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Petronas "Planting Tomorrow" Community Programme Kicks Off In Pitas

PITAS, April 18 (Bernama) – Petroliam Nasional Bhd (Petronas) kicked off its "Planting Tomorrow" community well-being programme today in support of the government's poverty eradication efforts.

General Manager of Petronas Sabah and Labuan Regional Office Julita Ontol said the programme would focus on addressing the community's basic needs and providing economic assistance in order to improve their income.

"This will be done through capability development by creating a sustainable socio-economic environment and addressing the basic needs of the community in the identified villages," she said when launching the programme at Kampung Pinapak near here.

Julita said Petronas was committed in helping to improve the villagers' standard of living and that the oil and gas company was willing to extend assistance to the people of all races and beliefs.

The programme starts with seven villages within Mukim Dandun near here - Kampung Pinapak, Kampung Nunguh, Kampung Maliau Layung, Kampung Maliau Pusat, Kampung Bambang Ulu, Kampung Dowokon and Kampung Perupuk - before expanding to other districts in Sabah's interior.

She said the 20-month programme would be carried out in two phases by non-governmental organisation Yayasan Sejahtera.

Meanwhile Yayasan Sejahtera chief operations officer Suheila Abu Bakar said the first phase would see the provision of the community's basic needs such as water solutions, education and health.

The second phase will focus on establishing sustainable livelihood such as providing agricultural support.