

## STATEMENT AND REPORT ON COMMUNITY



*Schoolgirls learning breast self examination*

### STATEMENT ON COMMUNITY

“Returning to Community” is another important aspect in the Group’s CR and sustainability framework that focuses on sharing the prosperity of the organisation with external targeted groups in our community. The Group aims not just to create employment opportunities but also to ensure that its progress creates and maximises the shared economic value in the surrounding community through the generation of potential spin-offs and other multiplying effects to their livelihood and local economy. Several key social initiatives continued to be carried out and were further enhanced in the reporting year which includes the promotion of sports excellence among youth, empowering women in health awareness, rural outreach and promotion of volunteerism.

## ANNUAL REPORT ON COMMUNITY

### YOUTH SPORTS EXCELLENCE

The Group has embraced sports excellence among the youths through rugby as one of the avenues of creating shared values to realise the objective of “Returning to the Community”. The Group is inspired that the nature of the game provides for an affirmative character building and instilling team spirit in youths. The Group is involved in a tripartite collaboration with the Sabah Education Department and Sabah Rugby Union (through the Eagles Rugby Club Sandakan) to sustain this outreach effort which started back in 2002. Through a comprehensive and holistic approach, the Group has been able to reach out to over 2,500 students, many of whom are from less privileged

backgrounds in the more remote districts of Sabah. Today students from nearly 80 primary and secondary schools are involved. The engagement of foreign professional rugby coaches from Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand has added luster and new insights into the development of the game in Sabah. In 2014, the Group continues to support the junior rugby tournament. The key event was the IJMP/MSSS/SRU Rugby 10s, a state-wide school event that was successful to attract the participation of nearly 30 teams of different age-groups throughout Sabah. We have also guided and provided job opportunities for ex-rugby players in our plantations.



Youth rugby sports development

## Statement and Report on Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (cont'd)

### EMPOWERING WOMEN IN BREAST HEALTH

For nearly a decade, the Group has been active in promoting public breast health awareness initially collaborating with the local hospital and subsequently with a NGO, Sandakan-Kinabalu Pink Ribbon in Sabah. In conjunction with Mothers' Day celebrations in May 2015, the Group co-sponsored the 'Reach to Recovery' programme in Sandakan with the objective that the participants can reach out to more breast cancer patients. The annual 'Pink October' breast health awareness campaign was launched throughout the Group where awareness talks and clinical breast examination were carried out by qualified nurses in the operating units. During the reporting year, a breast health awareness talk was also conducted at SMK Elopura 2 in Sandakan with the participation of about 150 Form Six students.

### RURAL OUTREACH

The support for the surrounding communities with basic medical and health assistance in the interior areas of the Sugut-Paitan region has become a norm in the Group. In-house medical assistants and nurses were involved in the outreach programme. In case of emergency cases, the in-house ambulance services were made available for the Groups' employees and surrounding communities. The Group has also extended assistance to the surrounding kampong communities in constructing community hall, roads and bridges. In the reporting year, the Group assisted few villages, namely Kampung Linayukan and Kampung Ansuhan in road maintenance and the supply of free building materials to Kampung Binanjar Baharu in the building of a community hall.



*Fun activities with children at local hospital*

### NURTURING TALENT

The Group in Malaysia works closely with local tertiary and vocational educational organisations such as the Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Sabah Skills Training Centre and Agricultural Vocational Training Centre – Lahad Datu. 31 youths were posted to various operating units for their internship programme. The Group has also participated in local job placement programmes organised by Government agencies to encourage local talent to pursue a career in the oil palm agribusiness sector. In our Indonesian operations, intensive cadetship training is on-going involving aspiring youths as estate and mill cadets. In promoting gender equality and empowering women in the plantation sector, female graduates were also offered internships, job opportunities and were successfully posted in our operations.

### PROMOTING VOLUNTEERISM

The Group continues to provide opportunities and encourages its employees to actively participate in sports and other social volunteering outreach initiatives to realise that their efforts can create positive impacts in society. In the reporting year, several of the Group's employees have been selected to represent the state and national rugby teams. During the annual 'IJM Give Day Out' in 2014, volunteers from the Group spent their weekend with hospitalised children at the local hospital; while others carried out 'gotong-royong' at the Sabah Society for the Deaf centre, Sandakan Cheshire Home and also an old folks home. The Group donated and sponsored in kind to the cause and objectives of non-profit organisations such as the hostel managed by the Montfort Youth Training Centre in Sandakan. In addition, the Group co-sponsored and provided volunteers for the annual Borneo Bird Festival. In the reporting year, we continued contributing to the local blood bank through eleven (11) blood donation campaigns resulting in a contribution of 243 pints of blood. The Group believes that these activities have positively contributed in encouraging our employees to live, embrace and share in the Group's aspiration to share and give back to our surrounding community.