

BDA holds community outreach programme for 8 longhouses in Jelalong

BINTULU: A community outreach programme themed 'Building Vibrant and Resilient Community' was held at Rumah Ningkan Jawie in Jelalong recently.

The event was attended by some 200 representatives of local communities from eight nearby longhouses.

The eight longhouses were Rumah Drick Anak Gani; Rumah Taip Anak Punai; Rumah Ningkan Anak Jawie; Rumah Berain Anak Ugal; Rumah Joseph Gawing; Rumah Jeranding Anak Guchang; Rumah Julaihi Ketu and Rumah Aban Anak Giman.

The programme was organised by Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) in collaboration with Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu (UPMKB); Glenealy Plantations Sdn Bhd (GPSB); Department of Environment (DoE), Bintulu branch; Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB), Bintulu; Department of Agriculture (DoA), Bintulu; and Sebauh District Office.

The organiser in a statement said this outreach programme aimed to establish trust and strengthen positive relationships with local communities including leaders within Bintulu Division to foster collaboration and effective cooperation.

"In addition, it also helps to increase awareness about important issues, resources, and opportunities among the community, including empowering individuals with knowledge and skills," it said.

Among the activities



The participants are shown how to make home composting using waste from their homes and livestock by a UPMKB officer.

conducted was knowledge sharing which was presented in an interactive session with the participants to enhance their understanding.

The presentation included talks on the roles and responsibilities of BDA, open burning awareness and waste disposal management techniques by BDA, DoE and NREB.

GPSB conducted a sharing session with the communities on the best agriculture practices of oil palm planting including weeding method, manuring, harvesting, pruning, pest and disease control and chemical safety and health.

UPMKB conducted a hands-on session on a step-by-step process of making home composting to the local communities.

Meanwhile, a session on making pineapple jam was conducted by DoA.

These knowledge sharing sessions are expected to leave a positive impact on Jelalong communities in relation to environmental practices and awareness, and livelihoods.

BDA safety and health section (SHO) manager Lydia Soloma Jalong, in her welcoming remarks, said this programme promotes sustainable environmental practices and initiatives to protect the environment, improve access to clean water, reduce pollution and elevate the livelihood of the community in Jelalong.

"This is part of BDA's Strategic Plan 2024-2030 to develop approaches to ensure

community inclusivity, long-term environmental sustainability and uplift the community within Bintulu region," she said, adding that BDA also held similar programme at SK Labang in August and SK Rumah Keseng in September.

Senior manager of BDA's Landscape, Public Utilities & Public Relations Division, Jaffry Ibrahim, in his opening remarks, said this outreach programme will bring lasting benefits to the local communities involved.

"This outreach programme is planned and designed to develop and enhance the participants' skills and capacities among the community members to improve their livelihood, economic prospects and environmental awareness," he said.