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## Housing ministry launches scheme to aid first-time homebuyers

It offers loans under FundMyHome+DepositKu for 20% upfront payments under FundMyHome platform

## BY AHMAD NAQIB IDRIS

SEMENYIH: The housing and local government ministry has launched the FundMvHome+DepositKu scheme, further easing the burden for first-time homebuyers who purchase property via EdgeProp Sdn Bhd's Fund-MyHome platform. Under FundMyHome, buyers

can own a home without the need for a mortgage and monthly repayments by paying 20% of the purchase price, while the balance 80% is contributed by participating institutions, which share the returns from changes in the future value of the home.

However, the most common issue faced by buyers is the inability to raise the required 20% payment, which is where the DepositKu scheme will come in handy. Under DepositKu, first-time

homebuyers can opt for a loan of up to RM30,000 to be repaid after five years, accounting for part of the 20% payment to own a home under FundMyHome.

This is a pilot project and based on the response, we may launch other programmes that we have planned. The funds under DepositKu come from the ministry to help top up the 20% required by the buyers.

can be paid on a monthly basis after the fifth year," said Housing

launch of the scheme vesterday.

Under FundMyHome, a buyer seeking to buy a RM307,000 home needs to come up with 20% of the purchase price or RM61,400 to own the property. The buyer may then apply for a loan of up to RM30,000 and therefore only needs to pay the balance RM31,400 to own a home

If a buyer is eligible for the 7% bumiputera discount, which amounts to RM21,490, the buyer would only need to pay RM9,910 to own the home assuming a RM30,000 loan granted from DepositKu scheme.

The scheme is open to first-time Malaysian homebuyers who are purchasing a home priced RM500,000 and below from the FundMyHome platform, with approvals subject to final vetting by the housing ministry.

To date, more than 20 buyers

have purchased homes under the FundMyHome+DepositKu scheme. EdgeProp Sdn Bhd chairman Datuk Tong Kooi Ong said the ad-

dition of the DepositKu scheme is a natural evolution for the Fund-MyHome platform, adding that the platform will continue to see new

innovations going forward. "We understand the difficulties faced by first-time homebuyers in raising funds for their home purchase. This loan initiative is a natural evolution for FundMyHome that "The buyers will have to repay the loan after five years, which the same time, allows them to build equity in their homes," said Tong. Since its launch in November

and Local Government Minis-ter Zuraida Kamaruddin at the istered on FundMyHome.



uraida (left) and Tong at the launch of the FundMyHome+DepositKu scheme yesterday. Photo by Low Yen Yeing/EdgeProp.my