

Zurich Malaysia channels RM432,493 to build flood resilience in Hulu Langat

Kuala Lumpur, 19 March 2022 – Zurich Malaysia channelled RM432,493 to help 150 families in Hulu Langat build resilience to floods. The monies were channelled through MERCY Malaysia to manage on-ground relief, recovery and preparedness efforts.

The funds are used to undertake efforts in three core areas of recovery & rehabilitation, prevention & mitigation, as well as preparedness & readiness. This includes a geophysical survey to study viability and identify the best location for the installation of a tube well, shelter repair, and helping small business owners in the area resume operations and sustain their livelihood.

The approximately 150-metre-deep tube well and 4,000-gallon water tank that will be installed are critical as a source of clean domestic water for personal, household and sanitary needs such as drinking, bathing, cooking, and cleaning. This freshwater supply mitigates health risks that occur from use of surface water sources that may be contaminated by the floods. Tube wells function by extracting freshwater from subsurface or deeper groundwater aquifers.

Three houses, which sustained flood damage but deemed safe to stay, are repaired through the support of Zurich Malaysia. The repair works include restoration of walls, roof, floor and other structure of the house to ensure it is habitable again. These homes have improved safety, electrical wiring, and are equipped with basic electrical fittings such as lights and fans.

Beyond this basic need for shelter, money has also been allocated to help small businesses replace damaged assets with new ones so they can continue making a living and supply their goods and services to the

community to be self-sufficient. Among the recipients are Hulu Langat residents who provide tailoring services as well as employment to their community.

Zurich Malaysia Country Head Junior Cho said, “Malaysians have shown tremendous spirit and resilience to overcome adversity during the floods. This gives us great encouragement and is a source of inspiration. It is critical that the preventive and mitigative efforts continue on, after the headlines, to ensure that the communities are better prepared to sustain their daily activities. We are pleased that MERCY Malaysia shares our concerns in helping affected communities recover and equipped to face any possible future floods. As part of our commitment to journeying together with Malaysians through life, we hope our joint effort can build resilience for the community and help create a brighter future.

Responding to the contribution, MERCY Malaysia’s General Manager for Programme Operations, Mohammad Said Alhudzari Ibrahim said, “MERCY Malaysia thanks Zurich Malaysia for supporting our Flood Response and Recovery Plan, which has paved the way for a meaningful collaboration on the Building Resilient Communities (BRC) programme for the people of Hulu Langat, Selangor. The recent floods had led to major destruction of the area, severely impeding livelihoods and overall development. The BRC programme undertaken by MERCY Malaysia not only focuses on post-disaster infrastructure rehabilitation projects but also proactive investment in community empowerment through SME support programmes and disaster risk reduction and management capacity building trainings.”

The RM432,493 contribution comes from fundraising driven by Zurich Malaysia employees which was matched by Z Zurich Foundation, and surplus of its family takaful and general takaful funds. Zurich Malaysia is appreciative of its takaful customers trust in allowing the company to

disburse the takaful excess to philanthropic or life-saving causes on their behalf.

The Z Zurich Foundation is a Swiss-based charitable foundation established by members of the Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich). It is the main vehicle by which Zurich delivers on its global community investment strategy. It works alongside Zurich employees and other stakeholders as well as with governments and NGOs in pursuit of a future where people are empowered to and reach their full potential.

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Zurich Malaysia is a collective reference term for the Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich) business subsidiaries operating in Malaysia: Zurich General Insurance Malaysia Berhad, Zurich Life Insurance Malaysia Berhad, Zurich General Takaful Malaysia Berhad and Zurich Takaful Malaysia Berhad. Zurich Malaysia offers a broad range of comprehensive insurance and takaful solutions; helping individuals as well as business owners understand and protect themselves, their businesses and their assets from risk. Zurich Malaysia has an integrated branch network in major cities nationwide as well as dedicated agency and distribution channels nationwide to serve the needs of its customers. For further information on Zurich Malaysia, visit www.zurich.com.my.

Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich) is a leading multi-line insurer serving more than 55 million customers – both people and businesses – in more than 210 countries and territories. Founded 150 years ago, Zurich is transforming insurance. In addition to providing insurance protection, Zurich is increasingly offering prevention services such as those that promote wellbeing and enhance climate resilience.

Reflecting its purpose to ‘create a brighter future together’, Zurich aspires to be one of the most responsible and impactful businesses in the world. It is targeting net-zero emissions by 2050 and is one of the world’s most sustainable insurers, as shown by the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment. In 2020, Zurich launched the Zurich Forest project to support reforestation and biodiversity restoration in Brazil.

The Group has about 56,000 employees and is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. Zurich Insurance Group Ltd (ZURN), is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and has a level I American Depositary Receipt (ZURVY) program, which is traded over-the-counter on OTCQX. Further information is available at www.zurich.com.