



MEDIA RELEASE

TUB Programme, a Paradigm Shift for Baitulmal Entrepreneurs

Kuala Lumpur, 17 December 2020 – *Tunas Usahawan Baitulmal* Programme (TUB) implemented by the Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives (MEDAC) through its agency SME Corp. Malaysia, in collaboration with *Majlis Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (MAIWP)* has shifted the entire paradigm of Baitulmal entrepreneurs from being zakat recipients to zakat payers.

The pilot programme which was implemented in 2019 has trained a total of 84 entrepreneurs, out of which 18 participants who previously were zakat recipients are now zakat payers. This year, a total of 50 entrepreneurs will be attending online training from 13 to 22 December 2020.

The programme aims to train Baitulmal entrepreneurs who have potential and priorities will be given to those affected by Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, this programme also aims to improve the standard of living through entrepreneurial activities in order to enable the participants to generate long term income as well as to build resilience. As of today, this programme has achieved an accumulated sales value of RM1.32 million.

YB Dato Sri Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives during the opening ceremony of the programme said “Entrepreneurs who want to revive and grow their businesses have the opportunity to apply for various assistance and training provided by various Agencies. For example, MEDAC through SME Corp. Malaysia implements various programmes and it is open to eligible SMEs including youths, women and people with special needs such as People with Disabilities (OKU)”.

To further strengthen the cooperation between agencies in providing training and guidance to *asnaf* and B40 groups, an exchange of memorandum of cooperation was held today between SME Corp. Malaysia, *Majlis Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (MAIWP)* and Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad to implement TUB and Micro Financing Programme, specifically for micro entrepreneurs from the B40 group and *asnaf* who lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ceremony was witnessed by YB Dato Sri Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives and YB Senator Datuk Dr. Haji Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affair). The Micro Financing Programme offers training on entrepreneurship as well as financial assistance up to RM50,000 to assist affected micro entrepreneurs to recover and rebuild their businesses.

Also held today were the Certificate of Appreciations ceremony witnessing two recipients from TUB programme and Mock Cheque presentation to nine grant recipients of capacity building programme by SME Corp. Malaysia, amounting to more than RM2 million.

The ceremony today was also attended by YB Datuk Wira Hajah Mas Ermieyati Hj Samsudin, Deputy Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives; YBhg. Dato' Suriani Dato' Ahmad, Secretary General, Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives; YBhg. Dato' Sri Syed Hussien Al Habshee, Chairman, SME Corp. Malaysia (cum Chairman of *MAIWP*); Encik Rizal Nainy, Chief Executive Officer, SME Corp. Malaysia; YBhg. Datuk Haji Akhbar Haji Samon, Chief Executive Officer, *Majlis Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (MAIWP)*; and Tuan Haji Mohd Nazri Chik, General Manager of Strategic Relations representing the Chief Executive Officer, Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad.

MINISTRY OF ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVES