



INTOUCH® Project Smile Volume #9



INTOUCH WITH THE FUTURE

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IN THIS ISSUE

by Charlene Fan

Project Smile is an initiative by Kossan International Sdn Bhd (KISB) to develop, sustain, and perceive a good relationship between our internal and external community.

Initiated in 2013, the program has extended support and contribution to the environment and communities in need. It is 100% run by Kossan employees on a voluntary basis.

We look at many areas in contribution projects from schools, orphanages to animals, environment and the less fortunate.

It is also a program about developing future leaders through social awareness and motivational activities.

We believe that children are the hope for a brighter future, and we want to provide them with opportunities and hope for a better life.

Project Smile 9.0 – CARE Enhances Lives

KISB volunteers visited SEMOA (Semenanjung Orang Asli) to help the community to plant fruit trees and engage with the children in fun activities.

Project Smile



iNtouch®
With The Future

Develop **Colorful** Future Leaders

CARE Enhances Lives

29th September to 1st October 2017, Kossan International Sdn Bhd organized an excursion to visit the SEMOA Orang Asli Children Centre in Raub.

SEMOA is a non-profit charitable and non-governmental organization focused on improving the livelihood of the Orang Asli children through the Orang Asli Children Centre. The founders of this outreach project, Mr. Timothy Cheah Kim Hock and Mr. Rajendran Velu, started the hostel centre outside of Raub, Pahang in 1996.

SEMOA Children Centre is bridging the gap between cities and towns, to achieve the concept of equality of education opportunities. They convey the knowledge to remote areas of Malaysia to improve the living standards of the local people. They provide accommodation and care to them, and counsel the Asli children to engage in legitimate and healthy extracurricular activities.



Our day began with the planting of fruit trees which are sponsored by KISB for the SEMOA Centre. The Centre has acquired land to plant fruit trees and vegetables to sell to the local communities as a form of self-sustaining efforts for the long term. They fear donations might not be consistent and the children need to continue with their education. Besides that, the children can also enjoy the fruits and vegetables of their harvest in their daily meals.

We started our planting activities from digging the soil, fertilizing, sowing to watering the plants. We gained invaluable experience in this plantation activity and most importantly we understand a simple theory "You don't get anything that you don't work hard for – Evan Thomas".



After a hard day's work in the afternoon sun, we successfully managed to plant 260 fruit trees! It was an amazing feeling to be able to support the SEMOA Centre in a big way. All 80 KISB volunteers returned to the Centre to have lunch with the children and continue with the next fun activity.



Coloring and arts & craft competition was organized by KISB dedicated volunteers to encourage the children to do their best to excel in anything they put their minds to achieve.



The outcome of the children's efforts was indescribable. They were incredibly creative to design and color so well! They went beyond expectations with great excitement and effort to try to be the winner of the challenge. They were eager to do their best with what they were given. Every child's work was beautiful.



We were pleasantly surprised with a special Thank You gesture from the children. They performed dances and sang songs for us in the spirit of being Malaysian. Some of the volunteers came close to tears to witness such a beautiful performance put on by these wonderful children. There were kids as old as 3-5 years old singing and dancing perfectly in synchronization with the group. They are indeed very talented and capable.

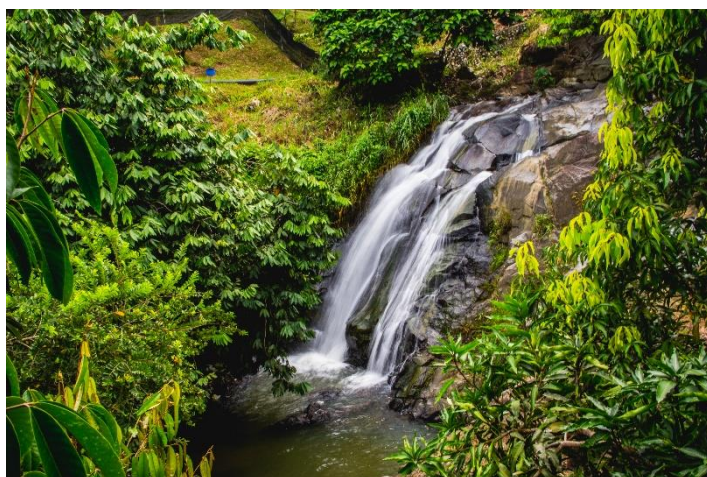
KISB provided each child with a goodie bag in remembrance of the day, including their wish list for a pair of nice shoes! We hope they will run a hundred miles in them- looking at their spirit of doing things with so much heart!



In celebration of the meaningful day, the KISB volunteers headed to Eight Acres for some team building activities and retreat. Team building is an important investment for people engagement. It shapes trust, mitigates conflict, encourages communication, and enhances collaboration.



We were up against many interesting challenges but we ran through each activity with great commitment and heart just like the Asli children. At the same time we had good fun participating and getting to know more about our team members.



We have learnt that providing education opportunities for the Orang Asli children is vital for their future development and place in this country. It is also important for them to maintain their unique culture and identity. Culture defines who we are, how we think, how we communicate, what we value and what is important to us, every area of human development. Therefore, we must give our best support to these communities in need which might be left behind in the height of technology and the fast-paced world today.

We also believe our team building program empowers one another to contribute to common goals of the company, to be successful and to continue to build effective teams.

We have a great team of volunteers at KISB to move mountains and we are looking forward to our next project!

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!

- John C. Maxwell

What can we do to help our Asli Children?

There are 18 Orang Asli tribes in Malaysia, categorized under three main groups according to their different languages and customs which are grouped as Senoi, Proto-Malay and Semang.

Their population is approximately 148,000 in Malaysia.

1. MAKE A DONATION

Your generous donation will help young Orang Asli kids reach their full potential through improved literacy and numeracy.

2. VOLUNTEER

Help ASLI communities as a volunteer and create a better future, for generations to come. It's a rare privilege and a unique opportunity to make a personal contribution to practical reconciliation.



3. FUNDRAISE FOR SEMOA

The fundraise can be complete by asking your friends and family to donate to ASLI communities in lieu of birthday gifts, raising money through a fitness challenge, collecting donations at a work event.

4. REGULAR GIVING

A regular monthly gift is the gift of ongoing support and hope to Orang Asli communities with the greatest need.

5. ORGANISE EDUCATIONAL COURSES

You can organise public events to educate people about Orang Asli culture. Invite Orang Asli people to contribute.

6. JOIN AN ORANG ASLI SUPPORT GROUP

There are many such groups and a quick Google search can find one in your area.

7. WORKPLACE GIVING

Workplace giving is a simple and tax-effective way for you to make regular donations to licensed Non-Profit Organizations through each pay. Giving this way means you get the immediate tax deduction benefits and you don't need to collect receipts through the year.

