

ZERIN HABITAT

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WEEKLY UPDATES

ESG IN REAL ESTATE



VHB Launches RM114 Million Green Sukuk to Drive Industrial Growth

Visionary Heritage Bhd (VHB), a special purpose vehicle backed by ISP Holding Sdn Bhd, has successfully issued RM114 million in ASEAN Green Sukuk Wakalah under its RM2 billion sustainability asset-backed programme. The senior tranche was fully subscribed by Public Islamic Bank, reflecting strong investor confidence. CIMB Investment Bank acted as the sole principal adviser, lead arranger, and lead manager for the transaction.

Proceeds from the sukuk will be used to acquire a strategic industrial property in Iskandar Puteri, Johor. The asset includes seven factory units across six blocks, located near major highways and surrounded by key industrial zones. Each block is designed for flexible, secure multi-tenancy and is fully leased to a mix of local companies, Chinese enterprises, and multinational corporations.

This successful issuance marks a key milestone in ISP Group's capital markets strategy and sets the foundation for future growth in sustainable industrial and logistics assets. [READ MORE](#)



Malaysia Strengthens Regional Ties in Clean Energy and Water Management

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof is leading Malaysia's delegation to Thailand from 21 May until 24 May. The visit focuses on advancing cooperation in clean energy and sustainable water management, in line with Malaysia's broader development goals. Fadillah, also the Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, aims to deepen collaboration in renewable energy and industrial water solutions.

He will hold courtesy calls with Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Energy Minister, as well as the Deputy Prime Minister overseeing the national water resources office. These engagements are expected to enhance cross-border partnerships and support shared goals in energy security and sustainable development.

The visit also includes a briefing session with TTM to explore joint investment opportunities. A site visit to a water recycling plant in Chonburi will provide insight into green innovation and efficient water use. Additionally, Fadillah will engage with Malaysian professionals in Bangkok and host industry leaders to boost regional clean energy collaboration. [READ MORE](#)



Sarikei's New GBI-Certified Centre Boosts Digital and Public Services

The Sarawak Government has launched its new Administrative Centre for the Sarikei Division, a Green Building Index (GBI)-certified facility designed to enhance service delivery and digital connectivity. Valued at RM150 million, the building houses the Resident's Office along with key state agencies that serve the local community.

Premier Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg stated that the facility reflects the state's commitment to sustainability while supporting modern governance. High-speed internet links the centre with departments in Kuching, enabling efficient communication and real-time coordination.

The older office will still be used by other government departments, including federal agencies, creating a more integrated and accessible public service environment. This approach aims to reduce delays and improve responsiveness.

With GBI certification and digital infrastructure, the centre allows officials and traders to resolve issues remotely, boosting operational efficiency and supporting Sarawak's shift toward sustainable and connected administrative development. [READ MORE](#)



Shah Alam LRT Extension Highlights Smart, Green Infrastructure Solutions

The Shah Alam LRT line extension, scheduled to open in September, will feature several eco-friendly technologies aimed at improving energy efficiency and environmental performance. Prasarana president and CEO Azharuddin Mat Sah announced that the line will use smart LED lighting that adapts to daylight, a smart air-conditioning system projected to reduce energy use by 32%, and solar-ready stabling yards.

These green features are part of Prasarana's broader sustainability efforts, which align with its goal of reducing carbon emissions and expanding renewable energy use. The project reflects a commitment to responsible infrastructure development within public transportation.

In tandem with this, Prasarana signed a memorandum of understanding with the UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei to launch a Vendor ESG Hub. This platform will offer sustainability-focused training and tools to 5,000 small and medium-sized vendors. Together, these initiatives aim to strengthen Malaysia's green public transport network while supporting inclusive, long-term economic growth. [READ MORE](#)



Malaysia's Residential Solar Quota Fully Subscribed Under NEM Rakyat

Malaysia's 600 megawatt rooftop solar quota under the Net Energy Metering (NEM) Rakyat programme has reached full subscription. According to the Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA), 599MW has been applied for, with 579MW already approved, reflecting strong residential interest in solar energy adoption.

NEM Rakyat is part of the broader NEM 3.0 initiative launched by the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation. The programme aims to encourage rooftop solar installation across residential, commercial, government, and industrial sectors. Other active segments include NEM GoMEn, with 82MW applied out of a 100MW allocation, and Nova, where 1,112MW has been approved out of 1,700MW.

While it remains uncertain whether the residential quota will be extended, additional options are available. These include the Community Renewable Energy Aggregation Mechanism (Cream) and the self-consumption (selco) model. Both alternatives offer continued momentum for Malaysia's clean energy goals and support long-term energy sustainability. [READ MORE](#)



Sime Darby Property and TNB Lead Community Solar Push with CREAM

Malaysia remains firm in its commitment to sustainability, targeting 70% renewable energy in its national mix by 2050. Supporting this ambition, Sime Darby Property (SDP) and Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB), through GSPARX, are pioneering the Community Renewable Energy Aggregation Mechanism (CREAM), a first-of-its-kind initiative aimed at unlocking solar potential within communities.

CREAM enables residential homeowners to lease rooftop space to Local Generators and Aggregators (LEGA), who install and manage solar systems. Clean electricity generated is distributed within a 5km radius via the TNB grid, serving nearby commercial and industrial developments. This model minimises infrastructure costs while fostering inclusive energy generation.

SDP leads CREAM implementation at the City of Elmina, aligning with its broader decarbonisation goals. The collaboration allows for scalable clean energy generation without requiring homeowners to invest in solar panels. This effort follows SDP and GSPARX's 2024 joint venture, reinforcing Malaysia's push toward Net Zero by 2050. [READ MORE](#)



Samaiden Wins RM108.6 Million Contract for Large-Scale Solar Project

Samaiden Group Bhd has secured a RM108.6 million contract to deliver engineering, procurement, construction, and commissioning (EPCC) for a large-scale solar photovoltaic (LSSPV) project. The project capacity is 29.99 megawatts (MWac), located in Peninsular Malaysia's central region. Completion is targeted by January 15, 2026.

The client, identified only as 'Company A,' remains undisclosed due to confidentiality agreements. Despite this, the contract marks a significant development for Samaiden's portfolio in renewable energy infrastructure.

Following the announcement, Samaiden's shares increased slightly by 0.9% to RM1.12, valuing the group at RM501.91 million. However, the stock has experienced a 13.2% decline year to date.

This project reinforces Samaiden's position in the solar energy sector and signals steady progress toward sustainable energy goals in Malaysia's growing clean energy market. [READ MORE](#)



Samaiden Secures RM45 Million Solar Project Under LSS5 Programme

Samaiden Group Bhd, through its wholly owned subsidiary Samaiden Sdn Bhd, has won a RM45 million contract from PAXS Renewable Sdn Bhd. The project involves design, engineering, procurement, construction, testing, and commissioning of a 9.99MWac large-scale solar photovoltaic power plant in Kedah.

Approved by the Energy Commission in December 2024 under the Large Scale Solar 5 (LSS5) programme, work started on May 19, 2025, with commercial operation expected by July 12, 2027.

Datuk Chow Pui Hee, Samaiden's group managing director, said the contract highlights Samaiden's trusted role as a solar EPCC partner and reaffirms the company's commitment to Malaysia's renewable energy goals.

Samaiden aims to grow its renewable energy portfolio and pursue further opportunities both locally and regionally, reinforcing its focus on sustainable project execution and long-term value creation. [READ MORE](#)



Malakoff Expands Solar Capacity with Hicom Automotive Partnership

Malakoff Corporation's subsidiary, Malakoff Radiance Sdn Bhd (MRSB), has signed a second solar power purchase agreement with Hicom Automotive Manufacturers (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd. The new project will feature a 4.22 megawatt-peak (MWp) system, making it MRSB's largest solar installation at a single site.

Construction begins in June 2025 and combines rooftop solar photovoltaic with building-integrated panels embedded into the carport structure. This design maximizes efficiency while blending renewable energy with architectural elements.

The system aims to reduce reliance on conventional electricity, lower costs, and support Hicom Automotive's sustainable manufacturing goals. Malakoff's CEO, Anwar Syahrin Abdul Ajib, highlighted the partnership as a key step in expanding its renewable energy portfolio and driving meaningful climate action in industry.

This second phase builds on the success of the initial 2.0 MWp rooftop system commissioned in 2022, which has already cut grid electricity use by seven gigawatt-hours and reduced carbon emissions by 5,489 tonnes. [READ MORE](#)



Sarawak Plans Renewable Energy Using Bayong Water Plant Upgrade

Sarawak aims to harness its abundant water resources to generate electricity for local communities, using the recently upgraded Bayong Water Treatment Plant as a pilot site. The state plans to install mini water turbines powered by the Bayong catchment to produce renewable energy for nearby areas.

Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg emphasized this initiative supports Sarawak's goal of universal access to clean water and electricity by 2030. The state's water resources also offer opportunities for economic diversification through hydropower, treated water, and green hydrogen production.

The Bayong plant's RM68.4 million upgrade increased its capacity from 70 million litres per day to 100 million litres, serving Sarikei Division, including Tanjung Manis and Belawai. The plant can scale up to 150 million litres daily if required.

This investment secures water supply and opens paths for sustainable energy solutions that could drive economic growth and attract further investment to Sarawak. [READ MORE](#)



Sarawak's Hydrogen Plans: Driving Clean Energy Leadership in Malaysia

The federal government's hydrogen roadmap targets decarbonising power, transport, and industries, projecting RM905 billion in hydrogen revenue by 2050. Sarawak is positioned to lead this effort by harnessing its vast hydropower resources, with an installed capacity of 3,452 MW and 1,285 MW more from the Baleh project expected by 2027. This stable, carbon-free electricity enables efficient green hydrogen production.

SEDC Energy, a Sarawak Economic Development Corporation subsidiary, leads two major hydrogen projects. The H2ornbill project, with Japanese partners Eneos and Sumitomo, aims to produce 90,000 metric tonnes annually by 2030, mostly for export. The H2biscus project, partnered with South Korean firms, plans a 150,000-metric-tonne hydrogen plant and an ammonia facility by 2028, pending final approval.

The Sarawak Hydrogen Economy Roadmap guides policy and investment through 2035, aiming to develop downstream hydrogen industries and improve local energy access. Despite high production costs, Sarawak is optimistic about hydrogen's role in a sustainable future. [READ MORE](#)



UOB and Bursa Malaysia Partner to Simplify SMEs' Sustainability Journey

UOB Malaysia has partnered with Bursa Malaysia to help SMEs adopt environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices. This collaboration provides UOB's SME clients with free access to Bursa's Centralised Sustainability Intelligence (CSI) platform, which offers tools to track and report greenhouse gas emissions.

Launched alongside UOB's Sustainability Accelerator Programme 2.0, the partnership also offers discounted green certification and logistics services. UOB CEO Ng Wei Wei emphasized the bank's role in helping SMEs stay competitive by adopting sustainability early, lowering barriers to reporting emissions, and supporting their transition.

Bursa Malaysia CEO Datuk Fad'I Mohamed highlighted the importance of SMEs embracing sustainability to remain competitive, noting that SMEs form 97% of Malaysian businesses, contribute 30% to GDP, and employ nearly half the workforce. However, less than 12% are currently ready to implement ESG. The CSI platform, mandated for public-listed companies, will now support SMEs who must prepare for supply chain emissions disclosures starting in 2027.

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Prasarana to Launch Digital ESG Hub for SME Vendors by August

Prasarana Malaysia will introduce the Vendor ESG Hub in August to support over 5,000 SME vendors with training, tools, and resources. Developed with the UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei, this digital platform aims to build ESG knowledge and help SMEs produce sustainability reports.

Prasarana CEO Mohd Azharuddin Mat Sah said the initiative aligns with the company's Sustainability Blueprint launched in December 2023. The blueprint targets a 45% reduction in carbon emissions through bus electrification, with 250 electric buses expected by year-end and full electrification by 2037. Renewable energy use will increase with solar electric vehicle systems and sponsored solar streetlights.

The upcoming LRT3 Shah Alam Line will feature energy-efficient smart LED lighting and air-conditioning systems that cut energy use by 32%. It will also support future solar rooftop installations, demonstrating Prasarana's commitment to sustainable public transport and Malaysia's broader environmental goals. [READ MORE](#)

