



A HELPING HAND: (from left) Sanjeev Nanavati, Universiti Putra Malaysia's Professor Dr Tengku Aizan Hamid, Women, Community and Family Development Minister Datuk Seri Hajah Rohani Abdul Karim, and Universiti Putra Malaysia deputy vice-chancellor Professor Datin Paduka Aini Idris

Aid to Empower

CITI and UPM are launching a training initiative for 800 low-income mature women. The training programme aims to help women between 40 and 60 years, and earning less than RM3,000 a month, become financially independent and empowered in their old age. It will include financial planning, developing savings, investment and retirement plans.

Citibank started the Citi-UPM Financial Empowerment for Mature Women Programme last year, alongside its other partner, Tsao Foundation. The grant for the seven-pronged programme encom-

passed building UPM's staff capacity and for the National Council of Women Organisation leaders to deliver the programme effectively.

It also involved carrying out needs assessment, undertaking focus group discussions facilitated by UPM, raising public awareness in the media and identifying a pool of 60 trainers from partner organisations.

"We can empower a community of older women improve their financial decision-making, build assets and become economically resilient," said Citibank chief executive officer Sanjeev Nanavati.