

PRESS RELEASE
25 FEBRUARY 2016

**EKUINAS LAUNCHES CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) PROGRAMME –
ILTIZAM**

Focuses on Entrepreneurship, Education, and Community

Key highlights:-

- Ekuinas formally launches its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme, branded under the name ILTIZAM, and inspired by the willpower, spirit and determination of those who strive to achieve change and impactful transformation.
- Ekuinas' CSR activities will focus on three pillars namely Entrepreneurship, Education and Community to reflect its core business agenda and generate sustainable and positive impact to businesses and society.
- Over the last five years, Ekuinas has expended more than RM13 million for its CSR activities and hopes to further invest an additional RM18 million for the next three years to assist deserving groups in society to realise their potential.

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 February 2016: Government-linked private equity fund management company, Ekuiti Nasional Berhad (Ekuinas) today formally launched ILTIZAM, its corporate social responsibility programme, which specifically focuses on three pillars namely Entrepreneurship, Education and Community. ILTIZAM is inspired by the willpower, spirit and determination of those who strive to achieve change and impactful transformation, and aims to inspire target groups to realise their full potential.

In his opening speech, Ekuinas' Chairman, Raja Tan Sri Dato' Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda said, "In line with the current corporate sustainability philosophy encouraged by the Government, we want Ekuinas CSR programme to form part of our corporate DNA, implemented side by side with our core activities. Whilst we always recognise that deeds are more important than words, it is equally important to ensure that the community is aware of what we are trying to achieve through our CSR programme so that they can maximise the benefits of participation."

Dato' Abdul Rahman Ahmad, Ekuinas' Chief Executive Officer, presented the strategic brand identity of ILTIZAM, its objectives and guiding principles. "All CSR activities should reflect Ekuinas' core business agenda, and create sustainable and positive impact to businesses and society. The programmes should also be structured and focused. And to be realistic, we wanted to start small but at the same time ensuring the initiatives are scalable and expandable to allow us to do more in the future," added Dato' Abdul Rahman.

The launch of Ekuinas CSR Programme was graced by YB Senator Dato' Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department who later shared his personal experience, journey and shared invaluable insights as encouragement to over 100 students and NGOs among the audience.

Through its Entrepreneur Mentorship Programme, ILTIZAM helps micro and small businesses which do not yet fit Ekuinas' investment criteria of medium-sized companies to achieve their full potential. The programme brings together experienced business owners and professionals to mentor promising entrepreneurs within a structured environment using innovative tools to help them further strengthen their operations and achieve business sustainability.

Under the Education pillar, Ekuinas supports young Malaysians with potential to excel through its Education Empowerment Programme. Ekuinas pledges an annual contribution to Yayasan Peneraju Pendidikan Bumiputera (YPPB), an initiative by the Government to develop Bumiputera students by giving them access to academic and vocational education via their various programmes. Ekuinas also provides sponsorships to deserving students under Ekuinas' ILMU Education Group (ILMU) via the ILMU Education Fund. In addition, ILTIZAM also runs the Professional Development Programme, a structured programme which focuses on developing and nurturing local graduates to enhance their employability through placements at Ekuinas' portfolio companies.

Under the Community pillar, ILTIZAM houses all philanthropic initiatives under the Community Enrichment Programme which aims to help improve the quality of lives for those from disadvantaged backgrounds in a sustainable way, as well as promote and preserve local arts, culture and heritage.

Over the last five years, Ekuinas has expended more than RM13 million for its CSR activities and hopes to further invest an additional RM18 million for the next three years under ILTIZAM's programmes to assist deserving groups in society to realise their potential.

Ekuinas invites micro and small enterprises, NGOs and high potential students and graduates to apply for ILTIZAM programmes via www.ekuinas.com.my/iltizam or call 03-7710 7171.

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About Ekuinas

Ekuinas (Ekuiti Nasional Berhad) is a government-linked private equity fund management company established on 1 September 2009. With the government endowment of RM5 billion under the 9th Malaysia Plan and 10th Malaysia Plan, Ekuinas aims to create Malaysia's next generation of leading companies whilst promoting equitable, effective and sustainable Bumiputera economic participation. To date, Ekuinas has undertaken investments in high potential Malaysian companies involved in the business of fast moving consumer goods, oil and gas, logistics, education, retail food and beverage, and healthcare.

About ILTIZAM

ILTIZAM was inspired by the will and determination to work towards realising one's potential. As implied by the name, ILTIZAM communicates the spirit of this programme in delivering life-changing and inspiring transformation for those involved. The objective of this programme is to empower Bumiputera community and help realise their full potential across three main pillars which are Entrepreneurship, Education and Community.

For more information on Ekuinas and ILTIZAM, log on to www.ekuinas.com.my.

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Issued by bzBee Consult Sdn. Bhd. on behalf of Ekuiti Nasional Berhad.