorities is a joint research project on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), to which the two authorities may apply the knowledge and experience they gained from their respective CBDC research studies, namely Project LionRock^[1] of the HKMA and Project Inthanon^[2] of the BOT.

Chief Executive Chan said: “The HKMA and BOT are long-time partners in a number of important financial initiatives. Today I am pleased to have signed a fintech MoU with Governor Veerathai to take our collaboration to the next level. The signing of this MoU not only demonstrates our mutual interests in developing collaborative fintech initiatives, but also underlines our on-going efforts in cross-border collaboration between central banks in

^[1] Project LionRock was conducted by the HKMA in collaboration with the three note-issuing banks in Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Interbank Clearing Limited and the R3 consortium. The study aims to better understand the feasibility, implications, benefits and challenges of implementing a CBDC on a Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) platform through exploring its use in domestic inter-bank payments, corporate payments at wholesale level, and delivery-versus-payment of debt securities settlement.

^[2] Project Inthanon was conducted by the BOT in collaboration with R3 and eight participating banks with the goal to develop and test a proof-of-concept for domestic wholesale fund transfer using wholesale CBDC. The project explores the potential in using DLT to enhance Thailand’s financial infrastructure and to encourage collaborative learning among involved parties.

promoting innovation and enhancing experience sharing. The HKMA looks forward to working together with BOT and seeing the positive outcome from our joint effort.”

Governor Veerathai said: “I could not agree more with Chief Executive Norman that this MOU is a significant step in the fintech collaboration between the BOT and the HKMA. The synergies from our collaboration will lead to productive outcomes that will benefit us all. I believe there is huge potential to enhance quality of financial services by leveraging on technological advancement, and it is our responsibilities as regulators to create an ecosystem that is conducive to innovations. The BOT looks forward to working closely with the HKMA in turning great ideas into innovative practical solutions that will ultimately improve people’s lives.”

Bank of Thailand
Hong Kong Monetary Authority
14 May 2019