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ESG IN REAL ESTATE

Issue 21

Accelerating and digitalising ESG with Bursa Malaysia's Centralised Sustainability Intelligence Platform

Globally, the emphasis on and recognition of ESG (environmental, social and governance) factors have grown significantly in recent years, leading to increased demand for transparency on ESG by companies. In response to the growing demand by investors and buyers, enhanced sustainability reporting requirements for Main Market-listed companies will be implemented in phases, starting with the disclosure of common sustainability matters for financial year ending on or after Dec 31, 2023. There is also a need to facilitate comprehensive ESG disclosures by companies including their supply chains, to boost their overall competitiveness and investability.

Recognising this need, Bursa Malaysia, in collaboration with the London Stock Exchange Group, has developed the Centralised Sustainability Intelligence (CSI) Platform — a centralised repository for ESG disclosures. The CSI Platform enables public-listed companies (PLCs) to consolidate and disclose ESG data in a standardised manner, streamlining reporting and enhancing data credibility.

In addition to consolidating sustainability disclosures, the platform offers tools such as the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) reporting module and a carbon emission calculator for companies and their supply chains. By creating an ecosystem around the CSI Platform, Bursa Malaysia aims to drive growth and Malaysia's transition to a green economy.

“We envision that the CSI Platform will serve as the national repository for listed companies' sustainability disclosures, encourage effective management of their supply chain's carbon emissions, and incentivise decarbonisation through green financing solutions offered by banks,” said Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift, Chief Executive Officer of Bursa Malaysia Bhd. [READ MORE](#)



Alliance Bank signs MOU with Andaman Island's developer for green financing

Alliance Bank Malaysia Bhd, which aims to achieve RM10 billion in new sustainable banking business by FY2025, recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the developer for the Andaman Island project Persada Mentari Sdn Bhd (PMSB) to encourage green-certified properties.

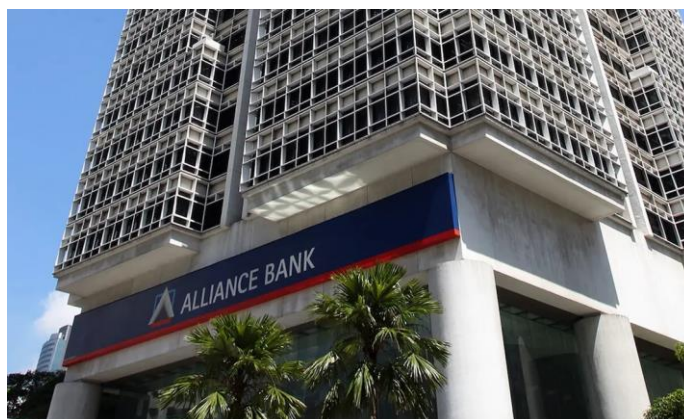
PMSB, a special purpose vehicle formed by Tanjung Pinang Development Sdn Bhd (TPD), a subsidiary of E&O and KWEST Sdn Bhd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kumpulan Wang Persaraan (Diperbadankan).

This partnership provides homeowners with fast access to Alliance Bank's Green Mortgage Financing Package to purchase properties within Andaman Island, recently awarded the provisional GreenRE Platinum Certification this year.

"We continue to innovate and develop customer-centric solutions to meet our customers' evolving needs.

"In addition, this collaboration opens a new avenue for us to expand the Bank's green propositions in the Northern region, one of our key target markets identified under the Bank's Acceler8 refreshed strategy," said Kellee Kam, Group Chief Executive Officer of Alliance Bank in a statement on Wednesday (Aug 9).

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Green Electricity Tariff programme resumes Aug 11

The Energy Commission's Green Electricity Tariff (GET) programme resumes on August 11 for new subscriptions.

The GET programme is for an available green energy quota of 1,899 gigawatt hours (GWh) for a five-month contract period, which is from Aug 1 to Dec 31, 2023.

“The programme enables Renewable Energy 100 (RE100) focused and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) conscious companies/industries to immediately obtain certified green energy up to 100 per cent of their monthly electricity consumption.

“Thus, these companies/industries can immediately achieve their RE100 goal with the internationally acclaimed and recognised Malaysia Renewable Energy Certificate (mREC),” said the electricity sector regulator in a statement today.

The Energy Commission added that the mREC ensures that every kilowatt hour (kWh) of green energy purchased by the GET subscriber is uniquely identified to the particular renewable energy generation source, which in turn is connected to the National Grid infrastructure and dispatchable to the GET subscriber. [READ MORE](#)



EIC: Malaysia on track to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050

Malaysia is on track to achieve its goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, but needs to keep attracting investor funding to keep up with the momentum of its energy transition, said the Energy Industries Council (EIC) on Monday (Aug 14).

“We need external funding to do this. We must make renewable projects or energy transition projects attractive for the actual funds to come in [but like] any project, it is all about infrastructure. Investors are spending billions of dollars, and at the end of the day, all they want to see is returns (of their investments),” EIC regional director, Asia Pacific, Azman Nasir, said.

He was speaking to reporters after announcing that the Oil and Gas Asia 2023 conference would take place from Sept 13–15. Azman was asked to comment on the recent EIC report on the energy supply chain shifts into oil and gas following a lack of consistent and profitable work in green projects.

According to the report, this shift raised concerns that net zero 2050 commitments would also be delayed.

“Malaysia can achieve its net zero carbon emission by 2050, but it depends on what else we will do. As for the National Energy Transition Roadmap, I am eager to wait for it. This is the first time that we have detailed action plans that we are going to do,” said Azman. [READ MORE](#)



Maybank has reached half of US\$17.3b green loans goal, CEO says

Malaysia's biggest lender Malayan Banking Bhd is halfway toward meeting its target of putting RM80 billion toward sustainable finance by 2025.

A big chunk of the green loans has been disbursed to support Singapore-based companies' shift to low-carbon sources, Maybank group chief executive officer Datuk Khairussaleh Ramli said in an interview at his office.

"We can talk about moving into renewables straight away, but equally important is how we support our clients on transition financing, transition advisory," he said.

Maybank is among major Malaysian banks pledging to funnel money into green loans. CIMB Group Holdings Bhd, which counts sovereign wealth fund Khazanah Nasional Bhd as its largest shareholder, aims to allocate RM60 billion to sustainable funding by 2024, twice its initial goal, while RHB Bank Bhd. plans to put RM20 billion toward sustainable funding by 2026.

The amounts, while large, aren't enough to wean businesses off fossil fuels and address other sustainability goals. Malaysia is estimated to need RM637 ringgit of investments over the next three decades to support its renewable energy goal to reach 70% of the energy mix by 2050. The country would "need support from overseas" for funding, Khairussaleh said. [READ MORE](#)



EPMB, Blueshark collaborate with Grab on green mobility, ESG projects

Main Market-listed EP Manufacturing Bhd through its wholly-owned subsidiary, EP Blueshark Sdn Bhd (EPSB), had signed a collaboration agreement with Grabcar Sdn Bhd, and smart scooter provider Blueshark Ecosystem Sdn Bhd (Blueshark), to form a working relationship and jointly explore business opportunities.

Under the agreement, EPSB will work with Grab and Blueshark to promote and champion green mobility as well as environment, social and governance (ESG) programmes. Together, these programmes aim to convert 80,000 Grab driver-partners and delivery-partners from users of internal combustion engine motorcycles to users of electric vehicle (EV) motorcycles.

Two key initiatives were announced as part of the agreement –with the first entailing its R1 Pilot Programme, where Blueshark will provide, free of charge, 50 units of R1 EV motorcycles to selected Grab delivery partners for a product trial, in order to gather experiential data for Blueshark’s EV motorcycles, while promoting cost saving with green mobility.

The second initiative is the EV Programme. Under this initiative, EPSB will manufacture, assemble and distribute the Blueshark IOV Electric Motorcycle, a smart electric scooter model that Blueshark will offer to Grab’s driver-partners and delivery-partners at a special offer price. In addition, EPSB will provide a factory warranty for the Blueshark IOV Electric Motorcycle. [READ MORE](#)



Sarawak Energy to host SAREF 3.0 on Sept 6-7 in Kuching

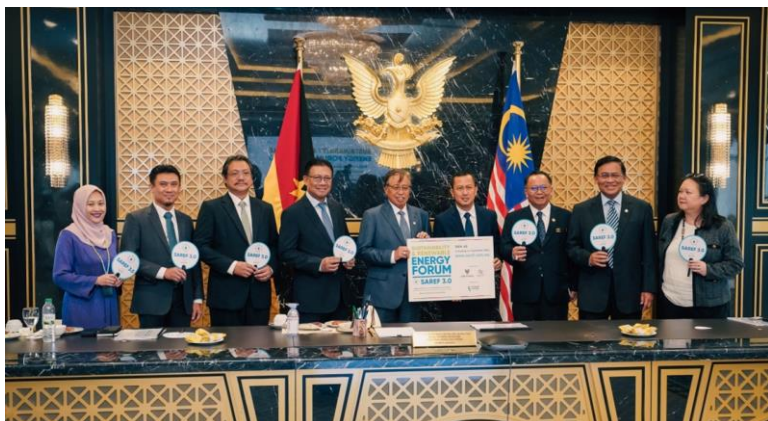
Sarawak Energy Bhd, under the auspices of the Ministry of Utility and Telecommunication and the Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability, will host its flagship event, the Sustainability and Renewable Energy Forum (SAREF 3.0).

In a statement on Tuesday (Aug 8), Sarawak Energy said SAREF 3.0 will take place at the Borneo Convention Centre in Kuching, Sarawak, on Sept 6 and 7.

It said the forum's theme, "Regional Net Zero and Sustainable Communities, Renewable Energy Development and Interconnections", will focus on regional net-zero initiatives as well as green energy development and solutions.

It said the theme is particularly relevant, with scientists reporting that the month of July experienced record-breaking high temperatures on a global scale.

Leading the list of speakers at SAREF 3.0 is Dame Christiana Figueres, a key leader and visionary in sustainability and climate action who played a pivotal role in uniting nearly two hundred countries as parties to the Paris Agreement. [READ MORE](#)



**SUSTAINABILITY & RENEWABLE
ENERGY FORUM | SAREF 3.0**

Regional Net Zero and Sustainable Communities
Renewable Energy Development and Interconnections

Wednesday and Thursday, 6-7 September 2023
Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK), Sarawak, Malaysia