

# HNB Secures US D 60 Million Funding For SMEs From France



*Jonathon Alles, Managing Director/CEO, HNB.*



*Guillaume Barberousse, Head of Financial Institutions and Inclusion, Proparco.*

Hatton National Bank announced a landmark agreement with PROPARCO, the private sector across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle-East. In 2019 Proparco has committed €2.5 billion of financing, focused on key development sectors such as infrastructure, especially re- newable energy, agribusiness, financial institutions, healthcare and education. Its interventions support private sector actors who contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by creating jobs and decent incomes, providing essential goods and services, and who contribute to poverty reduction and the fight against climate change. Asia is Proparco's third region of intervention, with €388 million granted in 2019, representing 15% of its commitments. "Proparco is pleased to once again funding arm of the French Development Bank Agence Française de Développement (AFD), to secure US\$ 60 million in funding. "We are delighted to enter into this long-term loan agreement with PROPARCO at such a critical juncture in the history of the global economy. This is the second time HNB is partnering with Proparco since 2015. The agreement is a clear testimony for the confidence placed in HNB by International Financial Institutions especially within the context of the overhanging uncertainty on account of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this long-term funding, HNB will be in a position to support the much aggrieved SME segment of our nation," said Jonathon Alles, Managing Director/ CEO, HNB. Proparco has been supporting sus- tainable development for 40 years " We are delighted to enter in to this long-term loan agreement with PROPARCO at such a

critical juncture in the history of the global economy... The agreement is a clear testimony for the confidence placed in HNB by International Financial Institutions especially within the context of the overhanging uncertainty on account of the COVID-19 pandemic ." partner with HNB. Proparco's US\$ 60 million credit line will help HNB to further support SMEs and especially in rural areas. This new operation reflects the ongoing commitment of Proparco to facilitate access to credit for job- creating SMEs", Guillaume Barberousse, Head of Financial Institutions and Inclusion of Proparco stated. HNB has won local and global recognition for its efforts to leverage its extensive financial resources and unmatched technological capabilities to deliver sustainable financial solutions to critical segments of the Sri Lankan economy - spanning SME, Micro Finance clients at the grassroots of Sri Lanka's economy through to emerging corporates and the upper echelons of the island's corporate sector. HNB has continuously won several accolades and leads the Business Today Top 30 rankings.