

Banking on **trees** to prevent floods

Federal Territory DID receives 12,000 trees from Public Bank to improve city's eco-system

PUBLIC Bank officially handed over more than 12,000 trees worth RM1mil to the Federal Territory Irrigation and Drainage Department (DID) at a ceremony held in Flat Sri Johor Flood Retention Pond, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur recently.

Public Bank's senior general manager, Public Affairs Division, Razak Dali presented a plaque to symbolise the handing over of the trees to KL DID director, Abu Bakar Mohd Yusof.

The ceremony was witnessed by DID Malaysia senior director Datuk Zainor Rahim Ibrahim.

"Public Bank has always supported the Government in addressing environment issues such as global warming.

"As a long-term partner of the Government in nation building and a responsible corporate citizen, Public Bank agreed to translate this commitment in a more meaningful way."

"Hence, in 2007 the management of Public Bank agreed to allocate RM1mil to plant nearly 13,000 trees at the Sri Johor

flood retention pond in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur to improve the city's eco-system and reduce the carbon footprint," said Razak in his speech.

The project has an annual carbon absorption rate of 275,423kg upon maturity of the planted trees since each mature tree would have a carbon absorption rate of 22.5kg per annum.

"Besides establishing a green lung in the midst of an urban landscape, the trees would also enable the local community to enjoy nature," he added.

In his speech Zainor Rahim expressed gratitude to Public Bank for contributing quite a sizeable amount of funds to beautify the surrounding area of the flood retention pond at Sri Johor Flat.

"Today's event is a token of appreciation by the Government to Public Bank for its efforts in inculcating and reinforcing environment-friendly practices.

"This tree planting project is a good platform to conserve the environment," he said.



Green gift: Razak (fourth from right) presenting the hand-over plaque to Zainor at the ceremony witnessed by officials from the Federal Territory DID, Kuala Lumpur City Hall and Public Bank officers.