

EkuiNAS commmits RM18m to CSR programmes

KUALA LUMPUR: Private equity firm, Ekuiti Nasional Bhd (EkuiNAS) has committed RM18 million to corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes over the next three years.

Its chief executive officer, Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad, said over the last five years, EkuiNAS had invested over RM13 million for its CSR activities and had set aside RM18 million to be invested.

“We will invest about RM6 million a year under the three pillars — entrepreneurship, education and community — to help those qualified realise their potential.

“The government has affirmed its commitment to invest in EkuiNAS.

“Last October, the 2016 Budget allocated RM400 million for EkuiNAS, but given the economic situation, we can manage if the funds are a little less.”

He said the firm had RM2 billion in funds, and could continue to invest to meet its yearly target.

Its CSR programmes, named *Il-tizam*, were in line with EkuiNAS’s agenda of creating a sustainable and positive impact on businesses and society.

“All CSR activities should reflect

EkuiNAS’s core business agenda and create a sustainable and positive impact on businesses and society.”

He said the programmes should be structured, focused and realistic.

“We wanted to start small, but at the same time, ensure the initiatives can be up-scaled and expanded to allow us to do more in the future,” he said yesterday during the EkuiNAS CSR programme launch by Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar.

Wahid said the government planned to increase allocations to EkuiNAS, but the plan needed to be postponed amid the global economic challenges.

Commenting on Fitch Ratings affirming Malaysia’s stable outlook, Wahid said the government would reinforce the country’s economic fundamentals to improve its rating by international agencies.

“The three rating agencies are Moody’s, Standard & Poor’s and Fitch Ratings. All three have given us the same credit rating, which is between A3 and A-, with stable outlooks. Fitch’s ratings for Malaysia have taken into account the government’s proactive measures in the recalibrated 2016 Budget,” he said.

“All CSR activities should reflect EkuiNAS’s core business agenda and create a sustainable and positive impact on businesses and society.

Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad
Ekuiti Nasional Bhd (EkuiNAS)
chief executive officer

