

New homes for flood victims

Hypermarket to rebuild houses based on award-winning architect's design



Home sweet home: (From left) Fadli, Azlam Shah, USIM vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Musa Ahmad and Fischer unveiling the model of a home for Project Shelter.



Good job: Fischer presenting the 'Golden Boot' award to Azlam Shah for his outstanding efforts in the flood relief mission.

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TESCO Stores (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd (Tesco Malaysia) is currently working closely with the Kelantan state government and is committed to building eight new houses for deserving families around the Sungai Pinang district.

The hypermarket's second phase of its Project Shelter to rebuild homes for flood victims in the east coast is estimated to cost RM500,000.

Building and furnishing of the homes will be funded by cash donations collected through all 52 Tesco stores, cash donations from Tesco suppliers and business partners as well as funds matched by Tesco Malaysia and Tesco PLC in the UK.

"Following our flood relief missions to the east coast, we have seen and assessed the needs of the flood victims.

"The severity of the flood aftermath has left many homeless and we are determined to do more.

"Through Project Shelter, we are committed to create a sustainable solution for those who have lost their homes and source of livelihood during the floods," said Tesco Malaysia chief executive officer Datuk Georg Fischer during an appreciation high tea for key sponsors and partners during the hypermarket's flood relief efforts.

The houses have been designed by

Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia lecturer and award-winning architect Fadli Arabi.

They follow a modular system concept, are Syariah-compliant and meet Islamic architectural principles.

With a built-up area of 740 sq ft, the homes will feature three rooms and two baths and will be fabricated using renewable and environmentally-friendly materials.

The rebuilding is scheduled to begin at the end of March and will take five weeks to complete.

Corporate social responsibility head Low Lee Ann took the time to voice their gratitude to everyone who responded to their calls for volunteers, giving special mention to Astro, AF Jets, Malindo Air, Petron, Mr. DIY, Kontena Nasional and Media Prima Berhad.

"Without all of you, we would not have been able to help flood victims so quickly and on a large scale.

"We are truly appreciative and I am sure you will again come forward without hesitation should we need your help in our humanitarian efforts," she said.

Later Fischer presented a "Golden Boot" to Tesco Malaysia's corporate affairs and government relations director Datuk Azlam Shah Alias to acknowledge his efforts in the flood relief mission that went above and beyond the rest.

In the first phase of Project Shelter, about 40 volunteers joined by 40 RELA members and 30 Universiti Tun Abdul Razak students in Kelantan helped build temporary shelters and provided food for about 300 displaced families.