

PRESS RELEASE – 18th February 2015

Glencore becomes a founding member through the donation of funds for Copper-nickel alloy

More than £120 million has now been pledged to the Garden Bridge Trust thanks to the latest donation from multinational mining company, Glencore. Their support brings the vision for a new garden walkway across the River Thames one step closer to reality and will give the Garden Bridge a super-strength protective coating, able to withstand the effects of its river environment.

The donation will go exclusively towards the purchase of a copper-nickel alloy, known as cupro-nickel, which will make up a protective skin on the surface of the Garden Bridge. The copper-nickel material will be coated on the bridge from river bed, right up to the base of the balustrades on the bridge deck. It is a fundamental part of designer Thomas Heatherwick's concept for the Garden Bridge, playing both a protective and aesthetic role in the final design.

Copper-nickel is typically used for mechanical, electrical, medical equipment and ship propellers. The Garden Bridge will require 240 tonnes of the material for the underside. Brand new visuals of the Garden Bridge show how the copper-nickel covers the underside of the structure. It was developed specifically for its low maintenance and visually attractive finish. It will form a corrosion protective skin to the carbon steel structure giving it a maintenance free 120 year life, protecting the bridge from river and environmental corrosion. It also resists rusting, making it suitable for use right down to the river bed.

Lord Mervyn Davies, Chairman of the Garden Bridge Trust, 'We thank Glencore for their substantial pledge to the Garden Bridge Trust. It is thanks to the support of so many donors that London's newest and most imaginative green space is coming to life. The copper-nickel skin, is an integral part of the design and upkeep of the bridge and just as important is the stunning appearance that the warm color of the material will create.'

Tony Hayward, Chairman of Glencore said: "We are delighted to be part of making this innovative and iconic project a reality. Our support will enable the Trust to introduce a unique material that will stand the test of time and help build on the rich cultural heritage of London's architecture and design."

The latest images of the Garden Bridge are created by Arup who are leading the design team and Heatherwick Studios as lead designer. They show the design of the steel bridge and concrete piers, which will be fully encased in a thin layer of copper-nickel and roll-bonded to the structural steel creating an inseparable skin.

The Garden Bridge Trust is a UK registered charity, responsible for overseeing the completion of the Garden Bridge, and is responsible for raising £175 million to develop the Bridge. The donation means Glencore will become a founding member of the new iconic landmark for London set to open in summer 2018. The Garden Bridge will create a major new garden space for residents, commuters and visitors and with 2,500 square metres dedicated for plants.

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About the Garden Bridge Trust

London's Garden Bridge will be a stunning new public garden and pedestrian crossing, spanning the River Thames, linking the South Bank to Temple station. Designed by Heatherwick Studio, the Bridge will provide a vital new route between north and south London and feature plants, trees, woodland and meandering walkways to be used and enjoyed by all.

The Garden Bridge will largely be funded by donations from individuals, charitable foundations and companies although the Treasury and Transport for London have each pledged £30m of public funds.

The Garden Bridge Trust is a UK registered charity that has been established to fundraise for and deliver the Garden Bridge and will be responsible for its ongoing maintenance. The Trust is also responsible for the maintenance and operations of the bridge in the future, and raising the monies to fund this.

For information visit the Garden Bridge website at www.gardenbridgetrust.org/index.html

About Glencore

Glencore is one of the world's largest global diversified natural resource companies and a major producer and marketer of more than 90 commodities. The Group's operations comprise over 150 mining and metallurgical sites, oil production assets and agricultural facilities.

With a strong footprint in both established and emerging regions for natural resources, Glencore's industrial and marketing activities are supported by a global network of more than 90 offices located in over 50 countries.

Glencore's customers are industrial consumers, such as those in the automotive, steel, power generation, oil and food processing industries. We also provide financing, logistics and other services to producers and consumers of commodities. Glencore employs around 200,000 people, including contractors.

Additional information may be found at <http://www.glencore.com/>