

## **BIBD COMMITTED TO HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS ACHIEVING BRUNEI VISION 2035**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 - Recognising the vital role that education and human capital development plays in achieving Brunei Vision 2035, BIBD has placed strong emphasis on investing in its human capital towards producing a highly-skilled talent pool for Brunei Darussalam. BIBD has invested over B\$4 million towards human capital development over the past 5 years.

Chief Human Resource Officer, Habibah binti Haji Harry shared, “Our emphasis on talent development and performance excellence is the defining strength of BIBD, as we believe that this plays a significant role in maintaining our status as the First Choice institution for our employees, customers and stakeholders”.

With training and certification programs sourced from local and international benchmark institutions to ensure the quality of the skillset obtained, a total of 2,653 learning days were conducted in 2018, of which 40% focused on leadership and certifications. 52 employees received internationally recognised certifications in various focus areas, ranging from audit, compliance and IT security. BIBD continues to invest in learning and development programs for high-potential staff to prepare them to take on roles as BIBD’s future leaders; one such example of this is the Cambridge Islamic Finance Leadership Program (IFLP), a prestigious international program conducted by the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, with three BIBD attendees being placed among the Top Five Most Outstanding Attendees between 2016 and 2018.

BIBD’s Deputy Managing Director, Hajah Noraini binti Haji Sulaiman added, “The bank’s efforts in developing its human capital is part of its mission to create world-class professionals that would support Brunei’s long-term development plan, Brunei Vision 2035. With over 900 employees, we are committed to preparing the next generation of

outstanding leaders by providing them with unique mentoring opportunities and leadership training”.

Another initiative aimed at producing highly-skilled local talents is the Graduate Management Trainees (GMT) programme. The GMT programme is part of BIBD’s initiative to build strong local talents for future leaders that brings BIBD closer towards achieving Wawasan Brunei 2035 which is to develop highly skilled people measured by the highest international standards. In July 2019, BIBD accepted six (6) new graduates under the programme.

The trainees were selected after undergoing a rigorous selection process, which started with an online assessment where BIBD collaborated with Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) to hold the assessments at their facility. After the final assessment, in which the participants’ competencies were evaluated, six participants were offered the GMT positions.

Furthermore, BIBD recently introduced its Employee Study Assistance Policy which provides financial assistance to full-time employees of BIBD and its subsidiaries towards completing educational programs and professional qualifications either locally or abroad. This is another effort to empower employees and enable them to take responsibility for their own personal and professional growth & development.

As one of the achievements of BIBD’s human capital, the bank was honoured with the Outstanding International Collaboration award by the Islamic Banking & Finance Institute of Malaysia in 2018, highlighting BIBD’s excellent efforts in developing Islamic finance capabilities. Other awards include the *Islamic Finance Talent Development Champion Award from Islamic Banking and Finance Institute Malaysia (IBFIM) in 2016 as well as an appreciation award from Cegos Asia Pacific in 2017 in recognition of the bank’s efforts to showcase its Commitment to Learning and Digital Transformation in Brunei.*

BIBD began intensifying its efforts in talent development in 2011 and now has almost sixty certified Islamic Financial Planners, enabling them to offer highly proficient and informed consultation services to clients.

As BIBD seeks to position itself as the best Islamic Bank in Asia Pacific, the bank strongly believes that the foundation of its success and indeed the country's future relies significantly on the quality and efficiency of its people and will continue to invest and celebrate its excellent workforce.

On this occasion of Teachers Day, it is also apt to celebrate the teachers and educators that have shaped and every individual in Brunei Darussalam as well as to acknowledge the government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for investing in an education system which continues to harness and develop the human assets which will play such an important role in the success of our beloved nation.

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#### **About BIBD**

BIBD is the largest financial institution in Brunei Darussalam, leading the market in terms of assets, financings, and deposits, with a vision to become globally recognised as the benchmark Islamic Finance Institution.

BIBD is headquartered in Bandar Seri Begawan with Brunei's largest network of branches and ATMs located strategically in all four districts of Brunei Darussalam.

In 2018, BIBD was ranked second strongest bank in South East Asia and top ten Asia by The Asian Banker. BIBD is one of the safest banks in the world and holds an impressive credit rating of A- by Standard & Poor's, the highest for a Bruneian bank and among the highest in the region. BIBD has been named the "Best Retail Bank in Brunei" by The Asian Banker for six consecutive years from 2013 to 2018.

For more information on any of BIBD's other products or services, please log on to the BIBD website at [www.bibd.com.bn](http://www.bibd.com.bn), visit your nearest BIBD branch or get in touch with the BIBD Contact Centre at 2238181.