

UOB Indonesia donates more than 500 oxygen cylinders to the Indonesia Ministry of Health to ease the pressure on Indonesian hospitals

Bank collaborates with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore to facilitate the donation of medical oxygen to Indonesia amid surge of COVID-19 cases

Singapore, 3 August 2021 – UOB Indonesia today donated more than 500 medical oxygen cylinders to the Indonesia Ministry of Health for hospitals in Indonesia which are grappling with a resurgence of COVID-19 cases.

UOB Indonesia tapped the Group's network and collaborated with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore to facilitate the export of these medical oxygen cylinders to Indonesia. Upon arriving in Jakarta on 11 August 2021, the shipment of 532 cylinders of oxygen will be distributed by the Indonesia Ministry of Health to hospitals in need.

Indonesia has seen a surge of COVID-19 cases, largely driven by the highly-contagious Delta variant. This has caused a spike in the Bed Occupancy Rate¹ across hospitals which has resulted in a severe shortage of oxygen supply. According to the Ministry of Health, Indonesia needs a total of 1,928 tonnes of oxygen² per day for patients under intensive care. The Indonesian government has placed a priority on increasing its supply of medical oxygen to meet the growing demand across the country.

Mr Hendra Gunawan, President Director, UOB Indonesia, said, "Our hearts go out to those in the community who are struggling as a result of the pandemic. We hope that through our donation, we can contribute to the help and medical care given to patients with severe respiratory symptoms as having sufficient oxygen supply is crucial to their treatment. We are grateful to the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore for actively facilitating the donation in support of hospitals in Indonesia as they work around the clock to treat the growing number of COVID-19 cases. As we stand united as one community, we can overcome the crisis together and see through to better days ahead."

¹ COVID-19 – WHO, Situation Report, source: www.who.int

² Source: www.kemkes.go.id

Mr Eka Jusuf Singka, Head of Crisis Centre, Indonesia Ministry of Health, said, “Health care workers and hospitals are playing vital roles in keeping communities healthy during the pandemic. As we face a severe shortage of oxygen supplies due to the surge of COVID-19 cases in Indonesia, we are grateful for all the assistance we are getting from UOB and with the support of the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore. We hope that by joining hands, we can improve health and support community resilience.”

H.E Suryopratomo, The Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore, said, “The Indonesian Embassy in Singapore welcomes UOB's assistance of 532 medical oxygen cylinders to address the COVID-19 situation in Indonesia. This initiative and alertness are proof of UOB's great concern in supporting the Indonesian government's efforts. All parties need to work together in order that the region can recover and strengthen its resilience from the health and economic points of view. No single country can be free from this pandemic without the collaborative efforts by its closest neighbours. Indonesia and Singapore are a good example of this, and therefore Indonesia would like to express its utmost sincere gratitude to UOB for the kind support and assistance”.

The donation of medical oxygen cylinders is the latest in a series of relief initiatives under UOB's global #UnitedForYou COVID-19 Relief Programme. In June 2021, UOB Indonesia also collaborated with like-minded partners to offer free COVID-19 vaccinations to Indonesians. This is in support of the government's effort to encourage vaccinations to combat the spread of COVID-19 in Indonesia.

UOB Indonesia also donated sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in May 2020 last year, when such equipment were in short supply globally. A donation comprising 100,000 surgical masks, 5,000 N95 and 1,000 hazmat suits was distributed to 10 hospitals across Indonesia. The Bank also donated household essential items to 1,500 underprivileged families including taxi drivers during this period.

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About UOB

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of around 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's Investors Service and AA- by both S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings. In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as branches and representative offices across the region.

Over more than eight decades, generations of UOB employees have carried through the entrepreneurial spirit, the focus on long-term value creation and an unwavering commitment to do what is right for our customers and our colleagues.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

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