GRB

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GRB e-newsletter: update from PWDC's Gender Responsive Budgeting Project

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Different People, Different Needs

Welcome to the 2nd issue of our *GRB E-Zine*. In this issue we are updating you on our GRB community pilot project with the residents of PPR Jalan Sungai, Sungai Pinang and PPR Ampangan, Ampang Jajar.

The project started in April 2012 and consists of four phases. The objective is to understand the needs of the residents and how a fruitful dialogue can be initiated with the local councils, MPPP and MPSP. The goal is to strengthen local democracy with residents of low-cost flats participating in budget decisions and allocations of public funds. This process is also about empowering residents to understand the meaning of shared-ownership and assuming responsibility of their own environment.

Phase I saw the GRB Team doing a basic demographic survey of residents in the community.

Phase II then focused on understanding the needs of both females and males of five major target groups: Children/Teenagers (age 18 and below); Youth (age19-30); Adults (age 31-55); Senior Citizens (age 55 and above); and OKU. Through focus group discussions, a list of their priority needs was compiled.

Phase III consisted of three days of voting by the residents on the needs-list that emerged from the focus groups discussions. The vote was accompanied by fun-filled activities: games, karaoke, dancing and food. 69.5% of residents in PPR Jalan Sungai and 67.5% of PPR Ampangan voted. The results are in the accompanying box.

OUR GRB PROJECT

The GRB project operates as part of the Penang Women's Development Corporation, a state-financed organisation under YB Lydia Ong, State Exco for Youth and Sports, Women, Family and Community Development.

OUR FIVE OUTPUTS

The GRB Project has set out 5 outputs to be implemented over the next three years. These are as follows:

OUTPUT 1: Working with officers and departments in the local authorities, to create a supportive environment for GRB.

OUTPUT 2: Undertaking two community-based pilot projects, on safety and cleanliness.

output 3: Helping assess and optimise the use of data in planning policy and budgets.

OUTPUT 4: Providing training and capacity development to the range of our partners.

OUTPUT 5: Creating public awareness about GRB.

Contact us for more details about how we are implementing these five outputs, or check our website at

www.pwdc.org.my



Phase IV is now in process: this is where residents sit down with representatives from MPPP and MPSP to discuss the needs and plan how to best meet them. Decisions will focus on what is practical and possible budget allocations. Next editions of this monthly newsletter will carry further news on the different aspects of GRB in action in Penang and the world at large! Watch this space!

Results and Ranking of the Needs after 3 days of Voting

PPR Jalan Sungai

- 1. Building Maintenance
- 2. Security Facilities
- 3. Cleanliness
- 4. Parking lot
- 5. Children Playground
- 6. Awareness Programs for Residents

PPR Ampangan

- 1. Recreation Park
- 2. Building Maintenance
- 3. Traffic lights at the entrance
- 4. Trading sites
- 5. Activity Centre
- 6. Security Facilities
- 7. Cleanliness





THE GRB TEAM

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