



ZERIN  
HABITAT

# ESG IN REAL ESTATE

Issue 15

# UEM Group to issue RM7bil sukuk for green sector initiatives

Khazanah Nasional Bhd's subsidiary UEM Group Bhd is planning to raise RM7 billion through the issuance of sustainable sukuk to mark its diversification into green industries.

Over the next five years, the group intends to expand its presence in the green sector, nurture local green players and form strategic alliances to undertake projects in renewables and storage, integrated energy solutions, green or electric mobility, and waste management. The group's green sector initiatives will be led by its newly established subsidiary UEM Lestra Bhd.

"We are long known as Malaysia's nation-building partner and we will now play the same role but with greater focus on tackling climate change by supporting and developing the country's green industries from renewable energy (RE), waste management to green infrastructure and transportation," said UEM Group managing director Izani Ghani.

The group is presently engaged in discussions with multiple international investors who have expressed a strong interest in investing in Malaysia's RE sector, with details expected to be revealed by the end of 2023.

"We intend to lead the country's decarbonisation agenda and this includes supporting the government's efforts to transition towards sustainable energy solutions and to be a carbon-neutral nation, achieving a 70% RE capacity in the country's electricity supply by 2050," said Izani. [READ MORE](#)



# Malaysia has potential to be regional green fuel bunkering hub

Malaysia has the potential to develop into a regional green fuel bunkering hub with the support of both industry and government, according to a study by the Australian Government through Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I).

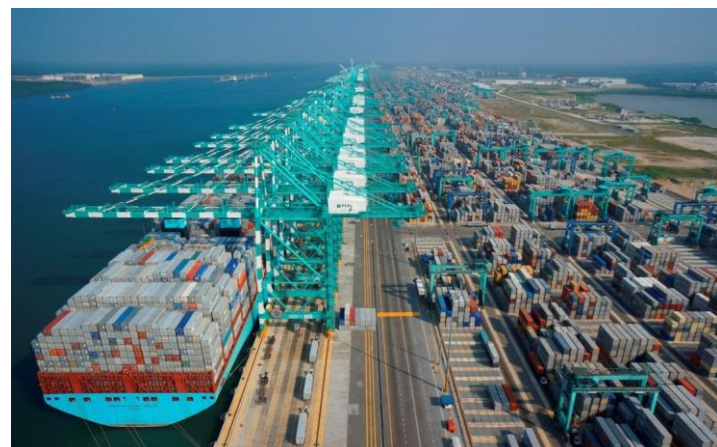
In a statement, the Australian High Commission in Malaysia said this was the initial finding of the ongoing study shared by P4I maritime specialist Dr Jonathan Beard at the Green Shipping Conference, held in conjunction with Malaysia Maritime Week recently.

"The study also found that methanol is the green fuel option receiving the most investment from shipping lines," the statement read.

The study was undertaken through P4I in response to a request from Malaysia's Transport Ministry (MoT) to better understand zero-carbon bunkering and explore the potential for green refuelling sites in Malaysia.

Malaysia's Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) participated as a partner in the pilot study.

"We hope that the successful implementation of this initiative will become a game changer in transforming the regional maritime industry and further promote opportunities for Malaysia to lead in this area of maritime decarbonisation," said PTP Chief Executive Officer Marco Neelsen in the statement. [READ MORE](#)



# Huge market awaits businesses that adopt ESG practices

A US\$200 billion (RM933.3 billion) market in Southeast Asia is waiting to be tapped and all it takes is for the Malaysian manufacturing sector to embrace environmental, social and governance (ESG) requirements.

They will even get help from the government, through the National Industry, Environmental, Social and Governance framework (i-ESG) that will be launched in September.

Investment, trade and industry minister Tengku Zafrul Aziz pointed out that thousands of small businesses were already part of their bigger counterparts' supply chain and ecosystem.

“Hence, financing for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to help them embrace ESG will go a long way towards helping them remain key parts of the supply chain,” he said in his speech at the second Malaysian banking conference today.

Tengku Zafrul said the ESG framework would encourage manufacturers to embrace ESG practices through clear guidelines for SMEs. He said SMEs that had ignored ESG standards during the pandemic, as “survival won hands down over sustainability” at that time, must now realign their priorities.

As of 2021, there already were 1.23 million SMEs, accounting for 97.4% of all registered businesses in Malaysia. [READ MORE](#)



# Sunview Group And Yayasan Hijau Malaysia Join Forces For Sustainable Development Campaign

Sunview Group Berhad, a prominent renewable energy player principally involved in engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning and related activities, announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Fabulous Sunview Sdn. Bhd. has inked a memorandum of understanding with Yayasan Hijau Malaysia, an agency under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, primarily focusing on empowering and educating the general public on sustainable developments.

The objective of the MOU is to jointly undertake a sustainability campaign known as “17 Shades of Green” to engage and support business-to-business companies (B2B) in Malaysia in achieving their respective sustainability goals. This would be in line with United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) number 17, namely “partnerships for the goals”, as well as contributing to the environmental conservations in Malaysia.

YHM will act as a strategic partner and facilitator with relevant stakeholders of the Campaign while Sunview will be the Campaign organiser and B2B development partner.

Sunview chief executive officer & executive director Ong Hang Ping said, “The strategic partnership with YHM will act as a launchpad for the Campaign where our vision is aligned with SDG number 17, emphasising on the importance of partnerships in achieving sustainability. [READ MORE](#)



# #TECH: Helping firms reduce carbon footprint

Reducing carbon emission in business operations is one of the top agendas in many companies, but implementing it has always been a challenge for many, especially small companies.

According to cloud technology service provider Alibaba, one way of reducing a company's carbon footprint is through investment in digital software-as-a-service (SaaS) solutions.

Alibaba cloud intelligence and general manager of Enterprise Service Cloud William Xiong said in Malaysia, about 40% companies have adopted the digitalisation path, and around 60% have fully implemented it.

"However, in terms of achieving carbon footprint reduction in their operations, many companies lack the expertise and knowledge to implement it," he said. An analysis by Accenture shows that by migrating from local IT infrastructure to cloud computing, enterprises can reduce their carbon footprint by 84 per cent on average.

Gartner, meanwhile, predicted that by 2025, more than 85% of organisations will adopt a cloud-first principle, and more than 95% of new digital workloads will be deployed on cloud-native platforms.

"Promoting the transition to the cloud is a critical measure for carbon reduction and efficiency enhancement not just for Alibaba, but for the economy," said Xiong.

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