



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE 40 YEAR WAIT FOR CLEAN WATER SUPPLY IS NOW OVER FOR 1050 VILLAGERS IN SARAWAK

Villagers in Kg. Bungan Besar & Kampung Bungan Kecil, Batang Igan, Sarawak can now enjoy a plentiful supply of clean water for their daily use

Sibu, Sarawak– 1050 villagers of Kampung Bungan Besar and Kampung Bungan Kecil, Batang Igan, can now enjoy an undisrupted supply of clean water to meet their daily needs now that Etiqa's Clean Water Supply project has been completed. The project is funded by Etiqa and implemented in collaboration with Islamic Aid Malaysia (IAM), as part of Etiqa's corporate responsibility (CR) commitment towards healthy living, under its Etiqa Cares flagship programme.

In the last 40 years, the villagers of Kampung Bungan Besar and Kampung Bungan Kecil, were relying on water from the Batang Igan River and Rain Water Harvesting system for their daily needs. At times, this water supply may be disrupted leading to insufficient water for drinking, cooking or bathing. The water that is used is not filtered giving villagers exposure to skin disease, poisoning and infectious diseases.

To address the problem, Etiqa's Clean Water Supply project built a piping system to supply water from the river directly into the homes. Communal water tanks were also installed with water filters to cleanse the water of impurities, making it safe for the villagers to use.

The launching ceremony was officiated by Y.Bhg. Dato' Majid Mohamad, Chairman of Etiqa Family Takaful and Etiqa General Takaful Berhad, Chris Eng, Chief Strategy Officer, Etiqa, Wong Chee Tung, Etiqa's Regional CEO, Sarawak, and Zawahir Abdullah, President of Islamic Aid Malaysia.

In his speech, Dato' Majid said, "The quality of life for these villagers will improve immediately now that the project is complete. The villagers are mainly farmers and fishermen, and in the past they have had difficulty carrying out their daily activities due to the lack of water and the quality of it. Now that there is a constant supply of water, they no longer have to worry about their health and safety. Productivity will also improve and so will their livelihood.

Since last year, our Etiqa Cares projects have been giving back to the community and we have successfully carried out clean water supply projects in other parts of the country, such as Kampung Talungan in Telipok, Sabah, Kampung Chuchoh Puteri in Kuala Krai, Kelantan, and Kampung Durau and Kampung Batu Ring in Lenggong, Perak which has now benefitted more than 2,400 rural folk," he added.



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Zawahir Abdullah, President of Islamic Aid Malaysia said, "As an NGO, IAM plays a role as an intermediary between individuals and corporations who want to implement humanitarian and charitable efforts to help those in need.

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with the Etiqa to implement a meaningful and useful project for the residents here. This is another proof of Etiqa's concern in improving the standard of living of the rural community.

"I believe the efforts made by the Etiqas will have a positive and meaningful impact on the villagers, since they will enjoy the long-term benefit of having a clean water supply," he said.

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About Etiqa

Etiqa is a true multi-channel distributor of Insurance and Takaful products via its 10,000 agency force, 24 Insurance and Takaful branches, more than 350 Maybank branches, ATMs and other third-party banks, providing full accessibility and total convenience to customers in Malaysia. Regionally, we have expanded our wings and set up base in Singapore, the Philippines and also Indonesia.

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