



# SARAWAK BUDGET 2025

TOGETHER  
BUILDING A  
PROSPEROUS  
FUTURE

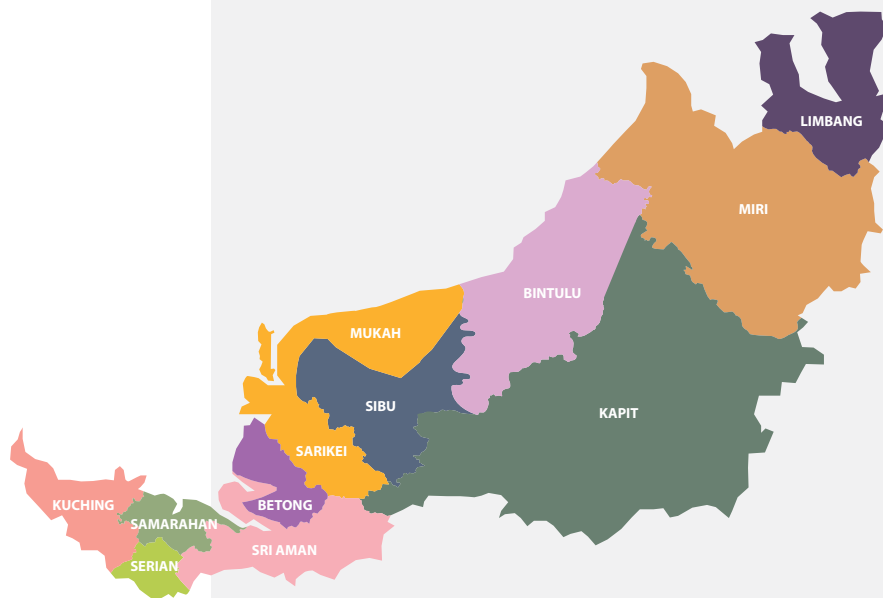




The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak

The 2025 budget themed **“Together Building a Prosperous Future”** serves as the foundation of our fiscal strategy and embodies our steadfast commitment to the people of Sarawak. It is a Budget designed for an inclusive and prosperous Sarawak — where every *rakyat* has equitable access to opportunities and resources to thrive. The Budget has been meticulously assessed and formulated to ensure that our State remains resilient, competitive, and adaptable amid global uncertainties. Building on past achievements and with a solid foundation, we are well prepared to navigate future challenges, safeguarding the well-being of the *rakyat* and bringing prosperity to all.





## 2025 STATE BUDGET

**2025**  
RM15.8 billion

**2024**  
RM13.6 billion

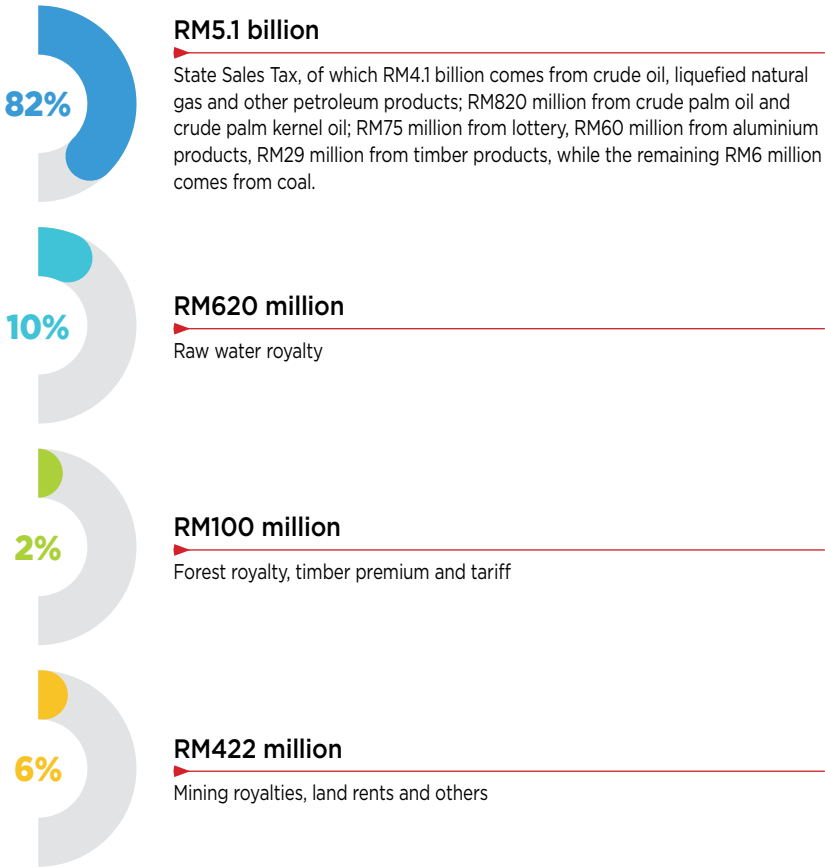
At its core, the 2025 State Budget renews and reaffirms our commitment to championing the welfare of the *rakyat* through targeted measures aimed at alleviating the financial burdens of low and middle-income groups and continuing to implement vital people-centric programmes and projects.

The Budget will continue to be an expansionary Budget to boost Government spending that will further stimulate the State's economic growth. Thus, this Budget proposes to increase the operating and development expenditure from RM13.6 billion in 2024 to RM15.8 billion in 2025, an increase of RM2.2 billion or 16 percent.

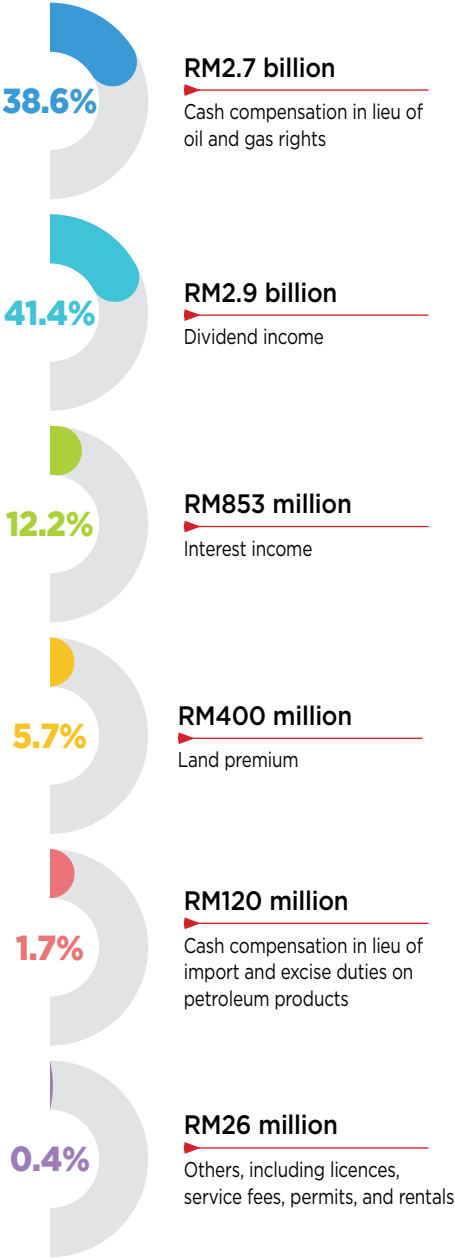
# REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR 2025

The State revenue for 2025 is estimated at RM14.2 billion, derived from the following major sources:

## TAX REVENUE (ESTIMATED AT RM6.2 BILLION OR 44%)



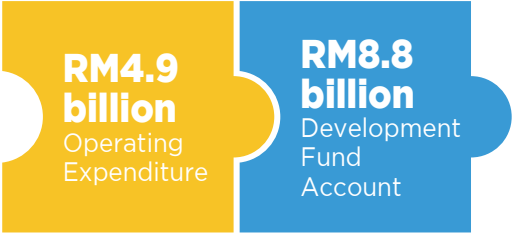
**NON-TAX REVENUE**  
(ESTIMATED AT RM7.0 BILLION OR 49 PERCENT)



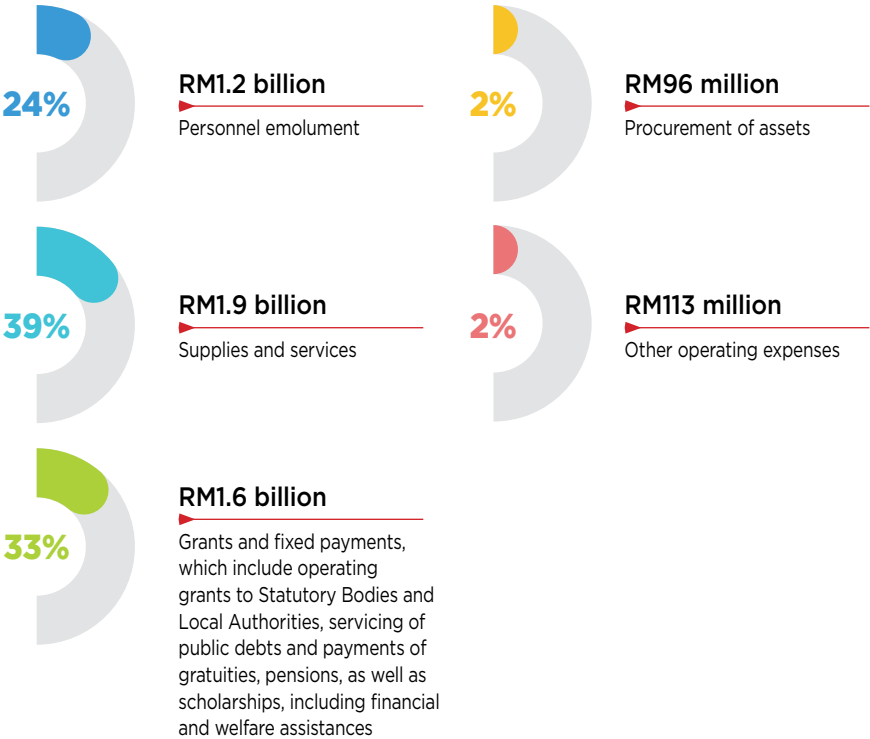
**Non-Revenue Receipt** is expected to be **RM32 million** mainly from unclaimed deposits, overpayment recovered, and vehicle disposal.

**Federal Grants and Reimbursements** are projected to reach **RM937 million**. The revenue contribution from this source has increased due to the Federal Government's decision to raise the interim Special Grant rate for Sarawak from RM300 million to RM600 million effective this year.

# ORDINARY EXPENDITURE 2025 (RM13.7 billion)



## OPERATING EXPENDITURE (RM4.9 BILLION)



## BUDGET SURPLUS 2025

With a projected revenue of RM14.2 billion and total Ordinary Expenditure of RM13.7 billion, the 2025 State Budget is expected to generate a surplus of RM486 million. 2025 State Budget indeed marks the largest budget in Sarawak's history, reflecting the success of our revenue reengineering strategies and prudent financial management. Through this expansionary Budget, we are making substantial investments in infrastructure while placing the well-being of the *rakyat* at the forefront of our priorities.

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## DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE 2025

The 2025 State Budget provides an allocation of RM10.9 billion to fund development expenditures in the State. This is the biggest development budget in the history of Sarawak.

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## 2025 BUDGET GOALS

- (i) Building a prosperous and equitable society where no one will be left behind;
- (ii) Enhancing the *rakyat's* social well-being through people-centric initiatives;
- (iii) Strengthening the Government's capacity and capability to deliver quality services;
- (iv) Enhancing State fiscal position towards financial sustainability; and
- (v) Transforming Sarawak into a developed region and green hub.

Guided by these goals, the 2025 State Budget is framed across eight (8) Strategic Thrusts aimed at steering the Sarawak economy towards becoming a robust, developed and resilient economy by 2030.

## STRATEGIC THRUSTS AND INITIATIVES



### STRATEGIC THRUST 1: TRANSFORMING AND DIVERSIFYING SARAWAK'S ECONOMY

#### INITIATIVE 1: TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE SECTOR



#### 1. AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION STRATEGIES

- ~ Sarawak is focused on transforming agriculture to drive economic growth, leveraging technology for food security and aiming to become a future net food exporter.
- ~ The State is advancing agro-food industrialisation to build a strong supply chain for key commodities like pineapple, coconut, banana, durian, shrimp, fish, and cattle.

#### 2. VENTURING INTO COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

- ~ **RM6 million** allocated for Agro Park infrastructure development.
- ~ **RM20.9 million** designated to upgrade Loba Stoh Aquaculture Park for shrimp production.
- ~ **RM9.5 million** allocated for the development of an aquaculture park in Samariang Batu, Kuching.

#### 3. ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY

- (a) Development of Paddy Cultivation Infrastructure
  - ~ Current rice production meets only 32% of demand, with RM401 million spent on imports.



- Key initiatives: expanding paddy areas, improving irrigation, mechanisation, and using high-yield seeds.
- **RM1.0 billion** scheme approved, with **RM51 million** for 2025, targeting key planting areas and land acquisition (Stumbin Bijat, Lingga-Banting, Seduku, Gran and Entulang, Tanjung Purun, Lubok Punggor, Sundar and Limbang). **RM50 million** has been set aside for land acquisition, particularly for Tanjung Purun Paddy Scheme.
- (b) Structured Cattle Breeding Programme
  - Beef self-sufficiency is at 13%, with RM229 million spent on imports.
  - **RM10.6 million** allocated for cattle breeding and fattening farms in 2025, using Artificial Insemination for sustainable breeding.

#### **4. IMPROVING AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES**

- (a) Farm Infrastructure
  - **RM41.6 million** allocated for farm roads, drainage, and irrigation to support agricultural transformation.
- (b) Collection, Packaging and Processing Centre (CPPC)/ Agrofood Terminal
  - **RM8 million** for developing an efficient marketing supply chain to benefit rural farmers and improve market access for Sarawak's agricultural products.

#### **5. INCREASING FARMERS' INCOME**

- (a) Assistance to Smallholder Farmers
  - **RM30.4 million** allocated for food crop development programmes.
  - **RM5.9 million** allocated for inland fisheries and aquaculture projects.
  - **RM17.4 million** allocated for livestock and veterinary development.
  - **RM7.9 million** allocated for agricultural training, mechanisation, and automation support.
- (b) Strengthening Farmer's Organisation
  - **RM10.9 million** allocated to enhance the State Farmer's Organisation's marketing systems and facilities.
  - **RM4.6 million** allocated to strengthen Area Farmer's Organisation functions.

#### **6. INVESTING IN MODERN AND SMART FARMING**

- (a) Sarawak Agrotechnology Park (SARTECH)
  - Focus: Transform agriculture into a technology-driven, sustainable sector.
  - Budget: **RM31 million** for SARTECH Tarat (Serian) and **RM30 million** for SARTECH Semenggok (Kuching) in 2025.

- (b) Precision Farming Park
  - Objective: Develop modern agriculture parks to involve youth, entrepreneurs, and private sectors.
  - Budget: RM60 million under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan; **RM40 million** allocated for 2025.
  - Locations: Sg. Sebiew (Bintulu) and Kabuloh (Miri).
- (c) Metropolitan Food Cluster
  - Model: Inspired by the Netherlands' centralised food supply chain approach.
  - Budget: RM60 million overall, with **RM18 million** for 2025.
  - Location: Opar.
- (d) Rural ICT Digital Training Programme
  - Budget: **RM1.22 million** for 2025.
- (e) Agriculture Financing Facility: Sarawak Agro Fund
  - Budget: **RM12.7 million** for 2025.

## INITIATIVE 2 : BOOSTING TOURISM SECTOR



### KEY POINTS:

1. **Economic Importance:** Tourism is a vital contributor to Sarawak's economy and a key driver of economic diversification, focusing on eco-tourism, cultural experiences, and heritage.
2. **2025 Goals:** Aim to attract 5 million visitors by enhancing digital marketing, partnerships with travel agencies, and improved connectivity in key markets (Europe, ASEAN, Oceania).
3. **Budget Allocation:**
  - (i) **RM174 million** for tourism marketing and promotion programmes:
    - **RM45 million** for cultural events and festivals.
    - **RM86 million** for grants to tourism and arts councils.
    - **RM10 million** for sponsorships.
    - **RM5 million** for research grants.

- (ii) **RM81 million** under the Development Budget for key tourism projects:
- ~ Performing Arts Centre at Old DUN Building.
  - ~ Transformation of Brooke Dockyard into an Industrial Heritage Museum.
  - ~ Sadong Jaya Mangrove Tourism.
  - ~ Sarawak Museum Campus and Heritage Trails.
  - ~ Santubong Archaeological Park and Wallace Centre.
  - ~ Restoration and Upgrading of Islamic Heritage Museum Building and Exhibition.
  - ~ Darul Hana Malay Heritage Museum.
4. **Eco-Tourism Development:** Sarawak Forestry Corporation leads conservation-based tourism, promoting sustainability, heritage, and community empowerment. Efforts include UNESCO designation for Niah National Park and expanded training for park guides.
5. **Heritage Projects:** Major developments include the Performing Arts Centre, Santubong Archaeological Park, and upgrading of key museums to enhance tourism appeal.

### INITIATIVE 3 : ENHANCING URBAN-RURAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION



#### 1. ACCELERATING RURAL DEVELOPMENT

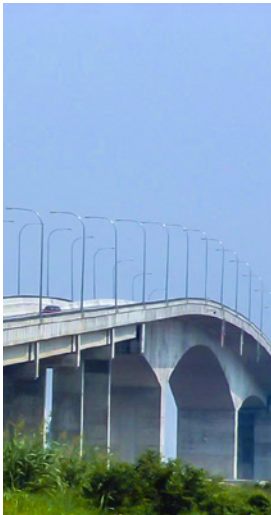
- (a). **Rural-Focused Budget**
- ~ 62% of the **RM10.9 billion** Development Expenditure (**RM6.8 billion**) is allocated for rural development in the 2025 State Budget.
- (b) **Major Initiatives**
- ~ **RM650 million** for Projek Rakyat.
  - ~ **RM420 million** for Rural Transformation Projects (RTP).
  - ~ **RM265 million** for Program Projek Khas.

- (c) **Regional Development Agencies**
  - **RM300 million** allocated under the 2025 Budget and **RM742 million** from Alternative Funding to support infrastructure projects, including roads, electricity, and water access.
- (d) **Economic Impact**
  - Projects aim to connect rural areas to economic hubs, generate economic benefits, create jobs, and boost construction and service sectors.

## 2. INTENSIFYING INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

### (a). Roads and Bridges Projects

- i. Key Projects under **RM1 billion** Allocation
  - Batu Kawa Road to Stephen Yong Road, Kuching.
  - New road from Ulu Sungai Merah to Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman, Sibul.
  - Upgrading Pekan Lapok to Gejong Long Teran Batu, Tinjar Miri.
  - Nanga Ibau/Ulu Sungai Ibau Road, Kapit.
  - Serian-Gedong-Samarahan Roads.
  - Nanga Kesit-Ulu Lemanak-Engkari Road, Lubok Antu, Sri Aman.
  - Sungai Limbang Bridge.
- ii. Alternative Funding Projects (**RM4 billion**)
  - Sarawak Coastal Road.
  - Second Trunk Road.
  - Sultan Tengah Road and New Santubong Bridge.
  - Northern Coastal Highway.
  - Road links: Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu, Long Panai-Long Lama.
  - Gedong to Kampung Samalatong, Simunjan Road.
  - Gedong-Serian Expressway.



### (b). Water and Electricity Supply Programmes

#### i. Water Supply

Progress Achieved:

- Current water supply coverage: 85.4% overall, 70.5% in rural areas.
- Emphasis on dependable, efficient, secure, and sustainable water supply.

Budget Allocation for the implementation of the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan water supply projects (**RM352 million**):

- Serian Regional Water Supply.
- Long Lama Water Treatment Construction.
- Water Supply System for Suai Complex.



- Julau, Mukah, and Batu Kitang (Treatment Plant No.4) water supply systems.
- Upgrading of Salim Treatment Plant, Sibul.

#### 2025 Alternative Funding (**RM452 million**):

- Transmission Main across Batang Sadong Bridge and associated works.
- Upgrading of Lubau and Bayong Water Treatment Plants.
- Kapit and Tinjar Water Supply projects.
- Jalan Belaga/Menjawah Water Supply, Kapit.
- Miri Water Supply Source Development.
- Sarawak Alternative Water Supply (SAWAS).

#### Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Reduction:

- **RM1 billion** under Alternative Funding, including **RM204 million** for pipeline upgrades and replacements in 2025.



#### ii. Electricity Supply

Sarawak has achieved 99% rural electricity coverage, with plans to reach 100%.

#### 2025 Allocations under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (**RM56 million**):

- Upgrading electricity supply in Samarahan Division.
- Connecting stand-alone SARES villages or longhouses to the grid.
- Replacing batteries in stand-alone solar systems for remote communities.
- Installing a 33kV Medium Voltage Covered Conductor from Gaat to Tunoh.

#### Alternative Funding for 2025 (RM170 million):

- **RM150 million** for rural electrification projects.
- **RM20 million** for the Additional and Late Applicant Fund (ALAF) initiative.

### 3. PORTS, NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY AND RIVERINE

(a) **RM125 Million** Allocation (2025) For port development, navigational safety, and riverine projects.

(b) Major Projects:

- Vehicle Yard and Facilities at Senari Port.
- Tanjung Embang Terminal Phase 1 (Kuching).
- Grants for port development and dredging.
- Masterplan Study for Ports.
- Construction of wharves, jetties, river walls, and waterfronts.



- Vessel Tracking Management System (VTMS) and Aids to Navigation (ATONS) for Sungai Miri and Kuala Baram.
- (c) Sarawak Ports Authority Ordinance, 2024:
  - Establishes a unified port authority to streamline operations, improve governance, and boost efficiency across all State ports.
- (d) Centralised Oversight:
  - Enhances resource allocation, facilitates strategic investments, and improves service standards.
- (e) Tanjung Embang Deep Sea Port:
  - Collaboration with PETROS to develop a regional maritime and energy hub.
  - Includes container cargo handling and integrated gas terminal facilities.

### 3. INVESTING IN AN INTEGRATED AND MODERN PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM



- (a) **Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS):** RM1.42 billion allocated for 2025 under Alternative Funding to enhance connectivity.
- (b) **Green Mobility:** Reducing carbon emissions to align with Net Zero Emissions by 2050.
- (c) Additional Initiatives:
  - **RM8 million** for smart buses in Miri City (2025).
  - **RM1 million** for a bus terminal in Kapit.
- (d) **New Kuching International Airport:** Feasibility study to commence soon.



## **STRATEGIC THRUST 2 : POSITIONING SARAWAK AS A MAJOR INVESTMENT DESTINATION AND PROMOTING SME DEVELOPMENT**

### **INITIATIVE 1 : ENHANCING SARAWAK COMPETITIVENESS**



#### **1. CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR SMES**

- RM3.1 million allocated in 2025 for programmes focusing on entrepreneurship, technical skills, digital marketing, and product promotion.

#### **2. ANJUNG USAHAWAN DEVELOPMENT**

- RM8.4 million to establish 18 entrepreneurship centres in rural and remote areas to support local businesses.

#### **3. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SMES**

- RM15.5 million in soft loans and grants for various programmes, including *Skim Kredit Mikro Sarawak*, *Skim Pinjaman Industri Kecil dan Sederhana*, *Program Graduan ke Arah Keusahawanan*, and the GoDigital Programme.

#### **4. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FINANCING SCHEME**

- RM50 million allocated for decarbonisation and green transition projects via DBOS, focusing on small-scale innovations and collaborative large-scale financing.



## INITIATIVE 2: INTENSIFYING INDUSTRIALISATION PROGRAMME



- **RM40 million** allocated for 14 industrial estates in 2025. Major projects are:
  - ~ Sibul Industrial Estate
  - ~ Bau Industrial Area
  - ~ Limbang Industrial Park
  - ~ Samalaju SME Cluster
  - ~ Rantau Panjang Industrial Estate Phase II.
- High-quality infrastructure and incentives to support large-scale production and export.
- **RM5 million** investment in a high-tech industrial park in Kuching to boost semiconductor and advanced manufacturing.
- Strategic aim to attract global R&D players, positioning Sarawak as a tech hub.
- Focus on competitiveness, infrastructure, and sustainable growth to drive economic expansion and SME development.





### STRATEGIC THRUST 3 : STRENGTHENING TALENT AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### INITIATIVE 1 : ENHANCING SARAWAK'S EDUCATION SYSTEM AND FACILITIES



#### 1. INVESTING IN QUALITY EDUCATION

- ~ **RM20 million** allocated to SeDidik, a State-owned early childhood provider.
  - ~ **RM14 million** annual special grant for registered Early Childhood and Care Institutions in 2025.
  - ~ **RM2.5 million** allocated for fee subsidies benefiting 2,500 children from low-income families (monthly income  $\leq$  RM7,000).
- (a) **Sarawak Education Enhancement Programme (SEEP)**
- ~ Aimed at bridging rural-urban student gap.
  - ~ Free tuition for Form 4 & 5 in core subjects (English, History, Science, Math, Biology, Physic and Chemistry).
  - ~ RM15 million allocated for 2024, **RM20 million** for 2025.
- (b) **Teaching of Science and Mathematics in English (Dual Language Programme)**
- ~ **RM4.6 million** allocation for 2025.
  - ~ Aimed at improving students' English proficiency and future workforce competitiveness.
  - ~ Part of Sarawak Government's Dual Language Programme, which was first implemented in 2016.



- (c) **Intensifying TVET through collaboration with industry players**
- Empowering people and advancing Sarawak as a sustainable development leader through TVET.
  - Focus on renewable energy, green technologies, and market-aligned skills training.
  - Promoting partnerships with industry, academia, and training institutions.
  - Hosting major events in 2025: WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak, Sarawak Aerospace International Conference, and Sarawak Workforce Conference.
- (d) **Assistance to State-owned Universities / Colleges**
- **RM35 million** allocated to University Technology Sarawak.
  - **RM30 million** each for Sarawak Skills Development Centre and i-CATS University College.
  - **RM5.5 million** for Kolej Laila Taib.

## 2. INVESTING IN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES



- (a) **State-Owned International Schools**
- **RM27 million** allocated under the 2025 Budget for their operational costs.
  - Two state-owned international schools are operating in Kuching (Petra Jaya and Mile 12 Kuching-Serian Road).
  - A third school in Sibu is set for completion by year-end.

## 3. PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES



- PTPTN Loan Repayment Discount:
- 30% repayment discount for Sarawak graduates who repay 30% of their PTPTN loan.
  - Beneficiaries: 31,706 borrowers since 2021 (RM116.57 million).
  - 2024: RM26.15 million allocated for 5,419 borrowers.
  - 2025: **RM15 million** allocated for the same purpose.

### Cost-of-Living Initiatives (2025):

- **Book Vouchers:** RM500 per student for households earning ≤ RM1,500 per capita; **RM2 million** allocated.
- **Free Laptops:** For IPTA/IPTS-enrolled students from low-income households; **RM30.5 million** allocated, benefiting 10,166 students.

### Special Financial Assistance for Sarawakian Students in Universities/ Colleges

- Initiative for 2025: **RM1,200** pocket money per Sarawakian student in Malaysian higher learning institutions.
- Budget Allocation: **RM30 million**.

## INITIATIVE 2: ENHANCING SARAWAK'S WORKFORCE



- ~ Focus on building a skilled local workforce aligned with industry needs.
- ~ CENTEXS received **RM40 million** in 2024 for competency training programmes.
- ~ **RM20 million** allocated in 2025 for CENTEXS Digital Academy's digital upskilling and reskilling infrastructure.

### 1. SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME FOR GRADUATES/GETS

- ~ Programme Upgrade (2024): Improved to match evolving industry demands and market trends.
- ~ Reduce graduate unemployment and equip Sarawakian youth with market-relevant skills.
- ~ Support Provided:
  - ~ Monthly allowance of **RM1,500**.
  - ~ Training in public and private sectors focusing on soft skills, leadership, and team building.
- ~ Budget Allocation: **RM23 million** to benefit 1,000 graduates.

### 2. TALENT DEVELOPMENT IN SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY

- ~ SMD Semiconductor, a government-owned company, specialises in designing analog and mixed-signal chips.
- ~ Collaborates with global foundry partners like X-FAB for chip development and talent cultivation in Sarawak.
- ~ **RM11.6 million** allocated for 2025 operations.
- ~ **RM6 million** earmarked for professional development training in 2025.



## STRATEGIC THRUST 4 : ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION

**Strategic Framework:** Sarawak launched the Digital Economy Strategy (2018-2022) and the Digital Economy Blueprint 2030 to transition from a resource-based to a tech-driven economy. **Achievements:** Notable successes include SPayGlobal, talent development programmes, enhanced digital infrastructure, and online government services.

- **RM20 million** for the development of electronic Government.
- **RM25 million** for SPayGlobal.
- **RM25 million** for Sarawak Multimedia Authority's operations.
- **RM470 million** allocated under Alternative Funding for projects implemented under Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation Berhad (SDEC).

### INITIATIVE 1 : DEVELOPING AND UPGRADING DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY



- **Bridging the Digital Divide:** Achieved 81.68% internet coverage in Sarawak as of mid-2024 with RM1.9 billion invested under the SALURAN initiative.
- **Sarawak Multimedia Authority Rural Telecommunication (SMART) Project:** 545 of 600 towers completed under a RM1.5 billion project by SDEC; **RM397 million** allocated for 2025 to continue.
- **MySRBN Initiative:** Connected 22,403 homes since 2021. Introduced prepaid plans with free monthly data for rural areas in June 2024; In 2025, **RM73 million** will be provided under Alternative Funding for MySRBN initiative, and another **RM20 million** will be provided as Government assistance to allow more people in the rural areas to enjoy affordable high speed internet access.

## INITIATIVE 2: INTENSIFYING DIGITALISATION



### 1. DATA GOVERNANCE

- Global digital data is expected to reach 175 zettabytes by 2025, up from 79 zettabytes in 2021.
- Governments are set to introduce a formal data governance framework, including policies and legislation, in 2025.

### 2. SARAWAK INTEGRATED OPERATION CENTRE (SIOC)

- This Centre will help us to perform data analytics towards improving decision-making and crisis alert management, as well as enabling effective responses to arising issues, problems, trends, and events.

### 3. CYBERSECURITY

- A Cyber Security Unit was established in February 2024 to implement a comprehensive framework focused on governance, compliance, and capacity building, aiming to protect Sarawak's cyber environment from growing threats and rising cybercrime.



### INITIATIVE 3: ESTABLISHING SARAWAK ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE



The Sarawak Artificial Intelligence Centre (SAIC) will be launched in 2025 to position Sarawak as a leader in tech innovation. SAIC will advance AI in sectors like healthcare, agriculture, education, and manufacturing, aiming to boost productivity and create high-value jobs through public-private partnerships and global collaborations.

### INITIATIVE 4: PROMOTING DIGITAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT



The Government, through Sarawak Digital Economic Corporation (SDEC), has implemented various initiatives to promote a digital business environment for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs):

- ~ **GoDigital Grant:** Provides RM10,000 for MSMEs to purchase digital tools.
- ~ **Digital Innovation Hubs:** 7 hubs help ease business registration processes.
- ~ **Digital Village Accelerator (DiVA):** A 6-month programme offering RM150,000 grants to startups in AI, drones, blockchain, and biotechnology. 16 startups have benefited, with RM300,000 in equity investment and an RM80 million valuation.
- ~ **Founder's Forge:** A boot camp to identify potential startup founders, with 50+ participants working on AI-powered vending machines, smart farming, and aquaculture projects.
- ~ **Sarawak Digital Mall:** Supports local entrepreneurs with training and promotional efforts, benefiting 1,041 sellers and generating over RM1 million in Gross Merchandise Value on TikTok Shop.

## INITIATIVE 5: PROMOTING INVENTION AND INNOVATION



- ~ **RM16 million** allocated for research grants in 2025:
  - ~ Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre: **RM12 million**
  - ~ Sarawak Research Development Council: **RM3 million**
  - ~ Sarawak Science Centre: **RM1 million**
- ~ **RM150 million** for Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre construction (completion by 2026)
- ~ **RM135 million** for Sarawak Science Centre construction (completion by 2025)
- ~ **RM25 million** for Sarawak Biodiversity Centre operations and various R&D
- ~ **RM22.5 million** for land acquisition for setting up of a large-scale micro-algae production facility in Gedong.
- ~ **RM5 million** for Sago and Nipah Development Board (SNDB) operations
- ~ **RM18 million** for CRAUN Research on sago and biomass
- ~ **RM2 million** will be allocated to the Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute for research on sustainable management of Sarawak's tropical peatland.



## STRATEGIC THRUST 5 : ENHANCING PEOPLE'S WELL-BEING AND ENSURING INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

### INITIATIVE 1 : STRENGTHENING SOCIAL PROTECTION



- **RM15 million** for the Endowment Fund Sarawak and **RM14 million** for Bantuan Ibu Bersalin to support maternal and child health;
- **RM3.94 million** for One-Stop Early Intervention Centres to provide essential services for special needs children;
- **RM55 million** for various welfare aids such as *Bantuan Am*, *Bantuan Bencana*, *Bantuan Perubatan*, *Bantuan OKU Tidak Berupaya Bekerja (BTB)*, *Bantuan Sekolah*, and *Bantuan Belia-Beliawanis*;
- **RM4.7 million** for haemodialysis assistance for kidney patients; and
- **RM15 million** for the Death Compassionate Assistance to ease the financial burden on families of deceased Kenyalang Gold Card holders.

#### 1. SUMBANGAN KEPERLUAN ASAS SARAWAK

- Initiative to support low-income groups facing rising living costs.
- Financial aid from RM250 to RM800 annually.
- Eligibility:
  - Household income of RM5,000 and below will receive assistance worth **RM800**;
  - Senior citizens without partners and children with income of RM5,000 and below will receive assistance worth **RM400**;
  - Single persons with income of RM2,500 and below will receive assistance worth **RM250**.
- **RM450 million** allocated for 2025, benefiting at least **850,000 recipients**.



- ~ Most recipients will also receive aid from the Federal Government's *Sumbangan Tunai Rahmah* (STR).

## 2. SENIOR CITIZEN HEALTH BENEFIT

**RM50 million** allocation for 2025 will fund the Senior Citizen Health Benefit, benefiting 100,000 senior citizens. Each eligible senior citizen from the M40 and B40 groups will receive **RM500 in cashless medical assistance** to cover bills at approved clinics. This support aims to assist retirees and those without stable income.

## INITIATIVE 2 : CREATING JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND INCREASING HOUSEHOLD INCOMES



- ~ **Low-Income Household Empowering Programme: RM3.75 million** to assist 750 low-income families in starting small businesses;
- ~ **Usahawan Mikro Kebajikan: RM2.5 million** to support micro-entrepreneurs from B40, persons with disabilities, single mothers, and widows through training, capital assistance, and market access;
- ~ **Women Skills Training: RM494,000** for culinary, beauty, spa and sewing courses.

## 1. SOCIAL SUPPORT FACILITIES

- ~ **RM3.08 million** for the establishment and operation of Community Social Support Centre in Kuching, Sri Aman, Sibul, Bintulu, Lawas and Mukah.
- ~ **RM1.8 million** for operation of current *Tempat Transit Gelandangan* Sibul, Kuching, Miri and Bintulu;
- ~ **RM1.5 million** for establishment of Special Needs Community Centre;
- ~ About **RM737,000** to set up Temporary Shelter for Low-Income Recovery Community in Sibul and Bintulu.

## INITIATIVE 3: INVESTING IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan, 16 affordable *Rumah Spektra Permata* housing projects with 1,000 units will be built in Kuching, Serian, Betong, Sarikei, Mukah, Miri, and Limbang. The Housing Development Corporation will oversee the projects, with **RM54 million** allocated for their continuation in 2025.

### 1. LONGHOUSE LOAN SCHEME

- ~ The Longhouse Loan Scheme helps rural communities build or refurbish longhouses.
- ~ Offers interest-free loans (RM30,000-RM50,000 per door) for materials and hardware.
- ~ The Sarawak Government commits **RM50 million** annually, plus RM10 million from the Federal Government.

### 2. HOUSING DEPOSIT AND REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME

- ~ Scheme managed by Mutiara Mortgage and Credit Sdn. Bhd.
- ~ Provides RM10,000 financial aid to first-time homebuyers in B40 and M40 income groups.
- ~ Aims to assist with housing deposits or loan repayment.
- ~ **RM41 million** allocated for the scheme in 2025.

### 3. HOUSING SUBSIDIES FOR HOME OWNERSHIP

- ~ New initiative to help low-income group afford housing.
- ~ Housing subsidies to cover part of housing prices.
- ~ **RM50 million** allocated in 2025 for the initiative.

### 4. RESETTLEMENT SCHEME AND VILLAGE EXTENSION SCHEME

- ~ **RM39 million** allocated for 2025 to ease financial burden on low- and medium-income groups in Sarawak for securing residential lots.
- ~ Priority given to Resettlement Scheme (SPS) and Village Extension Scheme (SPK).

- Major projects for 2025 include:
  - Selirik Resettlement Scheme, Kapit
  - SPK Igan Baru, Mukah
  - SPK Melugu, Sri Aman
  - Kampung Trusan Bazaar Extension Scheme, Lawas
  - Kampung Tebakang Melayu Extension, Serian
  - Kampung Pusa Extension.

## 5. URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT

- Continue efforts to improve physical and social well-being of the *rakyat*.
- Provide quality, affordable, and conducive housing through urban renewal and *kampung* redevelopment projects.
- Allocate **RM247 million** for *Kampung* Redevelopment Projects in Kuching, Sibul, Bintulu, and Limbang.

## INITIATIVE 4 : IMPROVING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES AND SERVICES CONSTRUCTION OF SARAWAK CANCER CENTRE



- **RM1 billion** is allocated for a state-of-the-art Cancer Centre to:
  - **Provide Comprehensive Cancer Care:** Offer treatments like stem cell transplantation and cellular therapy.
  - **Advance Cancer Research and Training:** Act as a hub for research, innovation, and training healthcare professionals.
- The Sarawak Government will fund the construction initially, with reimbursement from the Federal Government.
- **RM5 million** is allocated for preliminary work in 2025.



## STRATEGIC THRUST 6 : PROMOTING CULTURE, SPORTS AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

### INITIATIVE 1 : PROMOTING SPORT



- Sarawak recently hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> SUKMA and Para SUKMA 2024, showcasing exceptional athleticism and sportsmanship. As overall champions, Sarawak celebrates this inspiring achievement.
- Building on these accomplishments, Sarawak is set to co-host the 2027 SEA Games, aiming to enhance its regional profile through this prestigious event.

### INITIATIVE 2 : ENHANCING YOUTH AND SPORTS FACILITIES



- **RM30.7 million** allocated for next year for further improvements.
- **RM250 million** approved under *Projek Rakyat* for new sports complexes and upgrading civic centres.

### INITIATIVE 3 : PROMOTING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



- ~ **RM6.1 million:** Sports development grants for events, training, competitions, and sports clubs.
- ~ **RM9 million:** Sarawak Youth Creative Industry Fund to support music, film, theatre, and innovation, enabling participation in international programmes and fostering digital creative content.
- ~ **RM2 million:** Entrepreneurship programmes and activities for Sarawak's youth.





## STRATEGIC THRUST 7 : ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### INITIATIVE 1 : PROMOTING CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE



#### 1. NET ZERO STRATEGY

- **Hydrogen Economy Leadership:** Sarawak is leading Malaysia's National Energy Transition Roadmap with plans to develop a green hydrogen hub, driving innovation and investment in clean energy technologies like electrolyzers, fuel cells, and sustainable transport.
- **Net Zero Commitment:** Sarawak is committed to addressing global climate challenges and achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 while positioning itself as a regional renewable energy powerhouse.
- **RM11 million** has been allocated in the 2025 Budget for the Sarawak Net Zero and Carbon Plan and the implementation of the Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Ordinance, 2023.

#### 2. FOREST CARBON ACTIVITY

- Sarawak's Forests (Forest Carbon Activity) Rules, 2022, establish a regulatory framework for forest carbon initiatives, detailing guidelines for permits, carbon credits, and monitoring efforts to conserve or restore forests.
- Sarawak has issued four forest carbon permits covering 130,037 hectares, aligning with its climate strategy, generating revenue via carbon credits, and allocating **RM1.5 million** for such projects in 2025.

## INITIATIVE 2: INTENSIFYING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



### 1. SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Sarawak Sustainability Blueprint focuses on sustainable growth across key sectors like utilities, oil and gas, and agriculture. It includes a monitoring system to track progress and aims to align economic growth with environmental goals, supporting Sarawak's PCDS 2030 and SDGs.

In 2025, Sarawak is committed to advancing environmental sustainability and Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles through significant investments in Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) and Sarawak Bio Industrial Park (SBP) as follows:

- **RM1.5 million** for SBC to document traditional knowledge with Indigenous communities that exemplify inclusivity and equitable benefit-sharing;
- **RM3.3 million** to kickstart the construction of SBP, which will span 26 acres, thereby supporting a circular economy and enhancing environmental resilience.

### 2. FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

- Sarawak's government mandates forest management certification for long-term timber licences and qualifying plantations to ensure sustainability, environmental protection, and social security. Currently, 25 certified natural forests (2.33 million hectares) and 8 certified plantations (124,090 hectares) exist.
- Sarawak aims to certify 3 million hectares of natural forests and 178,000 hectares of plantations, promoting sustainable practices that meet international standards, enhancing transparency, and boosting global market confidence in its forest products.

### 3. FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAMME

The Forest Landscape Restoration Programme is a priority for Sarawak's environmental sustainability, aiming to restore ecological, social, and economic values of degraded forests. It aligns with Malaysia's 100 Million Tree Planting Campaign (2021-2025) and Sarawak's goal to plant 35 million trees by 2025, which has already been surpassed as of June 2024. Efforts will continue with **RM4.1 million** allocated for tree planting next year.

### 4. TOTALLY PROTECTED AREA AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Sarawak will allocate **RM2.8 million** to designate 1 million hectares as Totally Protected Areas (TPA) by 2025. Additionally, **RM62 million** will be provided to the Sarawak Forestry Corporation for operations, and **RM21 million** for development projects to preserve forests and wildlife.







## STRATEGIC THRUST 8 : STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY AND CAPACITY

### INITIATIVE 1 : ENHANCING GOVERNMENT CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY



#### 1. ENHANCING STATE CIVIL SERVICE CAPABILITY

The budget allocates **RM18.5 million** for State Civil Service (SCS) training and development, focusing on:

- ~ Competency-based training for support staff.
- ~ Executive Leadership Programmes for top management to enhance strategic thinking.
- ~ Tailored programmes for emerging leaders to strengthen the leadership pipeline.
- ~ Upskilling and reskilling programmes to adapt to evolving work environments.

#### 2. ENHANCING SCS WELL-BEING

- ~ In 2025, **RM1.8 million** will be allocated to initiatives promoting holistic employee well-being at SCS.
- ~ To address the shortage of Government housing for civil servants, **RM3.55 billion** will be invested in new housing and facilities across Sarawak, starting with an initial **RM200 million** allocation in 2025.

## INITIATIVE 2: NEW SARAWAK CIVIL SERVICE SCHEME



The administration will prioritise the welfare of SCS employees amid rising living costs. In line with federal reforms, the Sarawak Civil Service has adopted the new *Sistem Saraan Perkhidmatan Awam* (SSPA), with a budget allocation of **RM67 million** for 2025.

### 1. SPECIAL ALLOWANCE FOR SARAWAK CIVIL SERVICE

The Sarawak Administration will provide a special allowance to Sarawak Civil Service employees, with an initial annual cost of **RM102 million** next year. Additionally, an enhanced Management Performance System will be introduced to create a result-driven, world-class civil service. Civil servants are encouraged to maintain their dedication and improve productivity to better serve the *rakyat*.

## INITIATIVE 3: ENHANCING GOVERNANCE AND INTEGRITY



We are committed to enhancing integrity in the SCS through the following measures:

- ~ Empower Certified Integrity Officers (CeIOs) across various agencies, ensuring they are equipped with the necessary tools, support, and framework to perform their responsibilities effectively.
- ~ Maintain oversight and coordination of the essential functions performed by the Integrity Units in different agencies.
- ~ Establish the Sarawak Ombudsman which plays a crucial role in addressing issues of maladministration within public service agencies. It investigates complaints and advocates accountability, transparency, and fairness, ensuring that public officials uphold the highest ethical standards.

#### **INITIATIVE 4 :** **ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES**




The SCS aims to improve service delivery by streamlining processes, fostering inter-agency collaboration, reducing bureaucracy, implementing regulatory experiments, leveraging behavioural insights, enhancing service delivery, and ultimately improving ease of doing business. **RM21 million** will be allocated for developing ICT projects, and **RM107 million** will be used for system maintenance in 2025.





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