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**KESUMA AND HRD CORP BRING HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
COMMUNITY AID TO PULAU GAYA THROUGH  
'SENTUHAN KESUMA BERSAMA HRD CORP DI BAWAH BAYU'**

**KOTA KINABALU, 1 June 2025** - The Ministry of Human Resources (KESUMA) and Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) has extended its human capital development initiatives directly to the people of Pulau Gaya through the community-focused programme - 'Sentuhan KESUMA bersama HRD Corp di Bawah Bayu'

Officiated by the Minister of Human Resources, YB Mr. Steven Sim Chee Keong, the event reflects the ministry's unwavering commitment to ensuring that lifelong learning and training opportunities reach even the most geographically remote communities.

In conjunction with HRD Corp's flagship annual event, National Training Week (NTW) 2025, themed '*Learning Without Borders*', the initiative in Pulau Gaya reflects our core commitment to providing equitable access to quality training opportunities for all – regardless of location or background.

The programme brought together over 450 residents from four local villages: Kampung Gaya, Kampung Lok Urai, Kampung Torong Logong and Kampung Kesuapan where participants took part in a series of targeted training sessions designed for women, youth and students. These include workshops on floral arrangement entrepreneurship, digital marketing and drop shipping, as well as motivational sessions to inspire academic excellence.

In his speech, YB Mr. Steven Sim emphasised the importance of officers from all agencies under KESUMA to regularly go on the ground, especially to remote areas such as Pulau Gaya, to deliver essential services including skills training.

"We want every citizen to be equipped with skills that can help them generate higher income. When the people are more skilled, the country will progress as well. Next week, HRD Corp will launch the National Training Week 2025 (NTW), and we will ensure that we return to Pulau Gaya to provide new skills training to at least 5,000 residents. For 2025, our target is to train 60,000 participants across the state of Sabah, compared to 15,000 last year," he said.

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Meanwhile, YB Datuk Phoong Jin Zhe, in his remarks, also highlighted the need to expand skills training opportunities in Sabah to open up more employment prospects.

“Skills training like this not only creates job opportunities and higher income but can also attract large-scale investments to the state of Sabah—ultimately transforming the lives of its people,” he said.

During the same programme, HRD Corp also announced a strategic collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) through the Sabah Human Capital Initiatives & Nurturing Excellence (SHiNE). This initiative platform will serve as the first-of-its-kind lifelong learning hub in Malaysia, focusing on research, skills training, and real-world talent development solutions tailored to meet the needs of the current and future workforce.

According to the Deputy Chairman of HRD Corp’s Board of Directors, Tuan Ahsim Haji Jamat, he is confident that the SHiNE initiative will become a national reference model for talent and human capital development, positively contributing to economic growth and the wellbeing of the people in Sabah and Malaysia.

In addition, the event marked the announcement of the ‘Industrial and Community Training Collaboration Centre’, where local tourism sector employers benefited from the HRD Corp’s Training Equipment and Facility Enhancement Scheme (ALAT) with training equipment support worth RM36,000 to enhance local skills training capabilities.

Reflecting KESUMA’s focus on holistic wellbeing, YB Mr. Steven Sim also presented a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contribution comprising 700 life jackets for daily boat passengers, food baskets for 300 families around Pulau Gaya, and a cash donation of RM20,000 to the Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Pulau Gaya and Sekolah Kebangsaan Pulau Gaya.

This programme was also attended by Member of Parliament Kuching, YB Dr. Kelvin Yii; Registrar of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Mr. Luqman Ridha Anwar; and President of Jesselton University College, Professor Dr. Chin Yuk Fong

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### **About HRD Corp**

Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), formerly known as the Human Resources Development Council (MPSM), was established in 1993. It was later incorporated as Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) through the enactment of the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad Act 2001.

As an agency under the Ministry of Human Resources (KESUMA), HRD Corp is responsible for collecting levies from key industries and disbursing training grants through its internal mechanism which is the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) or Kumpulan Wang Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (KWPSM).

The rebranding of HRD Corp in 2021 reflects the organisation's renewed responsibilities, direction and mission. This includes expanding upskilling and reskilling efforts by employers to help employees achieve more sustainable productivity.

This transformation not only benefits all Malaysians but also empowers underserved communities through more inclusive income-generating opportunities.

It is aligned with HRD Corp's long-term ambition to drive the nation's aspiration of developing a highly skilled workforce.

For more information, visit the HRD Corp website at [www.hrdcorp.gov.my](http://www.hrdcorp.gov.my)