

Press Release

AFFIN HWANG CAPITAL
“SUPPORTS, EMPOWERS AND SUSTAINS” THROUGH PROJECT GAIA

August 11, 2018. With the aim to raise awareness on the importance of conserving the mangrove trees ecosystem and highlighting the plight of the marginalized community in the country, Affin Hwang Capital embarked on a Community Engagement initiative codenamed “Project Gaia”. The project was organised together with the Malaysian Nature Society, for the benefit of the Picha Project and children from the Astana Welfare Home.

At the event, attended by more than 100 employee volunteers from Affin Hwang Capital and their families, 400 mangrove saplings were planted along the mouth of the Kuala Selangor River in an effort to maintain the coastal areas from erosion, preserve the natural filtering processes and functions of the Malaysian swamps, and protecting the habitat of the endangered species such as the Malaysian Pangolins and the Silvered Leaf Monkeys. 14 children from the Astana Welfare Home also participated and showed their creativity in painting clay pots with a “nature” theme.

“Today, we are doing our part in investing for our future by protecting our mangrove forest which is a part of a complex coastal wetland system that is vital for our environment,” said Datuk Maimoonah Hussain, Group Managing Director of Affin Hwang Capital. “I am very proud of our Management Trainees who have planned and organised this event successfully and made it possible for Affin Hwang employees to participate and support our community engagement goals, to **Support, Empower and Sustain** our community and environment,” she continued.

As part of the program, there were also talks from the Malaysian Nature Society and the Picha Project – a catering enterprise that empowers marginalised communities in Malaysia. Towards this, Affin Hwang Capital made a collective pledge from all participants to continue such efforts in contributing towards the betterment of our society and environment.

About Affin Hwang Capital

Affin Hwang Capital is a leading investment banking, securities, asset management and trustee group in Malaysia.

Founded in 1970, their business has a wide domestic coverage and strategic network throughout Malaysia, as well as strategic partnerships across Asia; providing greater reach in the Asian and global markets for institutional equities trading.

From both the primary offices in Kuala Lumpur and Penang, their one-stop offering of all advisory and capital markets services, serving the full client spectrum of corporates, investment institutions, retail clients, high net worth individuals and capital markets counterparties.

They value long-term relationships with clients, emphasising trust, flexibility, collaboration and independent thinking. As one of Malaysia's leading independent bank-backed investment banking groups, they utilise their expertise to continually tackle the most compelling financial challenges and deliver pioneering solutions to our clients. They commit people and ideas to help clients grow.

As part of its "Green" initiatives, Affin Hwang Capital has been involved in various notable transactions such as the "World's First Green Sukuk Issuance" by Tadau Energy that received many awards and recognitions both locally and internationally.

Affin Hwang Capital is part of the Affin Banking Group. To learn more, visit www.affinhwang.com

About Malaysian Nature Society

Malaysian Nature Society ("MNS") was founded in 1940, with the publication of the Malayan Nature Journal Volume 1. They strive to promote the conservation of Malaysia's natural heritage for the benefit and appreciation of all Malaysians.

Evolving from a core of society volunteers, MNS' Kuala Lumpur-based headquarters has now a team of 40 dedicated staff who see to the day-to-day running of the society's administration and activities.

For the last seven decades, a lot of differences have been done through the habitat conservation and environmental education. Through the joint efforts of the MNS members, partners and supporters, it has now become a strong voice for the protection of the country's natural heritage.

To learn more, visit <https://www.mns.my/>

About Picha Project

Named after a young refugee boy, Picha Project is an Impact Driven Enterprise that empowers refugee families in Malaysia through a sustainable food delivery and catering business.

Aim to create a better Malaysia, they strive to make marginalized groups become accepted in the society and economy of the country.

They deliver and cater authentic traditional meals from different cultures prepared by refugee families from various countries to companies, events and organisations.

Picha Project involves good food, social awareness and sustainable impact. Their services include meal box delivery, catering services, open houses and awareness events.

To learn more, visit <http://www.pichaproject.com/>

About Astana Welfare Home

Astana Welfare Home or *Pertubuhan Kebajikan Astana* was founded by husband and wife, Mr. Erdaya Rajoo and Mrs. Thirasmal Parokiasamy. The Home's main purpose is to provide a safe haven for the underprivileged and orphaned children, allowing them to experience a family-like communal environment and upbringing.

The Home also houses the children of low-income single parents; mainly single mothers who are not able to afford education or to look after the basic needs of their kids.

12 children have successfully "graduated" from their Home. The numbers have now grown to 34, but due to their financial difficulties they are only able to comfortably house 17 of the children, and support the others in any way they can.

To learn more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/www.astanahome.my/>

===The End===

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