

## **EFA Group's Latest Fund Provides Over US\$100 Million of Financing to SMEs Within Six Months of Launch**

SINGAPORE. 11 January 2018 – The EFA SME Trade Finance Fund, EFA Group's latest fund, has successfully deployed over US\$100 million of short-term receivables and supply chain financing to its portfolio of over 30 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Launched in July 2017, the Fund provides vital working capital that businesses, particularly in Asia, need to grow. By lending to SMEs, the Fund aims to deliver an annualized net return of 6% - 8% to investors. The Fund marked the Group's diversification from commodity trade finance to capture financing opportunities in non-commodity sectors. Top industries financed currently include medical products, automotive components and IT hardware/software services.

"Having disbursed over US\$100 million of cumulative financing in less than 6 months is just proof of the prevalent demand from SMEs in the region for an alternative source of capital. Booming economies and trade in Asia continue to increase working capital requirements for SMEs. In 2018, we will further develop this platform to service more geographies in Asia," said Rohit Goyal, Deputy Head of Receivables and Supply Chain Finance at EFA Group.

"The next step is to optimize the Fund's lending activities and ensure that we continue to deploy our capital to good quality borrowers in order to bridge the financing gap between companies that need funding and investors who can supply it," he added.

### **About EFA Group**

EFA Group is a global independent asset manager specializing in private debt strategies. Established in 2003, the firm manages over US\$1.2 billion of capital with a cumulative 25-year track record of positive performance across all of its funds. The firm has won multiple awards including the Best Trade Finance Boutique and Best Alternative Trade Financier in Asia Pacific. EFA is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, the Dubai Financial Services Authority and has over 70 personnel across offices in Singapore, Dubai, Geneva, London, and Istanbul.

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