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Google Plans 1GW Clean Energy Under CRESS, Building on 50MW Kedah Solar



Google plans to expand its clean energy procurement in Malaysia to 1GW under the Corporate Renewable Energy Supply Scheme, or CRESS. The plan builds on two Kedah solar projects totalling about 50MW. Citra Energies Sdn Bhd, owned 49% by TotalEnergies and 51% by MK Land Holdings Bhd, is developing them, while SM 01 Sdn Bhd is involved in the plant's power purchase agreement.

Power purchase agreements give developers the revenue certainty to finance projects. Google contracts projects at early design stage and helps resolve grid connection and land rights issues. CRESS requires four hours of battery storage, and Google will work with TNB and developers on long duration storage for its 24/7 clean energy goal.

Google says it pays all its electricity costs and makes long term offtake commitments with TNB, allowing TNB to recover investment costs through Google's bills, though it did not disclose how costs are split with other ratepayers. Globally it has brought 35GW of new renewables to grids from 2010 to 2025, and about 600MW across 17 Asia Pacific projects.

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Six Banks Back Princeton Digital's US$1.3 Billion Green Financing, 200MW Johor Campus



Princeton Digital Group, or PDG, has secured US$1.3 billion in green financing, about RM5.3 billion, for JH1, its 200MW campus at Sedenak Tech Park in Johor. The campus is designed for high density AI and cloud workloads. The company announced the deal in a statement on Wednesday, 4 November.

Six underwriting banks back the facility: Affin Bank, HSBC, Maybank, OCBC, Standard Chartered and UOB. The JH1 financing began with three banks in April 2024 and was upsized with four banks in October 2025, so the facility has grown steadily as the project advanced. Proceeds will fund continued development and expansion of the campus, structured under PDG's Green Finance Framework, which supports development to recognised green building standards.

The deal forms part of PDG's plan, announced in March 2026, to raise up to US$5 billion in debt to deliver contracted data centre capacity across Asia Pacific. Chairman, chief executive and cofounder Rangu Salgame said the financing reflects the confidence of PDG's banking partners in the company's execution capabilities and hyperscaler partnerships.

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Citaglobal Teams Up With Kitaran Tabah on Pahang and Lampung Mangrove Carbon



Citaglobal Bhd and its waste and environmental management unit, Citaglobal Environment Management Sdn Bhd, or CGEM, have partnered with Kitaran Tabah Sdn Bhd to explore a mangrove conservation carbon credit scheme, announced on Tuesday, 10 November. The partners will assess blue carbon projects, where verified climate outcomes are turned into commercial opportunities.

The projects focus on conserving threatened mangroves and restoring degraded areas in Pahang, Malaysia, and Lampung, Indonesia. Kitaran Tabah will lead development from feasibility studies through international verification. CGEM chief executive Thye Chee How said blue carbon calls for disciplines its environment business already practises, such as site selection and community trust. Kitaran Tabah director Akhramsyah Sanusi said both Pahang and Lampung have mangrove areas where conservation and restoration can make a real difference.

The partnership adds a conservation focused carbon opportunity to the group's environmental portfolio. CGEM owns 55% of LAWI Engineering GmbH, which recently secured a RM29 million share of a RM52.1 million waste to energy contract in Thailand. Citaglobal shares closed up 3.48% at RM1.19, giving a market capitalisation of RM670.4 million.

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PETRONAS, TotalEnergies, Mitsui Sign Framework for 5 Million Tonne Carbon Hub



PETRONAS, through wholly owned unit PETRONAS CCS Ventures Sdn Bhd, has signed a joint venture framework agreement with TotalEnergies EP CCS Malaysia and Mitsui & Co Ltd in Tokyo. The partners will incorporate a dedicated company to develop, commercialise and operate a carbon storage area offshore Peninsular Malaysia. The article does not disclose each partner's equity stake or any financial values.

The agreement builds on a 2025 agreement covering front end engineering and design, and a 2023 pact for development studies and technical evaluations. The project is the Southern Carbon Capture Storage Hub, which would receive carbon dioxide from domestic and regional sources, including possible cross border shipments.

Together, these steps move the project from studies toward a formal joint venture structure. The first phase would use a depleted gas field offshore Peninsular Malaysia, with injection capacity of up to 5 million tonnes a year. First injection is targeted as early as 2031. PETRONAS CCS Ventures chief executive Emry Hisham Yusoff said the company is confident of maintaining momentum towards a final investment decision in the near future.

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Yinson GreenTech Joins Saxon Renewables' EVolve Programme for EV Charging Carbon Credits



Yinson GreenTech, the green technology arm of Yinson Holdings Bhd, has partnered with Saxon Renewables to generate carbon credits from its EV charging infrastructure in Malaysia. It has signed a participation agreement to join EVolve, a Saxon Renewables carbon programme that groups eligible charging infrastructure under one project to generate verified carbon credits.

EVolve was registered under Verra's Verified Carbon Standard in November 2025, and credits will be issued only after independent verification of emissions reductions. Yinson GreenTech will integrate eligible charging infrastructure into the programme, strengthen data collection and monitoring, and work toward obtaining credits. It is the first technology based carbon project under Yinson's Carbon Project Framework.

The company plans to grow its EV charging network and fleet electrification activities, and will explore extending the programme to its wider electric mobility portfolio. Managing director for EV charging and leasing Kelvin Soon said the company can channel this value into a stronger charging network for customers. Saxon Renewables managing director Reik Ong said the programme aims to turn measurable emissions reductions from EV charging into carbon credits.

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IOI Corp Weighs More Solar Leases After Launching 500MW Bahau Project



IOI Corp Bhd is looking to lease more of its plantation land for solar projects to diversify income beyond palm oil, according to group managing director and chief executive Datuk Lee Yeow Chor. The group is assessing other estates after several renewable energy developers approached it. At least two other estates are near major TNB grid connection points, and feasibility depends on grid connection.

IOI first signalled interest in renewables in 2024, when it began evaluating plantation land for solar. Its oil palm planted area in Malaysia was 149,400 hectares at 30 June 2026, with 74% in East Malaysia. Lease income is expected to be more consistent than commodity linked plantation earnings over 21 to 23 years.

The group announced a 500MW solar project in Bahau, Negeri Sembilan, with Tenaga Nasional Bhd and 12 SMEs, under its 2025 to 2029 roadmap. Tenaga's subsidiary TRe holds 70% of Bahau Energy Ventures Sdn Bhd, IOI's Luminous Aspect 25% and the SME consortium 5%. Completion is targeted for end 2028. Replanting costs about RM10,000 per acre, against RM160,000 for solar with battery storage

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Zecon Eyes 30 Year RM54.36 Million Sublease for 100MWac Kuching Solar Farm



Zecon is seeking shareholder approval for a 30 year sublease of 302 acres, in Kuching, Sarawak, for a proposed 100MWac solar PV farm. Total rent is RM54.36 million. Zecon Renewables (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary, would sublease from Zecon Solar Sdn Bhd, which Zecon owns 51%.

Managing director and shareholder Datuk Zainal Abidin Ahmad holds the other 49%, so interested directors and shareholders will abstain from voting. Rent is fixed at RM500 per acre a month, with no escalation. An independent valuer put market rent at RM1.014 million a year, but its discounted 30 year average of about RM280 per acre per month is consistent with market rates. The independent adviser finds the deal fair and reasonable but notes that rent starts before the plant earns revenue.

The site lies within the planned Kota Petra Green Technology Park. Zecon Renewables signed a 30 year power purchase agreement with SESCO on 22 October 2025, with commercial operation targeted for December 2027. The extraordinary general meeting is on 19 November, with completion due in the fourth quarter of 2027.

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Tropicana Launches 480 GreenRE Terraces From RM612,800, Phase 1 Over 90% Taken



Tropicana Corp Bhd has launched Phase 2 of Avisa Residences in Tropicana Alam, its 362 acre township in Puncak Alam, with 480 units of GreenRE certified Premium Green Terraces, according to a press statement issued on Wednesday, 28 October. Prices start from RM612,800.

The two storey terraced homes have built up areas of 1,917 to 2,351 square feet and sit across 35.82 acres within the larger township, giving buyers access to its parks and lake. They carry GreenRE Bronze certification, with inverter air conditioning, stone wool roof insulation and seven four star rated ceiling fans per unit.

Phase 1 comprised 431 units and achieved sales take up of over 90%. Managing director for marketing and sales and business development Ixora Ang said the response shows the market's strong appetite for well priced, spacious landed homes, which she attributed to value, liveability and long term growth potential. The township sets aside 29% of its total area for green spaces and water bodies, including a five acre recreational park, a scenic lake and a 4.5 kilometre jogging and biking trail.

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Malaysia Reviews 1% SAF Mandate as Two Plants Near One Million Tonnes



The Plantation and Commodities Minister says the government is reviewing the proposed 1% sustainable aviation fuel, or SAF, blending mandate for international flights departing Kuala Lumpur International Airport from January 2027. The review reflects developments in the global energy market and the rising operating costs and financial pressures facing the aviation industry. Her ministry is holding engagement sessions with stakeholders to plan implementation.

Domestic SAF supply is growing. The EcoCeres plant in Johor has been in commercial production since October 2025 with a licensed capacity of 420,000 metric tons a year. The PETRONAS biorefinery in Pengerang is expected to start in the second half of 2028 with 650,000 metric tons a year. Together they should exceed one million metric tons annually by 2028, strengthening Malaysia's position as a regional SAF hub.

The government also aims to raise the biodiesel blend to B30 by 2030, upgrading blending facilities at depots in Sandakan, Tawau, Sepanggar, Bintulu and the Klang Valley. RM1.37 billion under the 13th Malaysia Plan supports oil palm replanting, targeting a 4% replanting rate, from above 3% now.

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Economy Minister Urges Wider Energy Project Test, Citing RM42.8 Billion Grid Allowance



The Economy Minister said energy intensive projects should be assessed on more than headline investment value, citing infrastructure readiness, energy efficiency, local supplier participation, skills and wider benefits. At the Clean Energy Transition Asia 2026 summit, he said the transition should be measured by the economic value it creates and Malaysia's ability to retain and eventually export that value.

Under Regulatory Period 4, about RM42.8 billion in capital expenditure is allowed for 2025 to 2027 to modernise Peninsular Malaysia's electricity network, including a RM15 billion grid reinforcement investment highlighted in Budget 2027. Peninsular peak demand is projected to grow about 5% a year, from around 21 GW in 2026 to over 33 GW by 2035, driven by data centres and advanced manufacturing, opening opportunities in generation, grid and storage.

Malaysia expects to need about 9 GW of additional gas fired generation around 2030, with LNG imports growing as mature domestic fields decline. The minister said gas should be managed responsibly, not positioned as an alternative to the transition. He invited developers, utilities and investors to use Malaysian suppliers and talent.

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Smart City Ratings Reach 88 Local Authorities, With 115 Targeted by 2030



The Housing and Local Government Ministry, or KPKT, says 88 local authorities have received the Malaysia Smart City Rating since it began in 2023. The National Smart City Council confirmed the latest results on 27 October, chaired by the Housing and Local Government Minister. The ratings follow MS ISO 37122:2019, which sets indicators for smart cities.

In 2026, 28 local authorities earned new recognition: one at Level 3, Leading Smart City, nine at Level 2, Developing Smart City, and 18 at Level 1, Smart City Early Adopter. KPKT extended the rating to private developers in 2025. Of 12 developer applications this year, eight met the criteria for the Smart Township rating: one Platinum, four Gold and three Silver.

The awards were scheduled for presentation on 4 November at World Town Planning Day 2026 in Petaling Jaya. KPKT aims for 115 local authorities to reach at least Level 1 by 2030. The smart city agenda is now a national Public Service Reform Agenda initiative linked to the 13th Malaysia Plan, with a goal of becoming a Smart Nation by 2040.

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Malaysia Floats Direct to Community Urban Climate Facility, 20% Floor, at COP31



Malaysia has proposed that at least 20% of multilateral urban climate financing go directly to local authorities and communities in informal settlements, to build their capacity to adapt to climate change. The proposed mechanism is a Direct to Community Urban Climate Facility, which would distribute funds through predictable block grants.

The Housing and Local Government Minister, who leads Malaysia's delegation to COP31, made the proposal at a UN Habitat session on housing and climate action in Antalya, Türkiye. He said the facility would empower local authorities and communities to implement practical climate adaptation measures at grassroots level. COP31 runs from 9 to 20 November.

The ministry added that climate resilient housing should be recognised as a fundamental human right and a public good. A UN Habitat review found that 69% of national climate commitments addressed urban housing, leaving the challenge of turning commitments into practical improvements. Malaysia's integrated housing and local government approach covers 156 local authorities, linking climate targets to building rules, energy efficiency and urban planning. The Malaysia Pavilion was also launched at COP31.

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