



MEDIA RELEASE

RM165,500 IN HOUSEHOLD ESSENTIALS GETTING TO 3,500 B40 INDIVIDUALS IN KENINGAU & KLANG VALLEY PPRs

Women of Will, OCBC Bank & Kim Loong Resources band together to bring two months of supplies to help hard-hit communities

Kuala Lumpur, 23 November 2020 – A total of 3,500 individuals from 662 B40 families in the hard-hit areas of Sook, Keningau (Sabah) and the Klang Valley are receiving supplies of household essentials worth RM165,500 to tide them through the next two months as they

fight to survive the effects of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

The aid comprises a total of RM101,500 from OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad and its CEO Dato' Ong Eng Bin, and another RM64,000 from Kim Loong Resources Berhad earmarked specifically for Sabah where it has operations and long been a community partner.

Both OCBC Bank and Kim



Several members of the community in Keningau, Sabah, receiving the household essentials.

Loong Resources have also committed to providing additional funds next year based on feedback from the ground.

According to local NGO Women of Will (WOW), which is spearheading the effort and has been working with the communities for several years now, the unprecedented Covid-19 support through the two organisations will ensure those who have been hardest hit are not left behind in their time of need.

A total of 1,900 individuals in the Klang Valley and 1,600 in Keningau are set to benefit from this exercise.



Members of WOW and Malaysian Red Crescent sorting out the items for distribution to the community in Keningau, Sabah.

In the Klang Valley, these include individuals from hard-hit *Projek Perumahan Rakyat* (PPRs) in areas like Ukay Indah, Ampang, Batu Muda, Sentul, Cheras, Keramat Pangsa, Lembah Subang, PJ, Jinjang, Seri Alam, Batu Muda, Sentul and Batu Caves.

In Keningau, the beneficiaries are from Tulid, Maatol, Mototou, Kebulu, Alab Lanas, Kuit, Lanas Stesen, Pinipi, Kilo, Mampisas, Bunang Ulu, Seri

Menanti, Lalapakon, Menggarimot and Mansiat.

Speaking for WOW, President Datin Wira Goh Suet Lan said the essential items delivered to the households beginning last week include rice, cooking oil, flour, sugar, milk powder, milk creamer, Milo, tea, biscuits, groundnuts, dried chili, red onions, garlic, potatoes, eggs, sardines, soap and detergent.

“It takes an average of about RM250 to get a household in these areas through two months. Since we do not see the pandemic going away very soon, we are preparing well in advance, and companies like OCBC Bank and Kim Loong Resources are true partners in time of need for making this possible. Hopefully, the affected communities will be able to return to independence and self-sufficiency after this time. That remains the vision of WOW as our

end-goal is always for communities to become self-sufficient rather than dependent on others. That is at the heart of our programme. However, these are unprecedented times needing extraordinary efforts to ensure the survival of the communities,” Datin Wira Goh said.

Dato’ Ong added: “When we at OCBC Bank noticed how badly hit these communities are, we decided that some forward planning would be necessary since the months can pass very quickly and the lack of aid can have devastating effects; we cannot underestimate the impact of Covid-19. While we have initially committed ourselves to this two-month support programme, we have also made it clear to WOW that we will come in for a further two-month support after this if the situation warrants.”

Kim Loong Resources Executive Chairman Mr Gooi Seong Lim said: “Kim Loong Group has always placed great emphasis on enhancing living conditions of the communities where it operates and when we were informed of the devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on these communities, we decided to participate in this programme to help the hard-hit communities in Keningau, Sabah.”

About Women Of Will

Women Of Will is registered as a Non-Profit, Non-Governmental Organisation with the Registrar of Societies Malaysia in March 2016 but has been active in Malaysia since 2009.

The primary objective of Women Of Will is to transform the lives of disadvantaged women and their communities through micro credit financing combined with an Entrepreneurial Development Programs. Disadvantaged women are classified as Single Mothers, Widows, Abandoned Women and Women with Incapacitated Husbands living in poverty and uncertainty, struggling to get by day to day.

Supporting both international and national objectives in eradicating poverty, our work supports 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); 1. No poverty, 5. Gender equality, 8. Decent work and economic growth, and 11. Sustainable cities and communities. Our efforts are focused on the bottom 40% household incomes (B40s), prioritizing single mothers as they are most economically vulnerable, having to support themselves and their children.

This falls in line with the Government's 12th Malaysian Plan, which looks at shared prosperity and uplifting the lives of single mothers who constitute 80% of single parenthood families.

Since 2009, we have worked to give a new lease of life to the urban poor in Selangor and Kuala Lumpur, and the rural poor in Sabah. These women have been empowered to initiate their own small businesses and today, are financially independent and able to care for themselves and their families without having to rely on handouts. Their business ventures have been developed to become sustainable business ventures that have shown growth and profitability, and most important, sustainability.

To date, WOW has empowered 2,100 women from 24 communities while developing over 23 Community Leaders in these communities. We are currently active in several PPR communities in the Klang Valley as well as in rural communities in Keningau, Sabah where we conduct similar programs focused on agriculture as a source of income.

About Kim Loong Resources

Sharikat Kim Loong Sendirian Berhad ("SKL"), holding company of Kim Loong Resources Berhad, commenced its business with 1,000-acre rubber plantations at Ulu Tiram, Johor in 1967. SKL expanded into Sabah in 1981 by acquiring 1,000 acres of land in Sandakan. In 1998, SKL entered into a joint venture to develop 17,731 acres of land into oil palm and to erect a palm oil mill in Sook, Keningau, Sabah.

In year 2000, Kim Loong Resources Berhad was listed on the main board of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

Kim Loong Resources Berhad and its subsidiaries ("KLR Group") are principally involved in investment holding, cultivation of oil palm, processing of oil palm fresh fruit bunches and marketing of oil palm products, processing of oil palm fibre and biogas and power generation.

KLR Group's total oil palm plantation land is 15,826 hectares, of which 75% are located in Sabah whilst the remaining areas are located in Sarawak and Johor. KLR Group also owns and operates 3 palm oil mills which are strategically located within the vicinity of our plantations in Kota Tinggi, Johor and in Keningau and Telupid, Sabah.

KLR Group is also involved in environmentally-friendly biogas projects that supply renewable energy to the grid using biogas engines under the Sustainable Energy Development Authority.

KLR Group adopts various sustainable practices in carrying out its business with the objective that our local communities benefit from more job opportunities and improved living conditions.

For more information, please visit www.kimloong.com.my

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the World's Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has about 480 branches and representative offices in 19 countries and regions. These include over 230 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and over 70 branches and offices in Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.
