Sarawak Government



PCDS 2030

POST COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2030

HIGHLIGHTS 2023



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Sarawak Government

PCDS 2030

POST COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2030

HIGHLIGHTS 2023

Foreword



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

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and *Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur*.

It is my privilege to present the **Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030): Highlights 2023** showcasing the achievements and progress in Sarawak's journey towards our PCDS 2030 aspirations.

The resilience and adaptability of Sarawak's economy is evident in how we have recovered from the global turbulence caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Under my administration, the Sarawak Government acted swiftly to cushion the negative economic impact of COVID-19 through the provision of the *Bantuan Khas Sarawakku Sayang* (BKSS) aid amounting to RM6.7 billion, between March 2020 and January 2022. This aid provided a crucial lifeline to individuals, B40 families as well as Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, in the form of cash assistance, discount of utility bills, fee waivers, deferment of payment for land premiums and deferment of payment for loan schemes under the Sarawak Government.

In July 2021, the Sarawak Government launched the **Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030)** to propel Sarawak towards a comprehensive transformation, ensuring Sarawak emerges as a stronger and more resilient region. As a result of our efforts, Sarawak's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an average Annual Growth Rate of 3.8% between 2021 and 2023.

Over the past three (3) years, we have seen remarkable advancements in all key sectors. Our targeted focus on economic diversification, digitalisation and transition towards a low carbon economy is starting to bear fruit.

We envision that by 2030, Sarawak will be a thriving society driven by data and innovation where everyone enjoys economic prosperity, social inclusivity and a sustainable environment.

The World Bank in 2022 acknowledged Sarawak as a high-income economy, by the measure of Gross National Income (GNI) per capita of US$ 18,360. This recognition proves that we are on the right track towards becoming a high income and developed economy under PCDS 2030. We will continue to champion our aspirations of Economic Prosperity, Social Inclusivity and Environmental Sustainability.

In 2023, the Sarawak Government achieved a record revenue of RM13.3 billion (from a revenue of RM7.3 billion in 2019), signalling our strong financial position and ability to fund crucial development and social welfare initiatives. We also recorded a total approved investment value of RM22.8 billion across all sectors, as we continue to strengthen Sarawak's critical advantage of providing renewable energy and facilitating ease of doing business.

We are committed to ensure that our economic prosperity is shared throughout Sarawak. Integral to equitable wealth distribution and social inclusivity is our emphasis on economic diversification, the creation of high-income jobs and targeted social interventions. Employment in Sarawak increased from 1.31 million in 2022 to 1.41 million in 2023, while the unemployment rate decreased from 3.7% to 3.5%. The Sarawak Government continues to care for the people through various initiatives, including welfare assistance for vulnerable groups, entrepreneurship programmes, repair of dilapidated schools and clinics, provision of affordable housing and supporting programmes for persons with disabilities.

Environmental sustainability remains a key focus for Sarawak, with continued efforts to incorporate new technologies, innovate sustainable practices, and reinforce regulatory frameworks. In support of the Malaysian Greening Programme, Sarawak planted 32.5 million trees between 2021 to 2023. In November 2023, Sarawak achieved a milestone with the passage of the Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Bill, signalling a significant move towards addressing carbon emissions. This legislation strengthens our commitment to ensuring that Sarawak achieves net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The progress and achievements recorded in **PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023** are testaments to the hard work and resolute commitment of the Sarawak Government, private sector companies and our local communities. In earnest confidence, I express my firm belief that the synergy between our efficient Civil Service, dynamic private sector, and the steadfast support of our people will elevate Sarawak to unprecedented heights. Together, we stand ready to embrace the challenges that lie ahead, accelerating Sarawak to new horizons of achievement and distinction.

Foreword

Sarawak State Secretary
YB Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Abu Bakar bin Marzuki



Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

As we embark on the journey of reflection in **Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030): Highlights 2023**, I am compelled to express my gratitude for the collective efforts that have shaped Sarawak's progress. The achievements over the past year stand as a testament to our unwavering commitment to the holistic development of Sarawak in line with PCDS 2030.

The publication of this inaugural annual report marks a significant milestone in our journey towards transforming Sarawak into a developed economy by 2030. This document serves as a comprehensive overview of the Sarawak Government's aspirations, providing detailed insights into our strategic initiatives, key achievements, and progress made in 2023. Published in two languages (English and Bahasa Malaysia) and accessible online, **PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023** underscores our commitment to transparency and accountability, offering a clear view of our current performance and future direction.

The achievements showcased in this report are not just statistical figures, indeed, they represent tangible improvements in the lives of Sarawakians, across all geographic locations, income groups and cultural backgrounds. Key highlights include the increase of internet coverage in Sarawak to 78.8%, a recovery in our Tourism sector with 3.9 million visitor arrivals, expansion of our road network to a total of 13,577 km and 99.4% electricity supply coverage for households in Sarawak with the successful implementation of the Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES).

With **PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023**, we aim to keep Sarawakians engaged in our efforts and advancements, while strengthening the confidence of our domestic and international partners to develop innovative and long-lasting collaborations in Sarawak. I wish to extend a warm invitation to partners and investors to explore the vast opportunities arising from our strategic initiatives across all sectors.

I commend the dedication of our leaders, ministries, departments, agencies, federal counterparts, and external stakeholders who have been instrumental in turning our PCDS 2030 aspirations into reality. As we move forward, let us continue working hand in hand to script a future where Sarawak stands tall as a model of Economic Prosperity, Social Inclusivity and Environmental Sustainability.

Foreword

Advisors in the Office of the Premier of Sarawak
YBhg. Datuk Amar Jaul Samion &
YBhg. Datu Ir. Haji Zuraimi bin Haji Sabki



When the Sarawak Government launched PCDS 2030 in July 2021, we were faced with numerous challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The spread of the virus and extended national lockdowns affected trade, business and hindered our everyday lives. The year 2023 has been a critical turning point for our efforts, exemplified by our achievements across various sectors reported in this inaugural annual report, **PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023**.

As advisors for PCDS 2030, we have worked together closely with the Performance Management and Delivery (PMD) team in the Economic Planning Unit Sarawak in monitoring the implementation of PCDS 2030. Our team has facilitated more than 150 engagement sessions with Ministries, Departments, Agencies as well as representatives from the private sector as of December 2023 in our efforts to prioritise key projects, set yearly targets and quarterly milestones, as well as problem solve critical issues which affect the implementation of PCDS 2030. Progress towards PCDS 2030 aspirations in every key sector is diligently monitored and evaluated by the leadership of the Sarawak Government, through the PCDS 2030 Quarterly Dashboards.

The publication of **PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023** enables the Sarawak Government to share our progress to the public and key stakeholders, ensuring accountability and transparency in our efforts and commitment towards the people of Sarawak. We welcome feedback from all parties in order to ensure that we continuously improve the services and projects implemented by the Sarawak Government.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Sarawak Economic Action Council headed by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, The Honourable State Secretary, Ministries and Departments, Government Linked Companies, private sector players and community members who have contributed to the PCDS 2030 achievements. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts have been instrumental in the progress made over the past year.

As we look forward to the future, we are excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. With our collective efforts, Sarawak will continue to make significant strides towards our shared PCDS 2030 vision.



Contents

Forewords 2 - 5
Premier of Sarawak 2
Sarawak State Secretary 4
Advisors in the Office of the Premier of Sarawak 5

Socio Economic Highlights 2023 8

Key Achievements 9

Chapter 1: Introduction 10 - 19
Introduction 12
Summary of PCDS 2030 14
Sarawak's 2030 Aspirations 16
PCDS Monitoring & Implementation 18

Chapter 2: Economic Sectors 20 - 71
Manufacturing 22
Commercial Agriculture 28
Tourism 38
Forestry 48
Mining 56
Social Services 64

Chapter 3: Enablers 72 - 127
Digital Transformation 74
Innovation 82
Education & Human Capital 90
Basic Infrastructure 98
Utilities 108
Transport 116
Renewable Energy 122

Chapter 4: Conclusion & Moving Forward 128 - 129

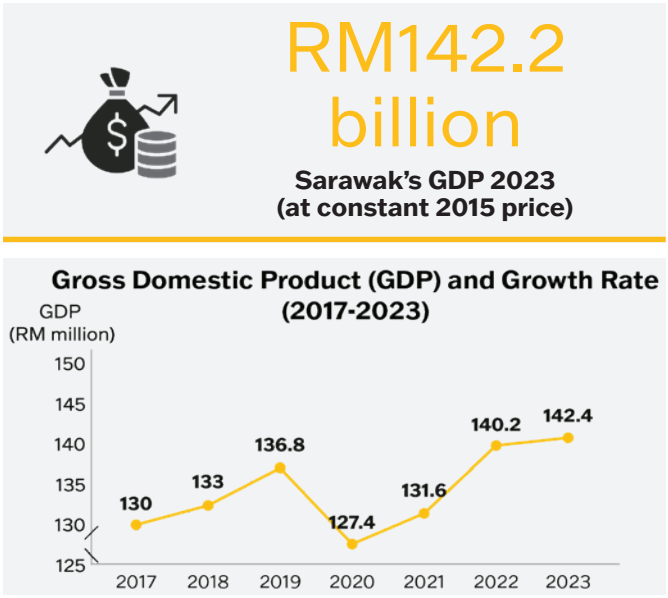
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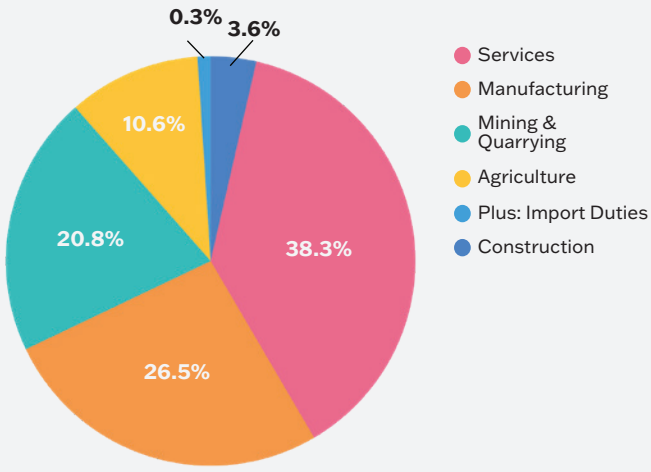
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Socio-Economic Highlights 2023

RM142.2 billion

Sarawak's GDP 2023 (at constant 2015 price)





GDP by Sector (2023)

Trade (2023)

RM130 billion
Export

RM63 billion
Import

RM193 billion
Total Trade

Top 5 Trading Partners (2021-2023)

1. Peninsular Malaysia
2. Japan
3. China
4. South Korea
5. India

RM13.3 billion

Sarawak's Government Revenue in 2023

Source: DOSM and SFSO

Key PCDS 2030 Achievements in 2023

6 ECONOMIC SECTORS



Sarawak attracted investments amounting to **RM21.5 billion** since 2021, fostering the creation of over **11,000** employment opportunities.



The Agriculture sector contributed **10.6%** of Sarawak's GDP in 2023, amounting to **RM14.5 billion**.



Sarawak recorded **3.9 million** visitor arrivals in 2023, stimulating **RM9.99 billion** in tourism receipts.



Sarawak planted **32.5 million** trees from the year 2021 to 2023 and revamped its Forestry sector for sustainability.



Sarawak's Mining sector includes the quarrying segments, contributing **RM1.48 billion** to the GDP, accounting for **20.8%** in 2023.



Sarawak Social Wellbeing Index 2023 interim final report recorded a score of **7.18/10**.

7 ENABLERS



Internet coverage reached **78.8%** encompassing **279** towers under *Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara* (JENDELA) and **183** towers under Sarawak Multimedia Authority Rural Telecommunication (SMART).



The strong innovation ecosystem enabled the Sarawak Government to support **78** innovations and digitalised **6,233** Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.



58 school repair projects completed, as of 2023, benefitting **15,081** students.



As of 2023, Sarawak has built an extensive network of roads spanning **31,577 km**.



Electricity supply coverage has reached **99.4%**, and water supply coverage is at **84.3%**.



As of 2023, the ridership for public bus transport in Sarawak under the RM1 Flat Rate Bus Fare subsidy programme has increased to **4.38 million**, an increase of **256%** since May 2020.



In 2023, Sarawak maintained **60%** Renewable Energy Capacity Mix and sold **5 million** Renewable Energy Certificates (REC).

CHAPTER 1:

Introduction

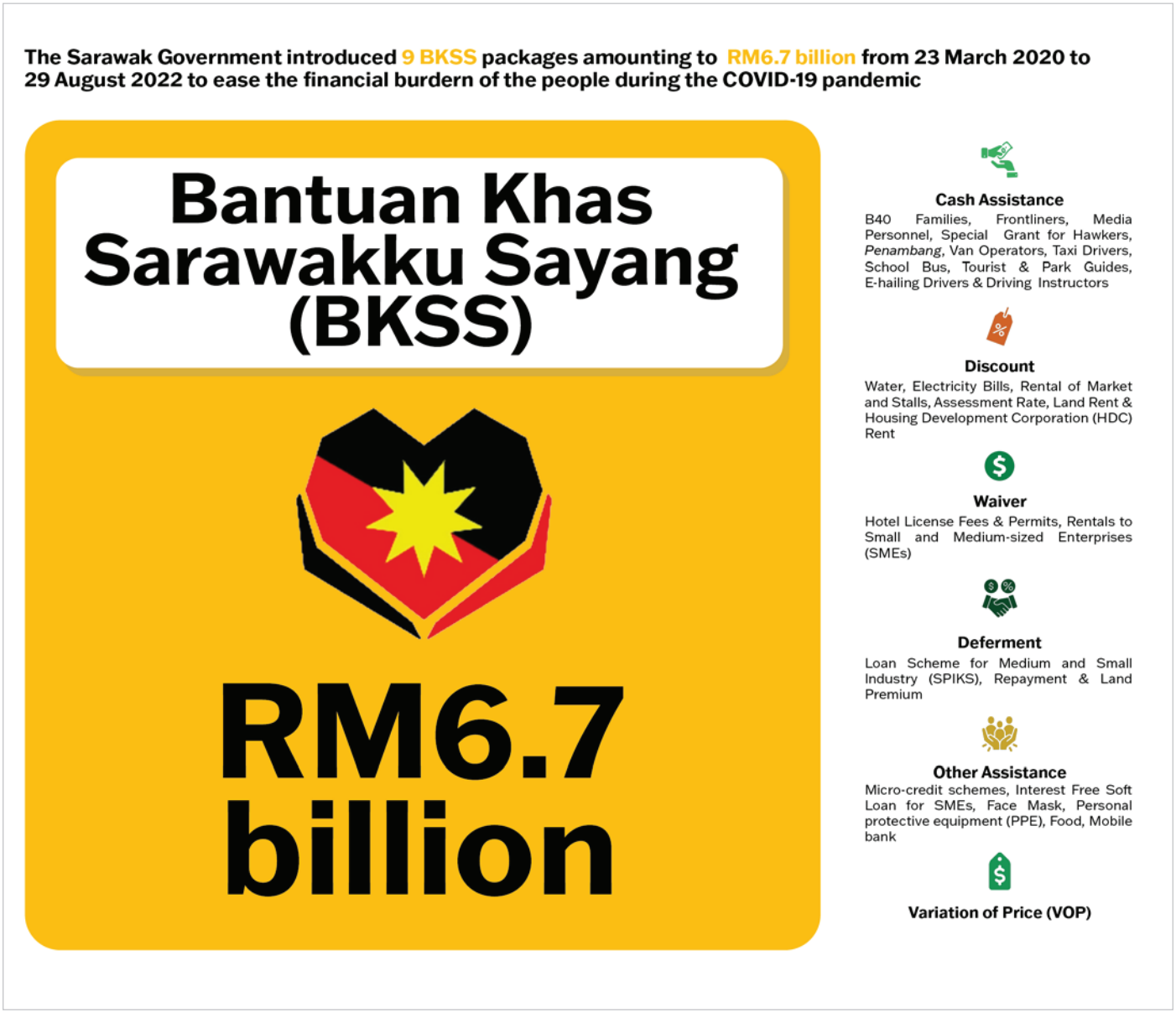



7
ENABLERS
01
Digital Transformation
02
Innovation
03
Education & Human Capital
04
Basic Infrastructure
05
Utilities
06
Transport
07
Renewable Energy
6
ECONOMIC SECTORS
Agriculture 02
Tourism 03
Forestry 04
Mining 05
Services 06
Manufacturing 01

INTRODUCTION

The economic landscape of Sarawak was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the region saw a widespread decline in economic activities, with a shrink in exports by 24.2% and a rise in the unemployment rate to 4.3%. Despite these challenges, the pandemic catalysed digitalisation across various sectors and underscored the significance of maintaining a robust global supply chain. As of November 2023, 328,256 COVID-19 cases were reported in Sarawak since the first case in March 2020.

The Sarawak Government introduced nine packages under the *Bantuan Khas Sarawakku Sayang* (BKSS) initiative. These packages, totaling RM6.7 billion, were implemented to alleviate the financial burden experienced by the public amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.



Sarawak BKSS (2020-2022). (Source: EPU Sarawak)

PCDS 2030 was launched by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak in July 2021. This strategy was developed to transform Sarawak into a developed state by 2030 by achieving economic prosperity, social inclusivity, and environmental sustainability. The Sarawak Economic Action Council (SEAC) played a significant role in formulating the PCDS 2030, studying the details of the state's economic, social, and governance sectors. Furthermore, the development of this strategy involved more than 20,000 man-hours engagement sessions with various stakeholders from the public, private sectors and communities to ensure the inclusivity of the plan.

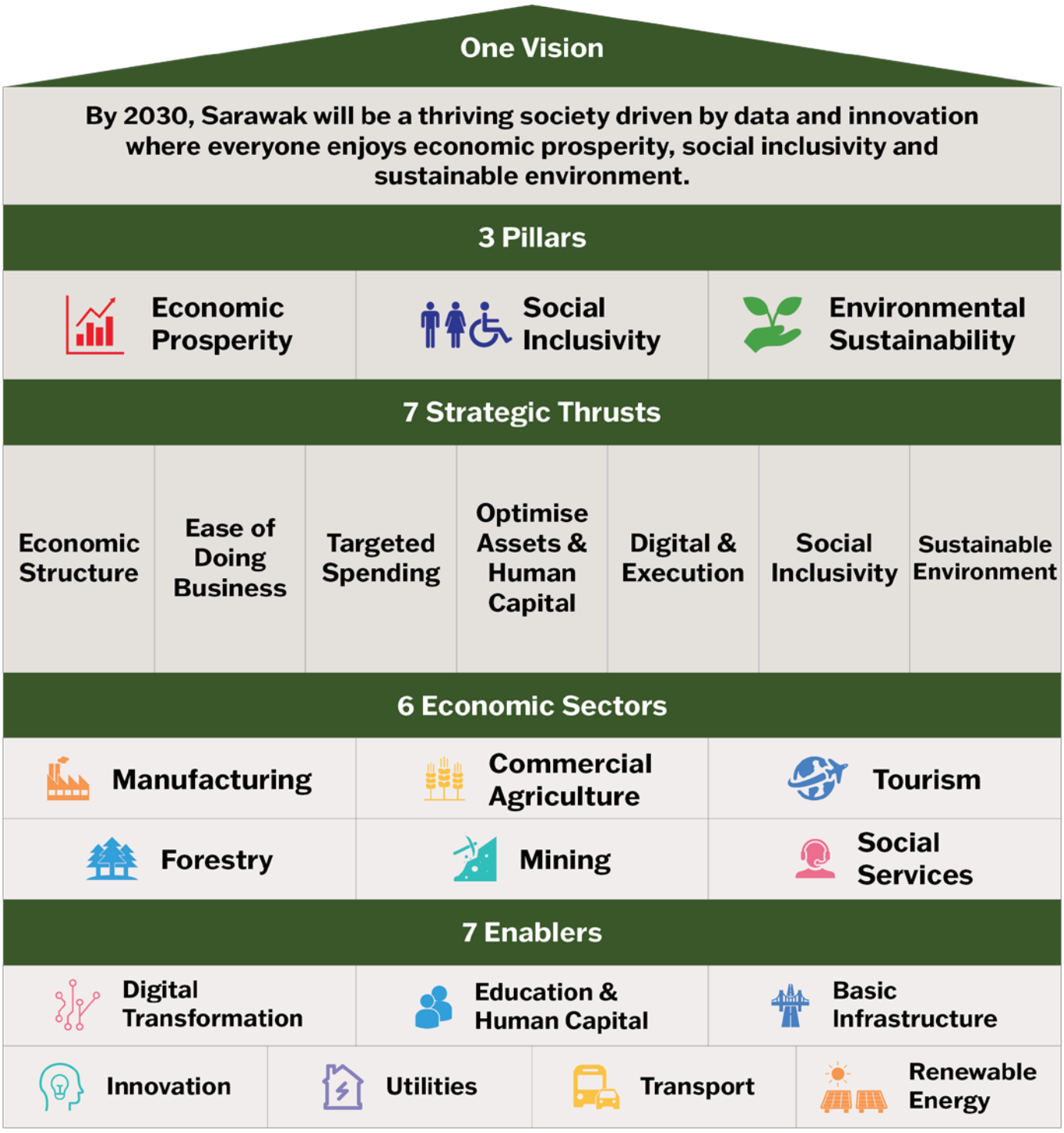


Launching of PCDS 2030 by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak. (Source: EPU Sarawak)

PCDS 2030 Aspirations
Elevate Sarawak economy from RM136 billion in 2019 to RM282 billion in 2030
Grow Sarawak economy 8% per annum between 2021 and 2030
Create 195,000 new job opportunities
Raise median household income to RM15,000
Reduce urban and rural development gaps
Improve work efficiency, enhance productivity via Digital Innovations

PCDS 2030 Aspirations. (Source: Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030)

SUMMARY OF PCDS 2030





SARAWAK'S 2030 ASPIRATIONS

RM282 billion GDP
RM15,000 median household income

7.5%
annual growth rate in visitor arrivals

20% share
of Public Transport use

18,000 hours
saved travel time daily via Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS)

Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART)

30,000
poor households have access to affordable housing

1.5 million
employed persons in 2030

8.0
on the Social Wellbeing Index

10,000
businesses digitalised

80%
of people affected by social issues are given assistance and intervention

30% GDP
from Manufacturing Sector

Industrial Parks

100%
end-to-end digital government services

60%
Renewable Energy Capacity Mix

Hydroelectric Dams

3,000
Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Researchers

100% coverage
for water and electricity supply

200,000 ha
restored forests

6 million ha
of permanent forests conserved

1 million ha
of Totally Protected Areas (TPAs)

100%
households with access to internet connectivity

Longhouses

60%
enrolment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

Schools

100% of schools
are conducive and safe for teaching and learning

Agroparks

More than
RM2 billion
Net food exports

RM5 billion GDP
from Mining (Minerals) Sector

Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS)

3 million tonnes
annual CO_2 reduction

2 million tonnes
increase in port efficiency by 2030

PCDS MONITORING & IMPLEMENTATION

PCDS 2030 implementation is monitored by the Performance Management and Delivery (PMD) Division in the Economic Planning Unit Sarawak. Two (2) advisors have also been appointed by the Sarawak Government to advise The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak on matters related to PCDS 2030, namely YBhg. Datuk Amar Jaul Samion and YBhg. Datu Ir. Hj. Zuraimi bin Hj. Sabki.

The PCDS 2030 Advisors with the PMD team execute five (5) key roles in monitoring the implementation of PCDS 2030 priority initiatives:



Planning & Monitoring



Performance Insights



Problem Solving



Capacity Building



Communicating Progress

The PCDS 2030 advisors and PMD team work closely with Sarawak Government ministries and agencies for each of the six (6) Economic Sectors and seven (7) Enablers under PCDS 2030 to ensure that projects and programmes are implemented as planned. Each sector has long-term goals for 2030 as well as project/programme milestones which are tracked through a Quarterly Performance Dashboard for each sector. The dashboards are reviewed by the Sarawak Government leadership to monitor progress and to problem solve any obstacles or delays faced by the implementing agency.

The team has also developed a methodology for Strategic Intervention Workshops to integrate the planning and delivery of complex projects which involve multiple agencies. These workshops aim to:



Develop a comprehensive high-level programme



Identify critical hold points that need to be resolved to ensure the implementation of the project



Integrate key milestones of the project



Identify effective and practical solutions to overcome barriers and expedite the successful operationalisation of the project



Foster active stakeholder engagement, promoting transparent communication and inclusive decision-making processes

The PMD team is also tasked with communicating PCDS 2030 aspirations and PCDS 2030 implementation, including the production of the PCDS 2030: Highlights 2023 document. As of the end of 2023, there were over 150 engagement sessions, exhibitions, talks, and courtesy calls for the general public conducted by PCDS 2030 Advisors and the PMD team.

In 2024, the PMD team will roll-out a comprehensive training programme for key Sarawak Government officers leading PCDS 2030 priority projects and programmes. This training programme will supplement the Enhanced High Performing Leaders Programme in the Sarawak Civil Service and will cover four (4) modules crucial for successful project delivery, namely Policy Analysis, Project Management, Stakeholder Management and Programme Evaluation.

PCDS 2030 ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS WITH SARAWAK MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES



Performance Review Meeting of PCDS 2030 sectors for 2023. (Source: EPU Sarawak)



Strategic Intervention Workshop for PCDS 2030 held in 2023. (Source: EPU Sarawak)

CHAPTER 2:

Economic Sectors

The PCDS 2030 is anchored on six (6) economic sectors as the main engines of growth, namely Manufacturing, Commercial Agriculture, Tourism, Forestry, Mining and Social Services.



Key Achievements of PCDS 2030 Economic Sectors in 2023



Sarawak attracted significant investments amounting to **RM21.5 billion** since 2021, fostering the creation of over **11,000** employment opportunities



The Agriculture sector contributed **10.6%** of Sarawak's GDP in 2023, amounting to **RM14.5 billion**



Sarawak recorded **3.9 million** visitor arrivals in 2023, stimulating **RM9.99 billion** in tourism receipts



Sarawak planted **32.5 million** trees from the year 2021 to 2023 and revamped its Forestry sector for sustainability



Sarawak's Mining sector including the quarrying segments contributing **RM1.48 billion** to the GDP; accounting for **20.8%** in 2023



Sarawak Social Wellbeing Index 2023 interim final report recorded a score of **7.18/10**

MANUFACTURING

2030 ASPIRATION

Sarawak as the preferred investment destination for high-value manufacturing driven by a sustainable, innovative and efficient ecosystem and entrepreneurial community.

The manufacturing sector contributed on average 27.5% to Sarawak's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021-2023. Amidst dynamic economic shifts, Sarawak's Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) have showcased remarkable agility and resilience during challenging times. Between 2021 and 2023, there was a surge in entrepreneurial activity, with 2,701 new entrepreneurs registering their businesses.

A significant number of existing entrepreneurs, totaling 14,339, embraced digital platforms such as TikTok, Shopee, and Lazada. This adoption of digital technologies underscores the adaptability of Sarawak's SMEs and their commitment to leveraging modern tools to navigate evolving market landscapes. For instance, the TikTok Shop X MINTRED programme has demonstrated its efficacy by facilitating the establishment of 106 active enterprises, which collectively generated a gross sales value surpassing RM1 million.

"As we all know, TikTok Live is the hottest platform now, has attracted a lot of customers, and influenced their shopping behaviour. The programme is very helpful in guiding us and solving problems we have faced. We are very thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the programme. Thank you Sarawak Government and TikTok Shop!"

Mr. Ting Ding Woo
Owner of Cosfume HQ

RM21.5 billion
of approved investments in the Manufacturing sector (2021-2023)

Source: MINTRED

Despite the challenging global landscape, Sarawak has successfully attracted substantial investments totaling RM82.6 billion during the same period. The Manufacturing sector continued to be the primary contributor, drawing in RM21.5 billion and generating over 11,000 employment opportunities, particularly in electrical and electronic products, chemical and chemical products, and basic metal products segments.

Additionally, Sarawak is actively fostering new economic sectors such as hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS), and digital initiatives, leveraging on renewable energy to propel development and economic growth. Sarawak is actively collaborating with prominent global players from South Korea and Japan to establish green hydrogen plants in Bintulu and to explore partnerships in CCUS. These emerging economic sectors are poised to strengthen Sarawak's position as a premier destination for innovative, high-tech, and high-value investments.

RM2.63 billion
Domestic Direct Investment (DDI)
in 2023

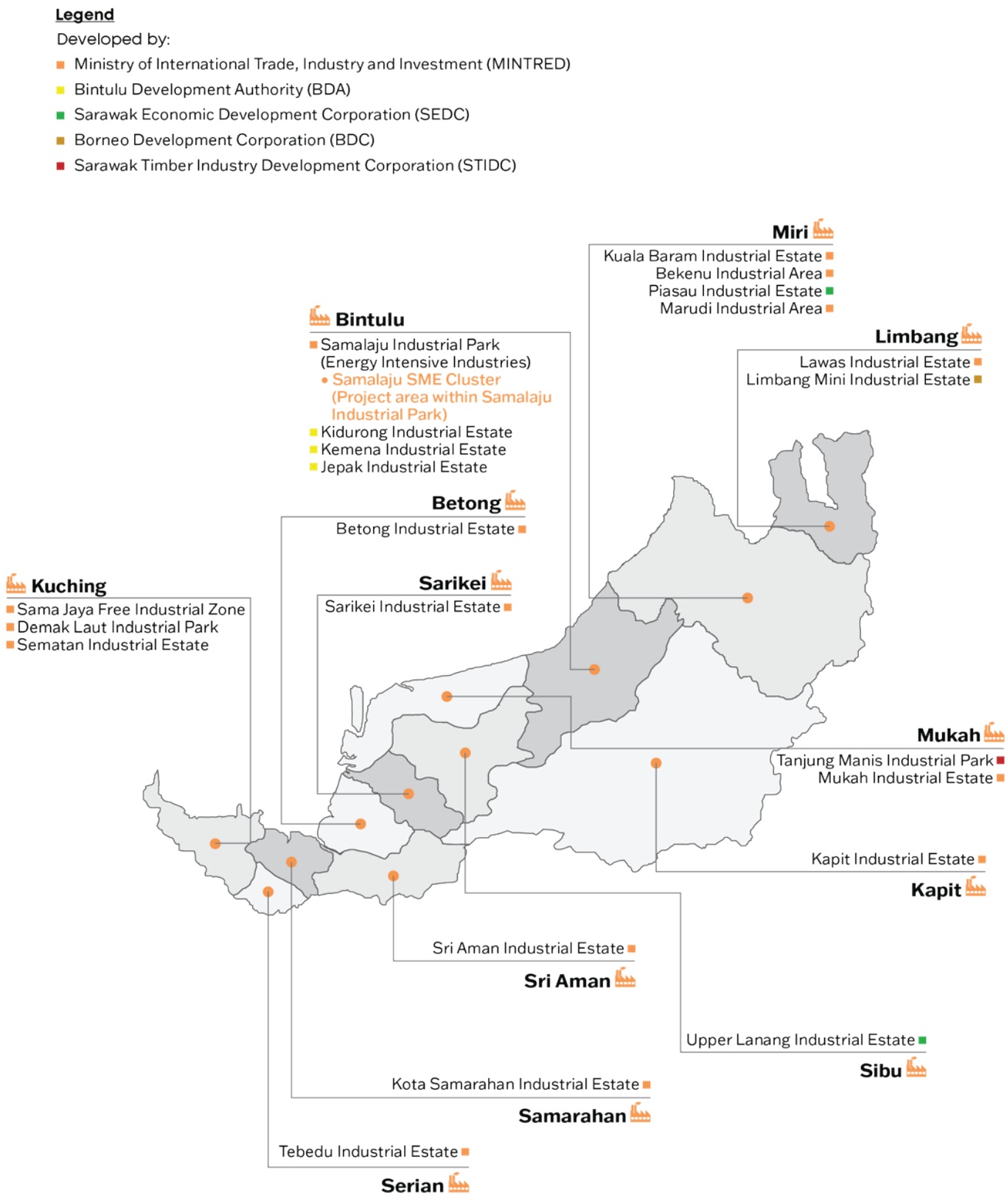
RM6.59 billion
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
in 2023

Source: MINTRED

Sarawak stands out as a preferred investment destination for the Manufacturing sector in Malaysia. Between 2021 and 2023, DDIs significantly bolstered economic growth in Sarawak, constituting 49% of the total investment. Concurrently, FDIs have played a pivotal role in catalysing domestic developments. Furthermore, Sarawak's political stability and business-friendly policies create an environment conducive for the investors, fostering an environment for a sustainable business growth and prosperity.

INDUSTRIAL PARKS DEVELOPED IN SARAWAK

The Sarawak Government has developed industrial parks aimed at attracting investments and strengthening economic growth. These industrial parks were developed across major cities and towns such as Kuching, Samarahan, Bintulu, Kapit, and Limbang. These parks are well-equipped with essential infrastructure and utilities to support industrial activities.



Map of Industrial Parks in Sarawak. (Source: MINTRED)

SAMA JAYA FREE INDUSTRIAL ZONE



Aerial view of Sama Jaya Free Industrial Zone. (Source: MINTRED)

Established in 1992, the Sama Jaya Free Industrial Zone (SJFIZ) in Kuching is a high-tech park specifically designated for export oriented electronic and electrical (E&E) industries and advanced materials. Spanning approximately 400 hectares, this park serves as the base for multinational corporations (MNCs) operating within the global E&E value chain. These MNCs are from Germany, Belgium, China, Japan, South Korea, and the United States of America.

SJFIZ has created positive spin offs for the local economy since its inception including:

RM14.95 billion
investments approved

19 investors
operating

15,000 jobs
created



LONGi Kuching Sdn Bhd. (Source: MINTRED)



"SJFIZ effectively generates employment, boosts the local economy, and enhances technological competitiveness. With complete infrastructure, investors save capital and this expedites their global market entry. MINTRED's one-stop investment centre simplifies and ensures successful business ventures."

Mr. Ngieng Sii Jing
Vice President,
International Manufacturing Center,
LONGi Malaysia Sdn Bhd

SAMALAJU INDUSTRIAL PARK, BINTULU



Aerial view of Samalaju Industrial Park. (Source: MINTRED)



"Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn. Bhd. (PERTAMA) has been investing in SIP since 2010. SIP offers fair business conditions, supported by the Sarawak Government and Federal Government, with essential amenities like port services, utilities, renewable energy, water supply, and telecommunications."

Mr. Yuki Nakamura
Board Director/General Manager,
Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn. Bhd.

Situated in the central region of Sarawak, Samalaju Industrial Park (SIP) in Bintulu was launched in 2008. SIP was designated as the main growth node within the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE). With approximately 8,800 hectares developed, the park aims to attract energy-intensive industries, thereby fostering and strengthening the supply chain for high-value downstream activities. Additionally, the Samalaju SME Cluster within SIP is being developed to facilitate the growth of SMEs. Investors from various countries including South Korea, China, Japan, South Africa, as well as Malaysia, have materialised their investments in SIP.

SIP's impact to the economy of Sarawak includes:

RM52.47 billion
investments approved

8 investors
operating

8,300 jobs
created



Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn Bhd. (Source: MINTRED)

InvestSarawak

Established in August 2023, InvestSarawak facilitates investors across all economic sectors, functioning as the One-Stop-Centre for both foreign and domestic investments, effectively enhancing the ease of doing business in Sarawak.

Among the roles and functions of InvestSarawak include providing advisory services, facilitating investment and trade, organising business networking and familiarisation, as well as evaluating strategic projects. InvestSarawak works closely with all ministries, agencies and Sarawak Trade & Tourism Offices to promote investment and trade in Sarawak.



Official Launch of InvestSarawak in conjunction with the EU Business Day 2024 by The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak witnessed by (from left) Ambassador of the EU to Malaysia, CEO of InvestSarawak, YB Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Deputy Premier, and YB Dato Sri Haji Julaihi Bin Haji Narawi, MInister for Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak. (Source: Sarawak Tribune)

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Functions of InvestSarawak

- **Investor Engagement and Facilitation:** InvestSarawak assists investors with information and locating investment opportunities.
- **Provide Connections and Local Insight** into local regulatory requirements, connecting with industry leaders and providing advice on investment-related matters.
- **Post-Investment Support:** Addressing challenges and opportunities that arise after investment.
- **Marketing Sarawak's Opportunities** both domestically and internationally.

Initiatives by InvestSarawak in 2023

Trade Development	Talent Development	Green Financing & Sustainable Initiatives	Global Connections	Strategic Partnerships
Trade Missions and Business-to-business (B2B) Meetings	Repatriation Strategy Local Talent Nurturing	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei (UNGCMYB) and Alliance Bank	Sarawak Connects: Linking local and global businesses through partnership Exploring carbon capture initiatives with Imperial College London and HSBC UK EU-Business Day 2024	MoU with Alliance Bank & UNGCMYB (RM 1 billion for Sarawak SMEs for ESG adoption) MoU with OCBC (Sustainable Funding - RM5 billion pledge to Malaysia) MoU with Marubeni (SAF)

THE WAY FORWARD

In line with PCDS 2030, the Sarawak Government is committed to ensure a conducive environment for industry players and business communities to grow and prosper. MINTRED will intensify the efforts to attract quality investments, enhance and strengthen the capacity and capability of the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), grow the international trade and upgrade industrial infrastructure to achieve economic prosperity, inclusive society and environmental sustainability.

Sarawak Investment Policy

MINTRED is currently developing the Sarawak Investment Policy with the objective of enhancing Sarawak's attractiveness to targeted industries. This policy will propose a comprehensive regulatory framework, incentives, strategies and other support enablers. By providing clarity and strategic direction to governmental bodies and investors alike, the intended outcome of this policy is to ensure seamless alignment with PCDS 2030.

Masterplan to Enhance the Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Sarawak

MINTRED will undertake the development of the master plan to enhance the competitiveness of SMEs in Sarawak, with the objective of establishing a more integrated and robust ecosystem for entrepreneurship development. This master plan will formulate strategies and action plans aimed at fostering the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of MSMEs across various sectors.

Industrial Park Management

The establishment of industrial park management represents a comprehensive strategy for the long term sustainable growth and development of industrial parks, ensuring conducive environments with robust infrastructure, utilities, and supporting amenities. Additionally, it addresses the management and maintenance of these industrial areas. The proposed Industrial Park Management will oversee the development and operations of industrial parks in Sarawak. This includes formulating and implementing strategies to promote growth and sustainability, attract investments, and meet the needs of businesses and investors.

In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sarawak is embracing a sustainable and balanced economic growth strategy. The business community is encouraged to comply with the evolving Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles which promote responsible supply chains, sustainable production, and inclusive business practices.



YB Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan led a Sarawak delegation to discuss Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, CO_2 plant technology, and net zero labs with Imperial College London. They expressed openness to collaborating on human capital training in specialised industries. (Source: MINTRED)

COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

2030 ASPIRATION

A technology-driven and sustainable agriculture sector that will ensure food security and safety, create wealth for the agro-based community and establish Sarawak as a net food exporter by 2030.

10.6%
of Sarawak's GDP in 2023 was derived from the agriculture sector.

Source: DOSM

The Agriculture sector in Sarawak has been a fundamental pillar of Sarawak's economy, providing livelihoods for many residents and significantly contributing to Sarawak's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Between 2021 and 2023, the sector implemented the Pig Farming Area (PFA) and established the Aquaculture Industrial Zone (AIZ), Agroparks, Collection, Processing, and Packaging Centre (CPPC/Agrofood Terminal), farm infrastructure and large-scale paddy cultivation areas. These initiatives have increased food production and improved the quality and sustainability of agricultural practices in Sarawak.

A significant success within this sector is the swine industry. Accredited by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) and the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia (DVS), Sarawak has been recognised as an approved and designated compartmentalisation area for African Swine Fever (ASF) disease-free status. This accreditation has facilitated the export of live porkers to Singapore, contributing to the economic growth of the region. The total export value of live porkers increased by 13%, from RM146 million in 2022 to RM169 million in 2023. These advancements highlight the essential role of agriculture in Sarawak's economy, providing livelihoods for many residents and significantly contributing to the region's GDP.

The Sarawak Government is also focusing on harnessing digital technology to improve food production, with the goal of becoming a net food exporter by 2030.



Rapid adoption of drone technology for spraying agri-chemicals in paddy cultivation. (Photo credit: DOA Sarawak)

PADDY AND RICE DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, the total area for paddy cultivation in Sarawak is 77,944 hectares, covering both hill and wet paddy. To boost self-sufficiency for rice, the Sarawak Government is embarking on commercial-scale paddy cultivation, developing and upgrading existing infrastructure, promoting mechanisation and automation, shifting to high-yielding paddy seed, and providing paddy production incentives.

Lingga-Banting, Sri Aman

The Sarawak Government is currently developing irrigation and drainage infrastructure in Lingga-Banting, Sri Aman, as part of the Batang Lupar paddy comprehensive farm infrastructure plan. The project commenced in March 2020, and is anticipated to reach completion by March 2026, at a total cost of RM153.6 million.

This enhancement is aimed at facilitating double cropping of paddy cultivation, ultimately expanding the suitable paddy planting area to up to 2,000 hectares by 2025.

The Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak (DID) is actively involved in crafting a comprehensive conceptual design, addressing technical intricacies, and devising strategies to mitigate flood risks within the Mid Sadong 1 Scheme. Central to this effort is the integration of design enhancements with existing tidal control gates, along with proposing alternative strategies, maintenance protocols, and system modifications to optimise operational efficiency.



Large-Scale Smart Padi (SMART SBB) Project covering 37 hectares in Tanjung Bijat, Sri Aman. (Source: M-FICORD)

Lubok Punggor, Gedong

In 2022, the Upgrading and Rehabilitation of Drainage and Irrigation Infrastructures of the Mid Sadong Scheme (Lubok Punggor) Gedong, Samarahan Division project commenced, with a designated budget of RM30 million and a targeted completion date of 2025. Lubok Punggor has been designated for modern paddy cultivation, supporting Sarawak's vision for agricultural advancement. The Sarawak Government is also collaborating with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Bintulu Campus to enhance paddy productivity and modernise farm management practices, focusing on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Smart Farming, and sustainability.



The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg winnowing paddy in Lubok Punggor, Gedong on 26 February 2024. (Source: M-FICORD)

AGROPARK DEVELOPMENT: SUNGAI BAJI AGROPARK, SARIKEI

The Sarawak Government, through the Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity, and Regional Development Sarawak (M-FICORD), is leading the development of agroparks to grow food production zones. An agropark is a designated area equipped with essential infrastructure, including farm roads, drainage systems, and utilities, tailored for the commercial cultivation of food crops. Moreover, it attracts private sector investments, offering production, aggregation, and marketing services. The agropark development aims to increase food production for export and attract private investment, agro-entrepreneurs, and youth to commercial food production.



Greenhouse inside Sungai Baji Agropark, Sarikei. (Source: M-FICORD)

Upon completion, Sungai Baji Agropark will have 32 greenhouse units, complete with the installation of Internet of Things (IoT) system. This project introduces modern farming practices, enhancing productivity, quality, and sustainability in food production while increasing farmers' incomes.



Front view of Sungai Baji Agropark, Sarikei. (Source: M-FICORD)

The Sarawak Government has sanctioned the development of eight (8) other agroparks across Sarawak, with each project progressing through distinct stages of implementation. The completion of Sungai Baji Agropark marks a significant milestone in Sarawak's trajectory towards achieving net food exporter status by 2030.

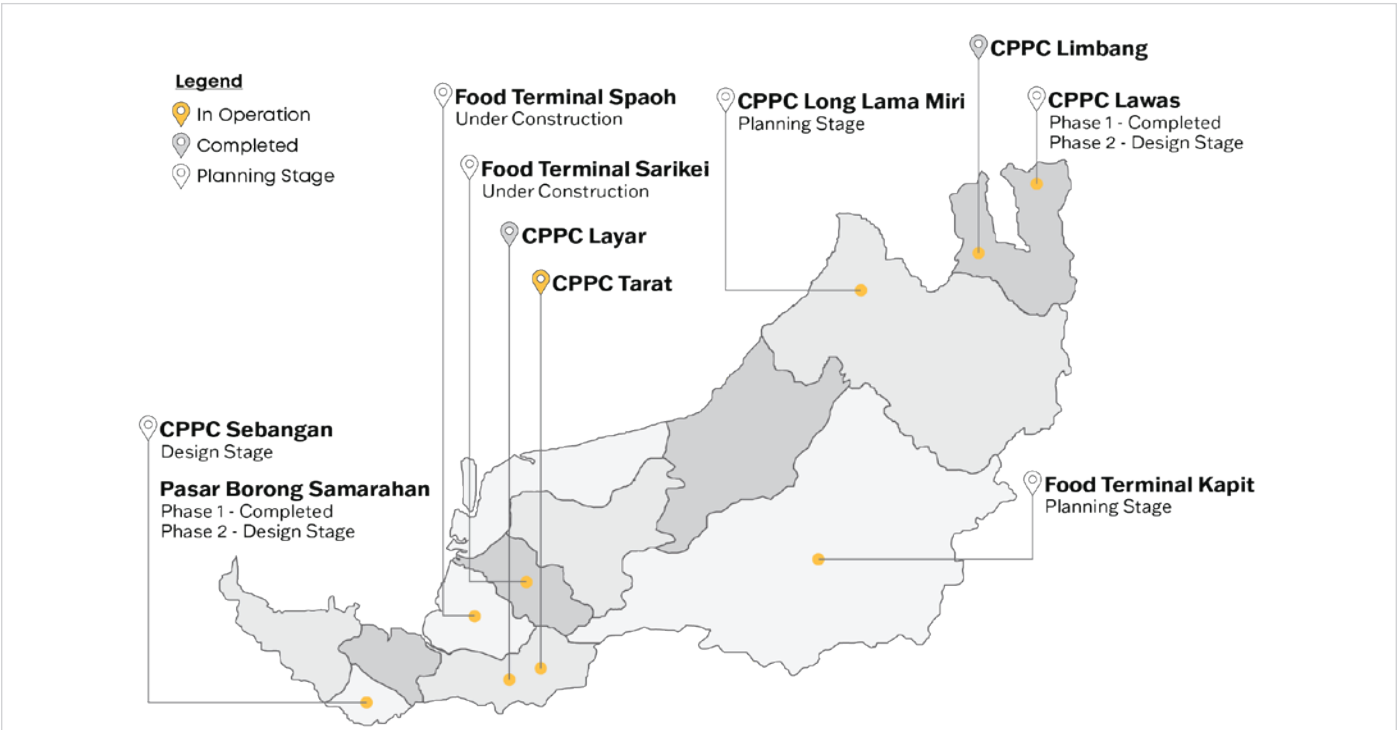


Aerial view of Sungai Baji Agropark, Sarikei dated 25 February 2024. (Source: M-FICORD)

COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND PACKAGING CENTRES IN SARAWAK

The construction and upgrading programme of the Collection, Processing and Packaging Centre (CPPC/Food Terminal) is a crucial development programme implemented by the Department of Agriculture under the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP). The programme aims to market agricultural productivity to other countries through collaboration with Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA), State Farmers' Organisation (SFO), and private parties to operate the CPPC/ Food Terminal.

Under 12MP, this programme will focus on food basket areas, Socio-Economic Transformation (SET) areas, and rural regions in Sarawak. Food basket areas are regions identified for agricultural production with the capacity to produce food crops. These areas are integral to the food supply chain, encompassing everything from farming and food collection to distribution. Socio-Economic Transformation (SET) areas are targeted by the the Sarawak Government for development initiatives aimed at improving living standards, stimulating economic growth, and creating a more equitable society. The primary role of the department in implementing this programme is to provide the necessary basic facilities in strategic areas that will be operated by the implementing parties to ensure the successful execution of this programme. The anchor operators will collect, process, and market agricultural produce, sourcing raw materials such as chilli, durian, and vegetables from local farmers. This collaboration will directly benefit local farmers by providing them with a reliable market for their produce.



Collection, Processing and Packaging Centers in Sarawak (CPPC/Food Terminal). (Source: M-FICORD)



The development of Food Terminal, Sungai Baji, Sarikei. (Source: M-FICORD)



Food Terminal in Limbang. (Source: M-FICORD)

PALM OIL & RUBBER

Palm Oil

Palm oil stands as Sarawak's second-largest commodity following liquefied natural gas, holding its position as Sarawak's primary economic driver within the agricultural sector for the past three (3) decades.

4 million tonnes
of palm oil exported
in 2023

RM14.3 billion
value in exports
in 2023

Source: DOSM

Rubber

Sarawak Rubber Industry Board (SARIB) was established under the Sarawak Rubber Industry Board Bill 2022 to strengthen the domestic rubber sector in Sarawak. The strategic initiatives include expanding rubber and latex production in key regions such as Sarikei, Betong, Sri Aman, Serian, Kota Samarahan, Bau, Lundu, and Sematan. The implementation also includes regenerative agriculture methods for farm rehabilitation, adopting innovative tapping systems, providing rubber production incentives, and enhancing trading regulations. This effort aims to strengthen Sarawak's position as a leading player in the global rubber market.

12,923 tonnes
of natural rubber exported
in 2023

RM78 million
value in exports
in 2023

Source: DOSM

165,895 hectares
certified planted areas
in 2023

30,862
smallholders
in 2023

Source: DOSM



Minister of Food Industry, Commodity and Regional Development (M-FICORD), YB Dato Sri Dr. Stephen Rundi Anak Utom, cum Chairman of Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) visited Saratok Palm Oil Mill (SAPOM) on 19 November 2023. (Source: SALCRA)

SWINE, RUMINANT AND FISHERIES PROJECT

Swine

The swine industry has been identified as an important initiative within PCDS 2030. It aims to increase the production of high-value commodities and livestock to position Sarawak as a net food exporter by 2030.

112,700
live porkers exported
in 2023

RM169.77 million
value in exports
in 2023

Source: DVS Sarawak

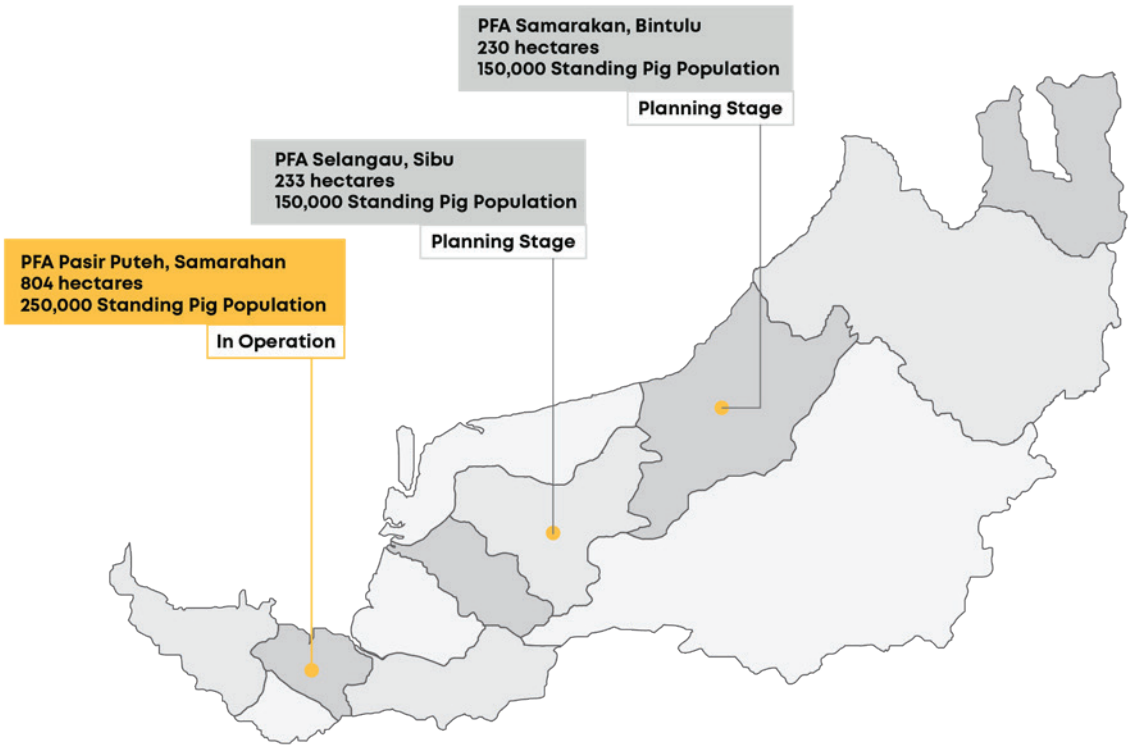


Workers in protective gear inspect and prepare carcasses on an automated line at the modern PFA Pasir Putih meat processing facility. (Source: M-FICORD)

Pig Farming Area Initiative

The objectives of the Pig Farming Area (PFA) include the transformation, modernisation, and centralisation of the pig industry. This involves implementing modern centralised waste treatment systems, relocating existing pig farms to control pig waste pollution, and prioritising enforcement of proper animal health disease control measures to ensure public health protection.

In September 2021, the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia officially approved and designated the PFA as an African Swine Fever (ASF) Compartment. Additionally, this accreditation was acknowledged by the Animal and Veterinary Services Singapore in January 2022, allowing the state to maintain its export of live swine, frozen, and chilled pork to Singapore. Furthermore, the farms within the PFA hold Malaysian Good Agricultural Practice (myGAP) certification, demonstrating compliance with Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP), while the abattoir at PFA Pasir Putih obtained the Veterinary Health Mark Logo in 2012.



Pig Farming Area initiative in Sarawak. (Source: M-FICORD)

Ruminant

10,885
heads of cattle produced
in 2023

9,482
heads of goats produced
in 2023

8,660
heads of buffaloes produced
in 2023

2,499
heads of sheep produced
in 2023

Source: DVS Sarawak

The strategy to improve the ruminant industries involves:

- Structuring a breeding programme
- Establishing a bio-livestock technology centre
- Adapting technology for insemination in cattle breeding programmes
- Implementing a cattle integration programme and
- Establishing a veterinary faculty to strengthen capability and capacity.

The Sarawak Government is actively fostering private sector investment in ruminant farming, with the strategic objective of elevating meat self-sufficiency from 12% to 25% by 2030. To realise this vision, Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA) has been entrusted with the mandate to establish a meticulously planned and structured cattle breeding programme, coupled with a cattle-oil palm integration initiative.

Currently, SALCRA oversees approximately 3,300 heads of cattle dispersed across several of their oil palm estates throughout Sarawak. As part of their expansion strategy, SALCRA is expected to increase the cattle population through the Cattle Pawah Programme, in collaboration with the DVS. In doing so, the Sarawak Government has allocated RM20 million for the importation of high-quality cattle stock.

To date, the successful execution of the Ruminant project has seen the importation of 1,861 head of premium breeder stock from Australia. Additionally, the World Organisation for Animal Health has recognised Sarawak's accomplishment in eliminating foot and mouth disease (FMD), opening doors for the export of ruminant livestock. This milestone underscores Sarawak's commitment to advancing its agricultural sector and securing its position as a key player in the global livestock market.


Cattles in Karabungan Station, Miri. (Source: M-FICORD)


Buffaloes in Meragang Station, Limbang. (Source: M-FICORD)


Artificial insemination for cattle being performed. (Source: M-FICORD)

Fisheries

The Aquaculture Industrial Zone (AIZ) is a strategic initiative aimed at fostering the growth of commercial scale aquaculture projects. This programme involves the demarcation of land and water bodies that have been deemed suitable for such developments. A total of three (3) AIZ have been approved for development, namely AIZ Batang Ai, Sri Aman, AIZ Rambungan, Lundu, and AIZ Sundar/Awat-Awat, Lawas.

In October 2023, a leading local joint venture company introduced three million Vannamei shrimp seeds into a new 12-hectare pond at Loba Stoh Aquaculture Park, Rambungan, Lundu. This initiative is projected to increase the shrimp production, with an expected yield of 100 tonnes valued at RM1.8 million in 2024. This production is forecasted to increase steadily in the subsequent years, reaching 260 tonnes (valued at RM4.7 million) in 2025, 420 tonnes (valued at RM8.3 million) in 2026, and 800 tonnes (valued at RM14 million) in 2027.

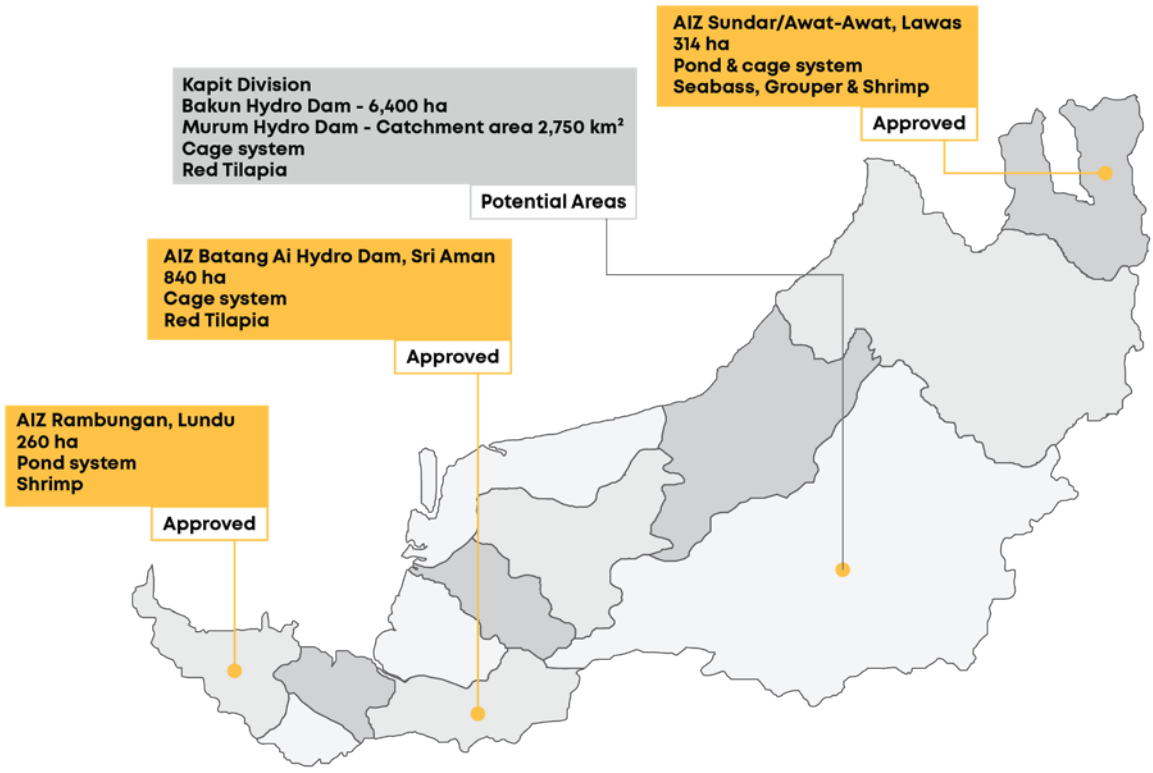


Aquaculture Industrial Zone, Batang Ai. (Source: M-FICORD)

7,773 tonnes
of aquaculture production from Freshwater Culture System
in 2023

RM94.74 million
wholesale value
in 2023

Source: DOA Sarawak



Aquaculture Industrial Zones. (Source: M-FICORD)



"TKPM aids participants by providing cultivation land and IoT. It supports small-scale agricultural entrepreneurs in urban areas, helping them generate income and expand land. With IoT and Smart Farming, participants can now monitor their crops online, transforming their farming operations."

Mr. Damian anak Lidang
Assistant Agricultural Officer
Program Taman Kekal Pengeluaran Makanan (TPKM)



"In 2022, I earned RM54,686 from planting various crops at TPKM Rampangi. It's time to teach modern farming techniques to longhouse residents. The Minor Rural Project (MRP) grant can fund Rain Protection Structures (RPS) for high-value crops via fertigation. I appreciate the guidance from DOA Sarawak officers."

Mr. Cooplay Nyipa anak Aji
Chairman for TPKM, Rampangi



"Thanks to our project focusing on planting salad and golden melons, we achieved a gross income of RM97,260 in 2023. It's been a rewarding journey, and I'm grateful for the success we've achieved."

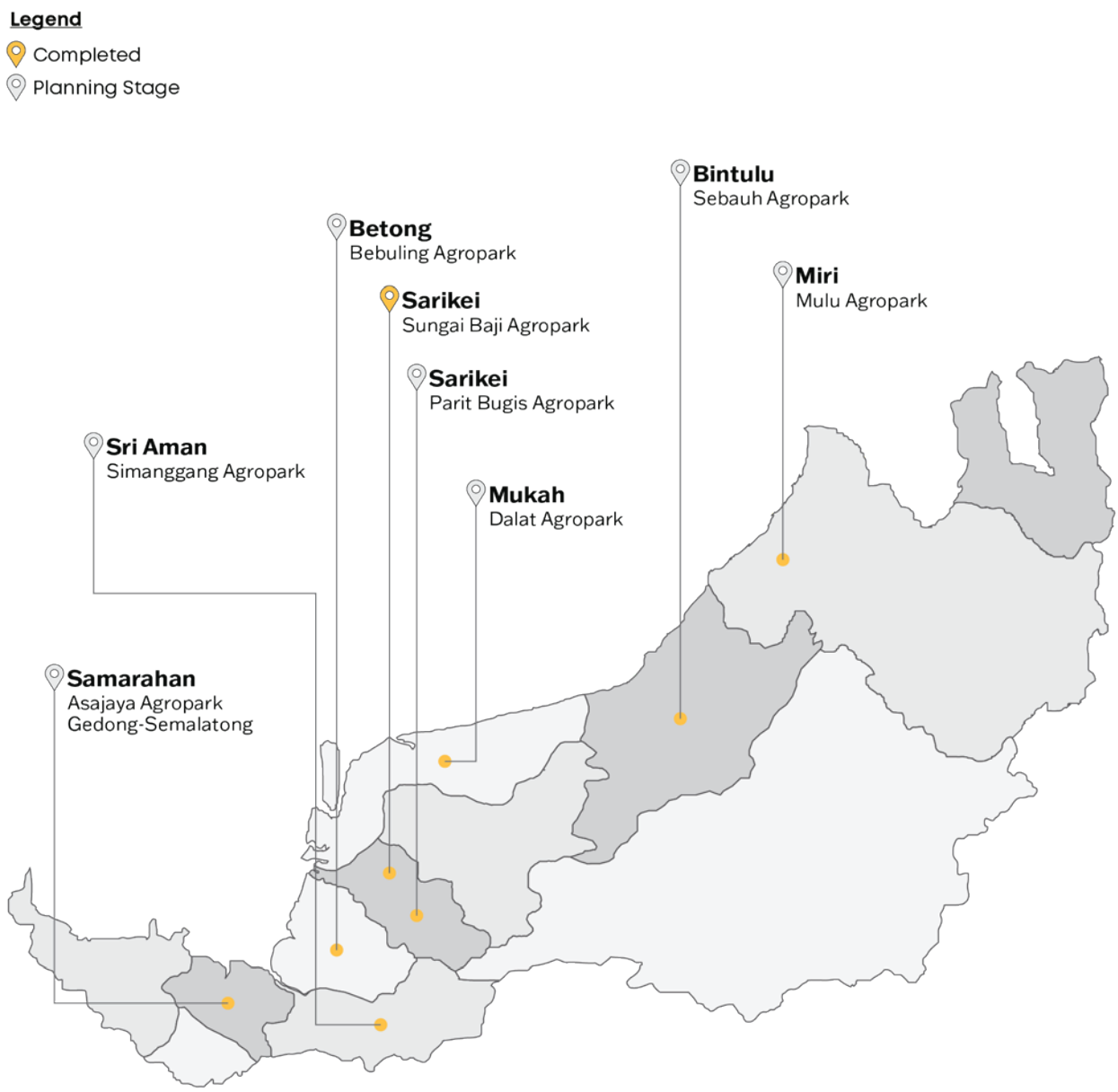
Mr. Yuan bin Amat
Local farmer



"I planted chilli and celery and earned RM68,061 in 2023. It's been a great experience, and I'm proud of what I've accomplished."

Mr. Bong Chee Kian
Local farmer

THE WAY FORWARD



Agro-parks developed by the Sarawak Government. (Source: M-FICORD)

Looking forward, the sector is committed to leveraging digital technology to optimise food production, with plans in place to implement IoT solutions within Agroparks and digitally revolutionise agricultural practices. The sector's key recommendations include actively committing to modernise agriculture, attracting and supporting young farmers, and driving the sector's industrialisation to effectively address the food trade deficit. Additionally, there are proposals to establish a dedicated fund to support smart agriculture projects, further aligning with the sector's objectives for innovation and sustainability.

In conclusion, the agriculture sector in Sarawak presents an attractive investment opportunity, supported by substantial government allocations towards its development and modernisation. The establishment of agroparks creates opportunities for private sector participation in cultivating suitable crops, with investors benefiting from Sarawak's commitment to sustainable agricultural practices.

TOURISM

2030 ASPIRATION

By 2030, Sarawak will be a leading destination for eco-tourism and business events in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Region driven by empowered communities to conserve heritage, culture and biodiversity and to promote investment and development through responsible actions.

3.9 million
visitors hosted in 2023

Source: MTCP

In 2023, Sarawak's tourism sector achieved a remarkable milestone by hosting 3.9 million visitors, which increased by over 93% compared to the same period in 2022, signalling a robust resurgence following the pandemic-induced downturn. In addition, Sarawak's tourism receipts doubled from RM5 billion in 2022 to RM9.99 billion in 2023.

The growth in tourism receipts for 2023 reached about 86% of the pre-pandemic levels in 2019, accounting for 7.11% of Sarawak's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the same year.



Top five countries visitor arrivals in 2023. (Source: MTCP)

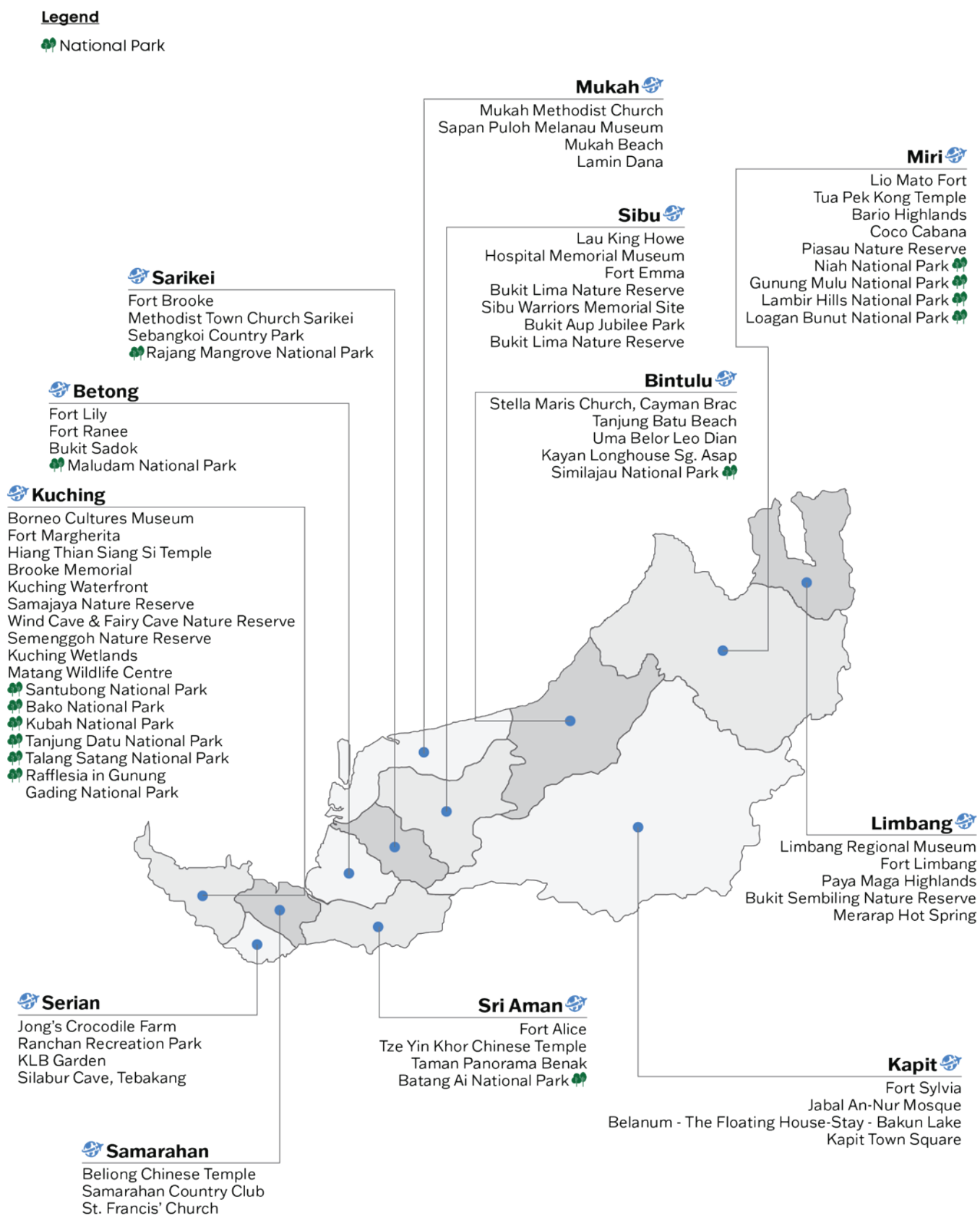
RM9.99 billion
estimated tourism receipts
in 2023

Source: MTCP



One of the performances during 2023's Niti Daun. (Source: MTCP)

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN SARAWAK



Tourist attractions by division. (Source: MTCP)

CULTURAL, ADVENTURE, NATURE, FOOD, AND FESTIVAL EVENTS

Sarawak Tourism Board (STB) has developed a comprehensive tourism strategy encompassing Culture, Adventure, Nature, Food, and Festivals (CANFF) to enhance the visibility of the 'Sarawak brand' in international and domestic markets. STB implements a multi-channel marketing strategy to promote Sarawak's CANFF tourism offerings to domestic and international markets. These include participating in travel trade shows, organising familiarisation trips for travel agents and media, and collaborating with tourism stakeholders to amplify marketing efforts. In addition, advertising and promotional efforts utilise digital marketing channels such as social media, search engine optimisation (SEO), content marketing, working with Online Travel Agencies and influencer partnerships to reach target audiences effectively. By implementing this holistic approach to tourism development, Sarawak can capitalise on its rich cultural heritage, stunning natural landscapes, delicious cuisine, and vibrant festivals to attract visitors seeking authentic and memorable travel experiences. Some of the CANFF events throughout 2023 are as follows.

Culture



The buffalo race at Pesta Badudun dan Lumba Kerbau 2023 in Limbang. (Source: MTCP)

Pesta Badudun dan Lumba Kerbau 2023

The annual *Pesta Badudun dan Lumba Kerbau 2023* was held from 19 May 2023 to 21 May 2023 at Kampung Lubok Sigantang, Limbang. Organised by the Persatuan Melayu Limbang, the event has attracted over 8,000 visitors from Sarawak and Sabah, including international guests from Brunei Darussalam. The event highlights the arts and culture of the local communities in Limbang, featuring traditional performances such as *memukun, hadrah*, and *silat*, alongside a showcase of regional cuisines and delicacies. The event's highlight is the buffalo race, a traditional competition designed to strengthen community bonds and promote unity among participants.

Adventure



The 2023 Miri Marathon commenced at 6:00 AM at Taman Bulatan, Miri. (Source: MTCP)

Miri Marathon 2023

Entering its fifth edition, the Miri Marathon 2023 was held on 19 March 2023, at Taman Bulatan, Miri. Miri Marathon has grown into an iconic long-distance running event, drawing a diverse range of local and international participants. In 2023, a total of 5,628 runners participated, with an impressive 30% coming from abroad, including countries such as Australia, China, Brunei, Indonesia, Kenya, Singapore, UK, and US. With its courses certified by World Athletics and membership in the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS), the Miri Marathon has gained a prominent position on the international marathon calendar.

Nature

Sarawak Delta Geopark

A 'geopark' is an area marked out because it has important geological features. These features are recognised for their significant geological heritage value. Sarawak Delta Geopark (SDGp) is the first geopark established in Sarawak and was officially recognised by the Malaysian National Geopark Development Programme in June 2022. Located in the southwestern part of Sarawak, the Geopark covers an area of approximately 3,112 km² (311,246 hectares).

SDGp is endowed with a unique rock landscape (27 geosites), biological diversity (12 biosites) and culture (14 cultural sites).

SDGp has a rich geological heritage, with formations ranging from 25 million to 2 million years old. It is also home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, including mangrove forests, riverine forests, and coastal ecosystems. SDGp was approved by the Sarawak Government in November 2019 and launched on 9 April 2021. Having been recognised as the sixth National Geopark on 20 June 2022, Sarawak hopes that SDGp will successfully obtain recognition as a UNESCO Global Geopark (UGGp).

Homestays and Kampungstays in Sarawak

The tourism sector continues to thrive, with new developments in homestays and kampungstays. In 2023, two (2) new homestay clusters were registered: Kampung Sadir in Padawan, comprising five (5) families, and Kampung Terbat Mawang in Serian with 12 families. Homestay programmes offer tourists immersive local experiences. Guests reside with the host families, engaging in daily community life and participating in diverse cultural activities, traditional sports, and outdoor pursuits.

As of 31 December 2023, Sarawak boasts a total of 50 homestay clusters and two (2) kampungstay clusters. These accommodations are supported by 699 homestay providers, offering a combined total of 1,498 rooms for travellers. The growth of these clusters contributes significantly to Sarawak's vibrant tourism industry.

A total of 229 participants from homestay operators, park guides and Regional Specific Tourist Guides participated in 10 various training courses conducted in 2023 which include Digital Marketing Training, Hospitality Training, Event Management Training, Crafts Workshop, Safety and Life Saving Skills and advanced course on Geosite of West Sarawak. These courses were conducted mainly to enhance the competency standards of product owners and frontliners.



Cultural activities with guests from Finland at Uma Belor Homestay in Belaga. (Source: MOTAC)



"By undergoing the Event Management Training, I have learnt a lot including the necessary knowledge and skills in planning, organising and judging various events. We were also indirectly exposed to interpersonal skills such as time management and creative thinking."

Doremi Binti Zaini
Santubong Homestay Coordinator

Food



Visitors of Kuching Food Fest 2023. (Source: Kuching South City Council)

Kuching Food Fest

Kuching Food Fest is an annual event organised by Kuching South City Council to commemorate Kuching being elevated as a city on 1 August 1988 while promoting local tourism and the food industry.

In 2020, Kuching City was recognised by the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in gastronomy, making it the very first city in Malaysia to be recognised by the world-renowned body. Kuching boasts a rich and diverse culinary scene rooted in Borneo's biodiversity and multicultural heritage. While preserving traditional gastronomy, the city is also modernising its food system. This evolution encompasses agricultural practices and food services, fostering creativity and new revenue opportunities for local food providers.

The Kuching Food Fest 2023 featured roughly 330 stalls and attracted 1.1 million visitors over 24 nights. Ample activities were lined up for the whole month to attract locals and tourists alike, with the Food Fair being the most anticipated event besides the Trade Fair, Nightly Entertainment, Garden Show, Zumba Fiesta, Kuching Got Talent, International Friendship Cities Night, Mayor's Walk and many more.

Festival



One of the night concerts held during the 2023 Rainforest World Music Festival. (Source: MTCP)

Rainforest World Music Festival

The Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) stands as one of Sarawak's most iconic music events. Held annually in Kuching, Sarawak, this festival celebrates the rich tapestry of culture, music and nature by bringing together diverse global cultures under one roof, showcasing their musical heritage. In 2023, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the twenty-sixth RWMF demonstrated resilience by attracting 19,180 visitors, signifying its triumphant post-pandemic recovery. Nestled within the Sarawak Cultural Village, the iconic event, held from 23 to 25 June 2023, continued its legacy of embracing diversity, fostering cultural exchange, and preserving the world's rich musical heritage.

The festival showcased a wide range of daytime activities such as workshops and performances as well as nighttime concerts for festival-goers. It featured 199 musicians from 12 countries, across four (4) continents performing a diverse range of music genres, including Grammy Award winner, Gipsy Kings featuring Tonino Baliardo from France and such hits as 'Djobi Djoba' and 'Bamboleo' sets. Forging ahead in 2024 with the theme 'Evolution', the festival aims to emphasise 27 years of world rhythm that celebrates the power of reflection and exploration, fostering a sense of connection to the past, present and future.

In 2023, RWMF made a spillover to Damai Craftsworld & Events Centre (DCEC) capturing a total of **19,180 festivalgoers**

RWMF 2023 featured **45 food and drink stalls**, **64 arts and crafts stalls**, and earned approximately **RM690,000** in total over the three-day festival.

STB was recognised as the **'Most Percussionists in a Music Festival'** in the Malaysia Book of Records with a count of **2,763 percussion instruments played.**

LIST OF SARAWAK'S 2023 CANFF EVENTS

Event Title	Event Organiser	Venue
Culture		
Pesta Kebudayaan Kedaya Telang Usan 2023	Telang Usan District Office & Kedaya Telang Usan Development Committee, Baram	Kampung Long Mekaba, Kedaya Telang Usan, Baram
Pesta Badudun dan Lumba Kerbau	Divisional Tourism Task Group (DTTG) Limbang	Kampung Lubok Segantang, Limbang
Pesta Babulang dan Lumba Kerbau kali ke-18 2023	DTTG Limbang	Batu Danau Arena, Limbang
Irau Aco Lun Bawang 2023	DTTG Limbang	Lawas City Square, Arena Lawas Hotel Seri Malaysia
Kapit Dayak Cultural Festival	Kapit Resident Office	Kapit Town Square
Adventure		
Silabur Ultra Trail 2023	Serian Resident Office	Silabur Cave, Serian
Kejohanan Tinju Terbuka Sarawak 2023 (Edisi ke-2)	Persatuan Tinju Amatur Negeri Sarawak	Indoor Stadium Sri Aman
Layar Cycling Carnival Edisi ke-5 2023	Layar Cycling Carnival Committee	RTC Layar, Betong
Safari Rakit Baleh Kapit (SRBK) Edisi ke-26 2023	DTTG Kapit	Rumah Lucy, Ng. Lanang, Katibas, Song
2023 Borneo International Kite Festival (16th Edition)	Bintulu Authority Development	Old Airport Site, Bintulu
Festival		
Pesta Tatau 2023	Tatau Resident Office	Taman Komuniti Sungai Jatan
Pesta Daro 2023	Daro Resident Office	Tapak Pesta Daro and around Daro Market
Borneo Cultural Festival	Sibu Municipal Council	Tun Tuanku Bujang Square Phase I and Phase II
Pesta Lada Julau	DTTG Sarikei	Pakan Sports Stadium
Pesta Saratok 2023	Saratok Resident Office	Saratok
Food		
Miri Food Festival 2023	Miri City Council	Kipas Square and Dewan Suarah, Miri
Pesta Makanan Betong 2023	Betong Resident Office	Medan Lake Square (Betong Night Market)
Pesta Nanas dan Buah-Buahan Sarikei Edisi ke-18	DTTG Sarikei	Dewan Suarah Sarikei

CANFF events in 2023. (Source: MTCP)

SARAWAK-MALAYSIA MY SECOND HOME



Launching of the Sarawak-Malaysia My Second Home - Management and Online Application System (S-MM2H MOAS). (Source: MTCP)

Sarawak-Malaysia My Second Home (S-MM2H) Programme is a programme to allow foreign visitors who fulfil certain criteria to stay in Sarawak with a multiple entry visa. Since the adoption of this S-MM2H programme, the ministry has approved a total of 2,286 participants from 2007 up to 2023.

Criteria of S-MM2H application:

1. Age eligibility
   - 30 to 49 years old with children studying at Sarawak, long-term medical treatment OR with investment in real estate property in Sarawak and 50 years old and above.

2. Financial Proof (Fixed deposit placement mandatory)
   - Fixed Deposit: RM150,000 (individual) & RM300,000 (Couple).
   - Pension fund/offshore income: More than RM7,000 (individual), RM10,000 (couple) offshore income OR Pension/Savings as proof RM50,000 (Individual)/RM100,000 (couple).
   - Liquid Asset: Only for 30 to 49 years old category with investment in real estate property in Sarawak (RM600,000).

The Sarawak - Malaysia My Second Home - Management and Online Management System (S-MM2H-MOAS) began operations on 1 June 2023, where submissions were processed online by the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts (MTCP) and the Immigration Department of Malaysia, Sarawak. The S-MM2H-MOAS application allows applicants and Agent Representatives to submit forms online, where the system generates a unique reference number and sends a confirmation email to the registered address. Applicants can track their status on the Integrated Service Management (ISM) platform.



"I've been participating in this programme since February 2023. Malaysia, particularly Sarawak, has been a great fit for us. The climate and food here are wonderful. What truly stands out to me is the people's ability to steadfastly adhere to their thoughts and express themselves without worrying about judgement. Since coming to Malaysia, especially Sarawak, I feel incredibly relaxed being able to express my own opinion and act on it."

Takahiro Shimanuki
S-MM2H participant from Tokyo, Japan



"I've been here since 10 March 2017. We chose Sarawak because we like the weather and find the communication, culture, and safety here very satisfying. The diverse range of cuisines available here is significant and abundant. The medical facilities in Sarawak, including clinics, government hospitals, and private hospitals, offer relatively affordable prices with only a one-time payment for medical fees, which is very different from China."

Xu Zhi Hong
S-MM2H participant from Shanghai, China

BUSINESS EVENTS

Up to 2023, the sector secured 50% of the 97 events with a strong legacy impact (Return on Operations) that focuses on sectoral, economic, social, environmental and governance. Additionally, 37 new homegrown events were secured in 2023, solidifying Sarawak's position as a business event destination and attracting future investment. The homegrown events were estimated to have generated an additional RM86.8 million in economic impact and welcomed 42,262 delegates, further propelling growth and also acting as our destination ambassador.

Looking ahead, Business Events Sarawak remains committed to driving further growth, solidifying the sector's position as a cornerstone of Sarawak's development and contributing to a thriving and prosperous future for Sarawak.

107 events
successfully hosted in 2023

RM333.7 million
generated in economic impact

40,699
delegates and exhibitors participated

26,484 jobs
created

138,584
total delegate days reached

Source: Business Events Sarawak

Land, Air and Sea Getaway Initiatives

Bonus Side Trip	A joint campaign with Malaysia Airlines (MH) to boost the arrival and promotion of Sarawak by incentivising MH passengers to fly to a selected domestic destination within Malaysia for free including Kuching, Sibu, Bintulu and Miri. 588 passengers had taken up the Bonus Side Trip (BST) and the top destinations were Kuching and Miri.
Discover New Malaysia in Malaysia	A campaign with Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) targeting Korean families, Flexible Independent Travel (FIT) travellers, golfers, international students and Korean residents in Sarawak. 349 customers purchased the Sarawak packages in 2023.
AirAsia Campaign	A campaign to encourage Malaysians to fly into Sarawak from Johor Bahru, Kuala Lumpur, Kota Bharu, Penang and Kota Kinabalu. The number of AirAsia passengers increased by 20.4% which is equivalent to 7,830 pax and a total of 39,152 pax during the campaign week in May 2023.
Indonesia AirAsia Campaign	With the inaugural flight from Jakarta to Kuching on 15 June 2023, STB together with Indonesia AirAsia worked on a campaign to promote the Jakarta-Kuching route. This promotion organised from September to December 2023 resulted in an average Indonesia AirAsia passenger load factor at 86%.
Scoot	STB partnered with Scoot to increase awareness and enhance Kuching and Miri as a short travel distance getaway for Singaporeans. The campaign exceeded the target for seat bookings by 64%, selling a total of 1,637 seats, 579 in Miri and 1,058 in Kuching. The original target was 1,000 seats, with 200 for Miri and 800 for Kuching. The campaign ran from 10 to 19 October 2023.

INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION

Throughout the post-pandemic years, Sarawak has been proactive in gaining visibility on the global stage. By showcasing its unique culture, natural beauty, and sustainable practices as well as positioning itself as a forward-thinking destination committed to responsible development, Sarawak attracts tourists, investors, and business partners.



Hong Kong agents and Media Visit to Kuching. (Source: MTCP)

Familiarisation Trips

STB supported local trade partners with a familiarisation trip in Sarawak for six (6) Finnish agents as well as two (2) other trips from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Besides that, STB also partnered with Royal Brunei Airlines and Tourism Malaysia to bring travel operators and media partners to introduce them to tourism products in Sarawak, ultimately enabling them to create more Sarawak tourism packages. A total of four (4) trips were organised with participants from Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and China.



Sarawak's delegation at the Internationale Tourismusbörse Berlin 2023 led by the Minister for Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts, YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah. (Source: MTCP)

Trade Fairs

STB has stepped up efforts to build stronger relationships with trade partners to boost confidence in Sarawak as a leading tourism destination. By participating in trade fairs at source markets, Sarawak can connect with tour operators, special interest operators, and tourism-related buyers interested in its CANFF offerings.


Business networking session at the Sarawak-Now More Than Ever Roadshow 2023 in Sydney on 6 June 2023. (Source: MTCP)

Product Updates, Business Networking Sessions and Roadshows

STB organised and participated in Product Updates or Business Networking Sessions to increase efforts in establishing rapport with trade partners and growing Sarawak's presence in the marketplace. These initiatives assisted in promoting the destination and providing its local buyers with information about Sarawak.


Sarawak delegation at CIFTIS 2023 Sarawak Pavillion. (Source: MTCP)

Consumer Fairs

Consumer travel fairs provide a key opportunity to engage with travelers and get direct feedback on Sarawak's tourism products and services. They also allow observation of how tour operators promote the destination and help explore marketing strategies to grow their business in Sarawak.

THE WAY FORWARD

By actively engaging in regional collaborations and positioning itself as a responsible tourism destination, Sarawak sets a positive trajectory for sustainable growth and prosperity in the years ahead. MTCP has also identified some important key focus initiatives for the year 2024.

Significant Initiatives

Marketing Sarawak through Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore, Sarawak Trade, Tourism Office Brunei and Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Pontianak	With the presence of the Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore (STATOS) in Singapore, it is an ideal opportunity to market Sarawak to both Singaporeans and expatriates based locally. Tourism opportunities in Sarawak include leisure as well as business events in Sarawak. Likewise, Sarawak is in the midst of setting up the office for Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Brunei (STATOB) in Brunei and is planning to establish the Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Pontianak (STATOP) in Pontianak in order to boost visitor arrivals and economic spin-off, particularly in the Health Tourism sector. Indonesia and Brunei are the main health tourism revenue contributors while China is seen as the next potential source for market diversification.
Continuous capacity building for industry players	The Sarawak Government, through MTCP, continuously invests in capacity building and harnessing the skills and knowledge of tourism industry players. In 2024, Sarawak will organise 20 capacity-building programmes targeting 800 participants for industry players covering the area of hospitality, guest service, gastronomy, food and beverages, housekeeping, digital marketing and tourist guides.
Utilisation of digital and smart tourism through the Sarawak Travel App and S-MM2H-MOAS	In line with Sarawak's digital economy agenda, Sarawak is the first region in Malaysia to fully embrace the digitalisation of the tourism industry with the launch of the new and improved Sarawak Travel Portal and application in December 2022, towards creating an end-to-end experience for tourists. Created to promote tourism attractions and products, the 'Sarawak Travel' application uses cutting-edge technologies such as Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality components, giving users total control over what they can see of Sarawak's CANFF offerings. Additionally, S-MM2H-MOAS was launched in 2023 to handle daily operating functions including submission and processing of applications by MTCP and Immigration Department of Malaysia, Sarawak.
Support festivals, homegrown events, and legacy-driven business events, Sarawak Hornbill Tourism Awards 2019-2023	The Sarawak Hornbill Tourism Awards, held every two (2) years by MTCP Sarawak, along with the Sarawak Tourism Federation, recognise individuals and organisations that have excelled in promoting Sarawak as a leading tourist destination. The awards celebrate achievements in sectors such as hospitality, eco-tourism, and cultural preservation, while also encouraging further innovation within the industry.
Position Sarawak as a responsible tourism destination	To position Sarawak as a pioneer in Responsible Tourism initiatives and a leading destination for eco-tourism and business events in Southeast Asia, the Sarawak Government through MTCP, has developed Sarawak's Responsible Tourism Blueprint. In line with the PCDS 2030, the blueprint and roadmap will serve as a guide for tourism and hospitality stakeholders to act responsibly for the well-being of the people and tourism sustainability.

Leverage on initiatives under the regional collaboration of:

1. **Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area.** The Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) member countries continue to forge strong partnerships to improve the ease of doing business and seek to resolve issues that affect the region whereby Malaysia here covers Sarawak, Sabah and Labuan where MTCP is the lead cluster of Joint Tourism Development for Malaysia.

2. **East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism Federation.** East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism Federation (EATOF) was founded in Gangwon Province, South Korea in 2000 to enhance collaboration and cooperation among ten member provinces to promote tourism from Northeast and Southeast Asian provinces. Through this platform, Sarawak hopes to develop sustainable tourism cooperation as well as strengthen partnerships and collaboration in promoting regional tourism through event and festival performances, programs, and trade fairs.

3. **SOSEK MALINDO.** Sosial Ekonomi Malaysia-Indonesia (SOSEK-MALINDO) is a bilateral social-economic cooperation between Sarawak, Malaysia and Kalimantan, Indonesia with the main objective of accelerating the growth within the border areas relating to the health sector, joint tourism promotion, cultural and sports events, education and various tourism-related activities.

SCAN FOR SARAWAK TOURISM CALENDAR 2024

FORESTRY

2030 ASPIRATION

By 2030, Sarawak to be globally recognized in sustainable management of tropical forest and biodiversity conservation while enhancing the rapid growth of timber industry.

32.5 million
trees were planted in Sarawak from 2021 to 2023

Source: FDS

The forestry sector aims to be globally recognised in sustainable management of tropical forest and biodiversity conservation while enhancing the rapid growth of timber industry. Various initiatives have been implemented such as Forest Management Certification (FMC) and the implementation of forest landscape restoration (FLR) throughout Sarawak. FMC supports the Sarawak Government's commitment to sustainable forest management (SFM). It is an important tool to promote and achieve SFM as well as provide a conducive trading environment for tropical timber. The Sarawak Government has made it mandatory for all long term forest timber licences to be certified by 2025. Up to December 2023, 68% of the area has been certified.

The Sarawak Government aims to enrich logged-over areas with high-value timber species; restore and rehabilitate degraded forests; alleviate livelihood of forest-dependent communities; and reduce pressure on natural forests by shifting timber production towards plantations of indigenous fast-growing species such as *Neolamarckia cadamba* (Kelampayan), *Octomeles sumatrana* (Binuang), *Cratoxylum sp.* (Geronggang), and *Duabanga moluccana* (Sawih). From January to December 2023, 33,473 hectares have been restored.

The Sarawak Government also supports the Malaysian Greening Programme which targets to plant 100 million trees by 2025. Sarawak is committed to plant 35 million trees as part of this goal. A total of 11.8 million trees were planted from January to December 2023, contributing to a cumulative count of 32.5 million trees planted and recorded under the programme from 2021 to 2023.

1,115 hectares
Total Degraded Areas Restored in 2022

3,240 hectares
Total Degraded Areas Restored in 2023

Source: FDS

To diversify revenue streams and enhance sustainability, Sarawak's forestry sector has taken proactive measures to strengthen forestry laws and focus at facilitating forest carbon activities. The State Sales Tax (SST), introduced in 2023, aims to increase local timber processing. This move highlights the sector's focus on sustainable growth and economic strength. The approach supports the Sarawak Government's goal to reach RM8 billion in export earnings by 2030.

Moreover, Sarawak's aspirations of seeking global recognition for sustainable forestry practices are rooted in conservation and protection, with subsequent emphasis on enhancing social and economic development, particularly through eco-tourism development. Initiatives include the inscription of Niah National Park as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Site and the aspiring Sarawak Delta as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

In 2023, the Niah National Park underwent a technical assessment from UNESCO's Advisory Body, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the Sarawak Delta endorsed as a national geopark in 2022. Additionally, strides were made in forest restoration, policy improvements for forest revenue, and conservation efforts, reflecting Sarawak's commitment to sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation.

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION THROUGHOUT SARAWAK



The members of the community come together to collectively select and sort Engkabang seeds at Sabal Nursery, Simunjan. (Source: FDS)

In June 2020, the Sarawak Government sanctioned a Forest Landscape Restoration Programme (FLR) with an initial five-year investment of RM62 million, signalling a dedicated effort towards sustainable forestry and ecosystem revitalisation. The programme actively involves local communities, who play a crucial role in the restoration efforts. Through various initiatives, community members are engaged in planting native tree species, maintaining nurseries, and monitoring forest health. These activities not only foster environmental stewardship but also provide livelihoods and build capacity within the communities, ensuring long-term sustainability and resilience.

A major milestone in 2023 for FLR activities was the planting of 11.7 million trees, covering an area of 16,401 hectares. This achievement was complemented by 72 planting campaigns and collaborations throughout the year. Moreover, the FLR initiatives have had a positive socio-economic impact, creating 215 jobs for local communities. These jobs include roles such as daily-paid workers in nurseries, planting and maintenance tasks, and purchasing seeds and wildings, contributing to the local economy and community welfare.



"I want to thank FDS for the employment opportunities. The Restoration project in Sabal Forest Reserve has been a great source of income for us. With an average of 25 to 30 villagers employed monthly, earning between RM750 and RM1,200, this project has made an impact on our livelihoods. We appreciate your efforts to ensure its continuity in the future."

Juli anak Sagi
Tuai Rumah,
Sabal Community

Research and development (R&D) efforts in FLR have also progressed, with two (2) significant projects conducted. These include the establishment of a model plot and the growth assessment of an FLR plot at Sabal. Additionally, three (3) Seed Production Areas for high-value indigenous species, consisting of 150 selected mother trees, were established, ensuring the availability of quality seeds for future FLR activities. These efforts are instrumental in supporting Sarawak's innovative FLR approach, which was recognised with the Gold Award at the Malaysia Technology Expo 2023.

Infrastructure improvements have been crucial in supporting FLR Model Areas and Centres of Excellence. Two (2) major infrastructure projects were completed through Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) Sarawak, including road improvements at Sabal and enhancements to nursery facilities at Sarikei.

BAMBOO INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT



A member of the community maintaining a bamboo clump at STIDC's Sabal Bamboo Trial Plot Plantation.(Source: STIDC)

Since 2016, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to spearhead the development of bamboo based industry to supplement timber and to create high value-added bamboo products for Sarawak. Four (4) main industries have been identified based on the potential of the bamboo species, namely biomass, bamboo panels, food, and bamboo handicraft.

STIDC has established the bamboo nursery and trial plots at Sabal and Tanjung Manis in 2018 and 2022 which serve as models for future bamboo plantation and research hubs. Holding nurseries have also been established in Kota Samarahan, Bintulu, and Miri.

Expected Outcomes:

- Establishment of bamboo plantations covering 10,000 hectares by 2030, with the goal of generating RM200 million in export earnings.
- Produce 500,000 bamboo seedlings by 2025, contributing to RM3 million in sales.
- Job creation for 1,500 households through bamboo-related activities.
- Policy framework focuses on promoting the sustainable use of bamboo resources
- Commitment to sustainable forestry practices aims to enhance the environment.

From 2018 until March 2024, about 3,673 hectares of bamboo plantation has been established with the participation of communities and commercial entities while 310,796 seedlings have been produced.

STIDC aims to establish 10,000 hectares of plantations and to produce at least four (4) million seedlings by 2030 through community and commercial engagement. These initiatives aimed to ensure sustainable bamboo (raw material) supplies for the industry, enhancing silviculture management, unlocking business potential, and encouraging investment in bamboo manufacturing.



The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg and YB Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan's visit to Sabal Bamboo nursery in conjunction with the official opening of Sabal Bamboo Pilot Project on 15 June 2019. (Source: STIDC)

MANAGEMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTION FOR TOTALLY PROTECTED AREAS

Efforts have been made to manage and strengthen the protection of Totally Protected Areas (TPAs). The integrity of these TPAs has been secured through cadastral perimeter surveys of boundaries, ensuring their preservation and protection. The journey towards the development of 30 Management Plans (MPs) by 2030 commenced with the creation of a detailed roadmap, which included budget considerations. In 2023, two (2) strategies were adopted through the development of six (6) MPs. The process includes data collection, site visits, stakeholder and public consultations, and internal and external peer reviews before finalising each MP.

The development and implementation of MPs are set to guarantee effective on ground management of these TPAs. The focus extends beyond the protection and conservation of the TPAs, aiming to also benefit the socioeconomic development of the surrounding communities.

The comprehensive protection of intangible conservation values of forest goods and services is being ensured through cadastral perimeter surveys of boundaries for 27 selected TPAs by 2030. Cadastral surveys were successfully completed for Lambir Hills National Park and Gunung Apeng National Park, with the completion of one MP for Lambir Hills National Park. Additionally, five (5) MPs for Limbang Mangroves National Park, Kuching Wetland National Park, Semenggoh Nature Reserve, Fairy Cave Nature Reserve, and Wind Cave Nature Reserve are in various stages of progress, aiming for completion by the first quarter of 2024.

The cadastral survey for Sabal National Park is scheduled for completion, while three (3) MPs are in progress for development which are Loagan Bunut National Park, Gunung Gading National Park, and Piasau Nature Reserve.

"Stakeholder engagement by SFC enlightens the significance of Kuching Wetland for the community and its reciprocal benefits. It enriches the community's knowledge on sustainable planning and development."

Suffian bin Sabeli
ABF Circle Company, Eco Tourism Boat Operator (Telaga Air-Satang), and Kuching Wetland National Park Special Park Committee member from Kampung Telaga Air, Sarawak



"The Fairy Cave and Wind Cave in Bau hold significant value for the local community. Enhancing engagement with locals and various stakeholders in Wind Cave and Fairy Cave management planning will ensure the sustainability and success of programmes aimed at effective management of these astonishing places and empowering the locals."

Benjamin H. Ottot
Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Fairy Cave Nature Reserve and Wind Cave Nature Reserve Special Park Committee Member

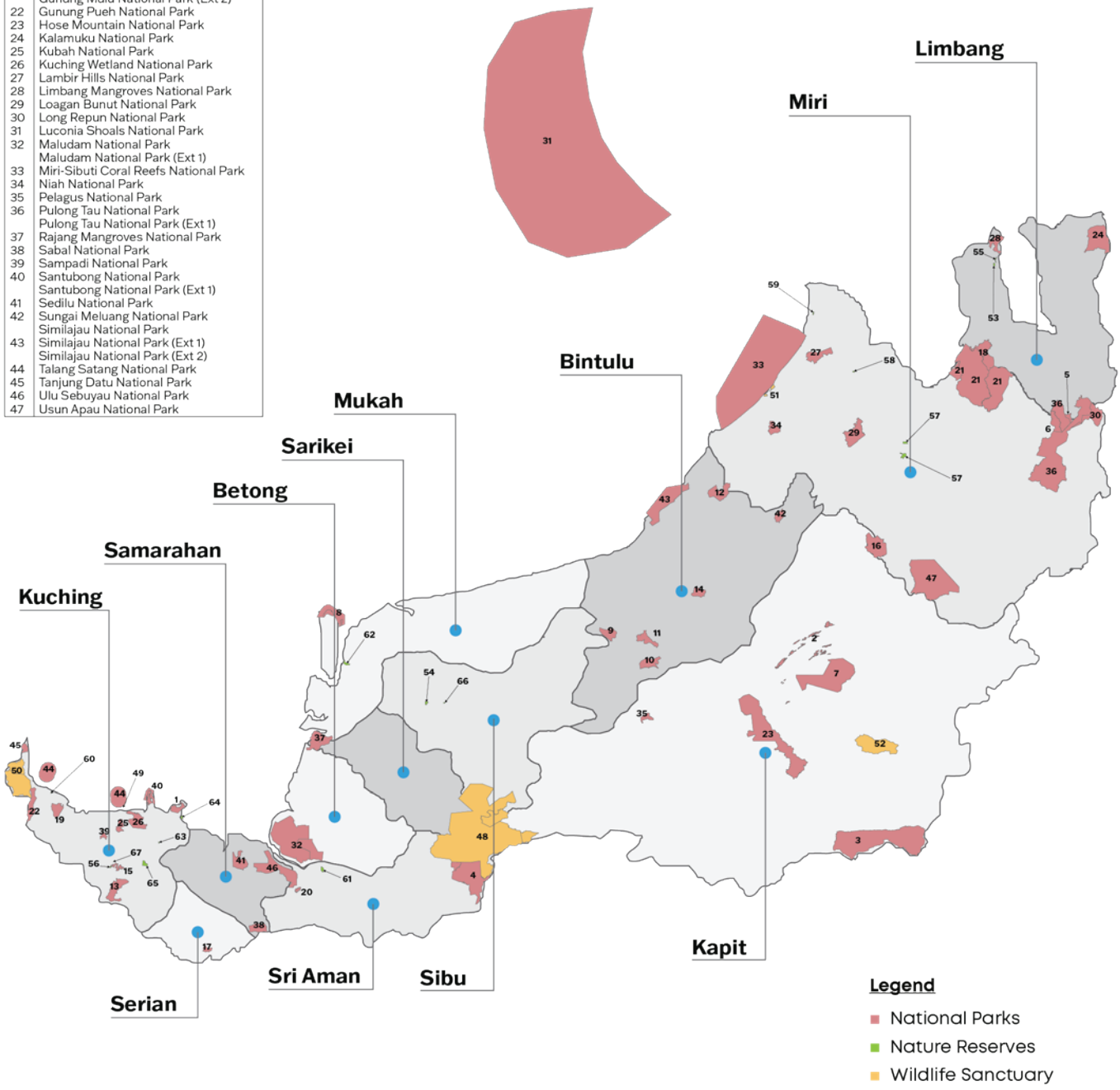
GAZETTED TOTALLY PROTECTED AREAS

NATIONAL PARKS	
No.	Name
1	Bako National Park
2	Bakun Islands National Park
3	Baleh National Park
4	Batang Ai National Park
	Batang Ai National Park (Ext 1)
5	Batu Buli National Park
6	Baru Iran National Park
7	Batu Laga National Park
8	Bruit National Park
	Bruit National Park (Ext 1)
9	Bukit Kana National Park
10	Bukit Mersing National Park
11	Bukit Sarang National Park
12	Bukit Tiban National Park
13	Bungo Range National Park
14	Danau Mujan National Park
15	Dered Krian National Park
16	Dulit Range National Park
17	Gunung Apeng National Park
18	Gunung Buda National Park
	Gunung Buda National Park (Ext 1)
19	Gunung Gading National Park
20	Gunung Lesong National Park
21	Gunung Mulu National Park
	Gunung Mulu National Park (Ext 1)
	Gunung Mulu National Park (Ext 2)
22	Gunung Pueh National Park
23	Hose Mountain National Park
24	Kalamuku National Park
25	Kubah National Park
26	Kuching Wetland National Park
27	Lambir Hills National Park
28	Limbang Mangroves National Park
29	Loagan Bunut National Park
30	Long Repun National Park
31	Luconia Shoals National Park
32	Maludam National Park
	Maludam National Park (Ext 1)
33	Miri-Sibuti Coral Reefs National Park
34	Niah National Park
35	Pelagus National Park
36	Pulong Tau National Park
	Pulong Tau National Park (Ext 1)
37	Rajang Mangroves National Park
38	Sabal National Park
39	Sampadi National Park
40	Santubong National Park
	Santubong National Park (Ext 1)
41	Sedilu National Park
42	Sungai Meluang National Park
	Similajau National Park
43	Similajau National Park (Ext 1)
	Similajau National Park (Ext 2)
44	Talang Satang National Park
45	Tanjung Datu National Park
46	Ulu Sebuyau National Park
47	Usun Apau National Park

NATURE RESERVES	
No.	Name
53	Bukit Hitam Nature Reserve
54	Bukit Lima Nature Reserve
55	Bukit Sembiling Nature Reserve
56	Fairy Cave Nature Reserve
	Fairy Cave Nature Reserve (Ext 1)
57	Kejin-Tugang Nature Reserve
58	Mud Volcano Nature Reserve
59	Piasau Nature Reserve
	Piasau Nature Reserve (Ext 1)
60	Pulau Perepat Nature Reserve
61	Pulau Seduku Nature Reserve
62	Pulau Tun Ahmad Zaidi Nature Reserve
63	Sama Jaya (Stutong) Nature Reserve
64	Selabat Mudflats Nature Reserve
65	Semenggoh Nature Reserve
66	Tun Ahmad Zaidi Nature Reserve
67	Wind Cave Nature Reserve

WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES	
No.	Name
48	Lanjak-Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary
	Lanjak-Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary (Ext 1)
49	Pulau Tukong Ara-Banun Wildlife Sanctuary
50	Samunsam Wildlife Sanctuary
	Samunsam Wildlife Sanctuary (Ext 1)
51	Sibuti Wildlife Sanctuary
52	Sungai Jelangai Wildlife Sanctuary

TPAs	Land Area (hectares)	Marine (hectares)	Total Area (hectares)
47 National Parks	645,254.00	1,234,726.00	1,888,980.00
15 Nature Reserves	3,478.13	0.00	3,478.13
5 Wildlife Sanctuaries	225,791.40	0.00	225,791.40
Total Area	874,523.53	1,234,726.00	2,118,249.53



Map of Totally Protected Areas (TPAs) in Sarawak. (Source: SFC)

INSCRIPTION OF NIAH NATIONAL PARK AS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE


The Great Cave of Niah National Park.(Source: FDS)

The inscription of Niah National Park as a UNESCO World Heritage Site holds significant importance both locally and globally. Niah Caves represent one of the most important archaeological sites in Southeast Asia, providing invaluable insights into human prehistory. The caves have yielded evidence of human occupation dating back tens of thousands of years. As a UNESCO site, Niah National Park shall receive recognition and protection, ensuring the preservation of its cultural and historical significance for future generations

UNESCO World Heritage Site recognition is aligned with Sarawak's vision for sustainable development and economic prosperity. Stakeholders can work together effectively to enhance local participation, boost tourism, and advance towards becoming a developed nation which started with the submission of the tentative list in January 2021. The nomination process for the UNESCO world heritage list has involved numerous stages of coordination with stakeholders, engagement and awareness programmes with the local community, and online campaigns and promotions.

In 2024, significant progress was made in the forestry sector, particularly with the inscription of Niah National Park.

The site underwent a technical assessment by UNESCO's Advisory Body, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). The Niah Tourism Management Plan was developed, providing comprehensive guidelines for the sustainable management and development of the park.

Additionally, a thorough dossier was submitted to UNESCO, advocating for the park's recognition as a World Heritage Site.

If successful, this nomination will result in Niah National Park being inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, affirming its outstanding universal value and ensuring its long-term preservation and global promotion. Proactive measures were also implemented through an Integrated Conservation Management Plan, involving all relevant stakeholders to protect and conserve the site. Moreover, a Technical Evaluation Mission was conducted by ICOMOS at Niah National Park to verify that its Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) align with the contents of the dossier, marking a significant milestone in the nomination process.

Upon inscription, Niah National Park expects increased funding, tourism, and local economic growth. The Sarawak Government provides funding and protective measures, supported by UNESCO, Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs), and academia. In addition, the Niah Bridge Buggy Project aims to enhance access and preserve OUV, ensuring compliance with Environmental Impact Assessment-Health Impact Assessment (EIA-HIA) requirements for UNESCO recognition.

SARAWAK DELTA GEOPARK

Sarawak Delta Geopark (SDGp) was recognised as the sixth National Geopark on 20 June 2022. SDGp is now moving towards obtaining UNESCO Global Geopark status by 2026, positioning itself as a premier geotourism destination. Spanning 3,112 km², SDGp encompasses Kuching District, Bau District, Padawan Subdistrict, and Siburan District, with comprehensive efforts underway, including awareness programmes, engagement sessions, and capacity building initiatives. To meet UNESCO criteria and ensure sustainable development, the Sarawak Government is developing a SDGp Management and Development Plan 2040, emphasising on sustainable economic growth, environmental preservation, and community engagement.



Map of SDGp. (Source: MUDeNR)

"SDGp aims for UNESCO Global Geopark status by 2026, focusing on governance, document preparation, infrastructure development, and public engagement. Progress is steady with stakeholder support and aiming to boost global recognition through concerted efforts."

Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr. Ibrahim Komoo
Vice President, UNESCO Global Geopark Network

Geotourism activities are projected to boost revenue, while increased local community participation is expected to result in an increase of 30% in new homestay clusters

Additionally, achieving UNESCO Global Geopark recognition by 2026 will promote engagement from the public and tourists with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), enhancing environmental conservation efforts.

In 2023, the SDGp project achieved several key milestones. These milestones include increasing public awareness and visibility by producing a corporate video, publications, and installing signage, in accordance with the UNESCO criteria. Progress in governance was seen with the initiation of the Geopark Development and Management Plan. Capacity building efforts included benchmarking visits and participation in conferences. Research and development were strengthened through expeditions and workshops, while engagement sessions fostered collaboration with communities and industry stakeholders.

THE WAY FORWARD

The Sarawak Government is enhancing forest management to maintain the forestry sector's revenue contributions. Initiatives such as landscape restoration, management certification, and plantation programmes aim to improve the economy, promote inclusivity, and ensure sustainability. These efforts will secure raw materials for the wood-based industry and help combat climate change. The sector is also exploring forest carbon trading as a new revenue source, balancing economic and environmental needs.



Community members loading seedlings onto a four-wheel drive vehicle as part of the forest landscape restoration project at Sabal Forest Reserve, Simunjan. (Source: FDS)

Timber and Non-timber Forest Products

Sarawak also aims to achieve RM8 billion in export earnings by 2030 from timber and non-timber forest products. This involves transitioning the timber industry towards high-value processing, particularly in furniture, engineered wood, and bamboo-based products. Additionally, the bamboo development programme is expected to ensure a continuous supply of raw materials for industries in Sarawak.

Furniture Park

The proposed furniture park at Demak Laut, Kuching, located near key infrastructure, is intended to attract new investments to Sarawak. The 50-hectares Phase 2D Demak Laut site has been designated for development, attracting investments worth RM330 million, creating 2,200 jobs and generating an annual export value of RM320 million.

International Recognition for Sustainable Practices

In line with the forestry sector's goal of gaining international recognition for its sustainable practices, Sarawak will continue to enhance facilities and management within its TPAs. Formulating comprehensive management plans for TPAs will enhance conservation and protection efforts. International recognition, such as UNESCO World Heritage Site and UNESCO Global Geopark status, can offer numerous benefits to Sarawak, including heightened protection, increased tourism opportunities, and employment creation.

MINING

2030 ASPIRATION

A transformed mining sector that optimises all mineral reserves with a robust value chain by sustainability and innovation by 2030.

20.8%
contribution of the Mining (Oil & Gas and Minerals) to Sarawak's GDP in 2023

Source: DOSM

The mining sector in Sarawak, including petroleum and natural gas mining, as well as mineral mining and quarrying made a noteworthy contribution of RM57.1 billion, equivalent to 36.6% of Sarawak's gross value output in 2021. Meanwhile, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) generated from Sarawak's mining and quarrying sector in 2023 has amounted to RM1.48 billion, representing a contribution of 21% and marking a 5.7% increase compared to the preceding year (exclusive of import duty). In 2023, the mining industry contributed RM8.76 billion in revenue to the Sarawak Government, comprising royalty collections, State Sales Tax (SST), and dividend payments.

The mining industry in Sarawak has significantly contributed to the economy by creating approximately 6,000 job opportunities from all sectors as of 2023.

RM4.03 billion
SST received from Mining sector in 2023

RM2.86 billion
Royalties received from Mining sector in 2023

RM1.87 billion
Dividends payment from Mining sector in 2023

Source: MUDeNR

Sarawak has a diverse range of valuable mineral resources that are crucial for the energy and manufacturing industries. The current estimated value of these mineral deposits is approximately RM1.25 trillion, spread over an area of roughly 39,824 km^2 or 4 million hectares (representing 32% of Sarawak's total area). Studies have been conducted to map the geological presence of these mineral resources.

The Sarawak Government is working to explore mining reserves and attract private investment. This involves developing geological maps and creating policies and guidelines to encourage private sector exploration. Collaborative efforts with other agencies are underway to provide key infrastructure and facilities. These efforts aim to support industry growth, streamline mining activities, and develop effective business models.



Quarry site at Gunung Sibanyis KM24.8 Kuching-Senan Road, Kuching, Sarawak. (Source: MUDeNR)

THE MINING AND QUARRYING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN 2035

The Mining and Quarrying Economic Development Master Plan 2035 (MQMP 2035) is a roadmap designed to revolutionise the mining and quarrying industry in Sarawak. MQMP 2035 is aimed at transforming the economic landscape of Sarawak by enhancing productivity, promoting downstream activities of high value, and establishing new industries. The focus is on drawing both private and foreign investments, developing mineral resources, optimising land use, and strengthening industries through infrastructure development.

SARAWAK MINERAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT MASTER POLICY AND GUIDELINES

The preparation of Sarawak Mineral Industry Development Master Policy will commence in 2024 and is projected to be completed in 2025.

The master policy is designed to provide comprehensive policies and guidelines that will facilitate the successful implementation of MQMP 2035. The Mining and Quarrying Master Policy is set to be implemented in 2026. The policy serves as an extensive guide for the development of the mining industry, covering key areas such as investment, resource development, land use, infrastructure, social responsibility, safety, and environmental sustainability. It provides a framework that includes:



Resources Database



Regulatory Environment



Infrastructure and Logistics



Workforce Development



Institutional Framework



Sustainable Mining Development



Investor Outreach and Strategic Development

GEOLOGICAL MAPPING: SARAWAK MINERAL EXPLORATION PROJECT

Under PCDS 2030, the Sarawak Government is conducting geological studies and mapping for an area of approximately 31,474 km^2 or 3 million hectares (25.3% of Sarawak's total area) that has not yet been explored, with an estimated cost of RM300 million. An allocation of RM26 million has also been approved by the Sarawak Government under the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP), and as of 2023, an area of 667.8 km^2 has been studied with a physical survey.

The Sarawak Government has requested increased funding from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability of Malaysia (NRES). This allocation, designated for the Department of Minerals and Geosciences Malaysia's Sarawak branch, aims to facilitate more comprehensive mineral resource studies in Sarawak. These geological investigations and mappings are crucial for informed land use planning and mineral-based industry development.

DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CAPACITY FOR MINING INDUSTRY

The development of human capital for the mining industry will be implemented from 2024 until 2030.

The mining industry requires a workforce with a diverse range of expertise and skills, from professional levels to semi-skilled and unskilled levels. One critical factor influencing private investment is the ease with which the industry can access a labour supply possessing the requisite skills and expertise.

In light of this, the Sarawak Government will undertake the development of the workforce through strategic collaborations with selected educational and vocational institutions.

DOWNSTREAM MINERAL-BASED INDUSTRY

Downstream mineral processing is a strategy to enhance the value of a country's commodities. Through downstream processing, exported commodities are no longer in their raw form but have been transformed into semi-finished and finished products. Domestic processing of mineral raw materials adds value and provides more significant benefits for the people of Sarawak.

In terms of industrial development, the Sarawak Government is currently striving to attract foreign investors to develop industries based on silica sand minerals, specifically for the manufacture of photovoltaic glass used in solar power generation (green energy), and limestone for the clinker and cement industry. In addition, the government is also studying the potential of industries based on high-value strategic minerals, namely Non-Radioactive Rare Earth Elements (NR-REE). NR-REE is required in various manufacturing industries such as magnetics, phosphors, ceramics, metal alloys, and defence.

BAU GOLD PROJECT

Gold mining activities in the Bau region have been underway since the 1800s. The last gold mine in operation was closed in 1997 due to the fall in the price of gold in the market.

In 2021, Besra Gold Inc (Besra), through its subsidiary North Borneo Gold Sdn Bhd (NBG), announced on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) the discovery of 3.3 million oz gold in the Bau area, and has placed Sarawak the thirteenth in Asia for the largest gold deposits. The in-ground value of gold is estimated to be RM24.3 billion.

This estimated reserve has been validated according to international standards, namely the Joint Ore Reserve Committee (JORC) and National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101), which are standards used by Australia and Canada. The estimated investment from the upstream industry is projected to be RM1.38 billion. The entire ecosystem of the Bau Gold Project industry is expected to create 500 – 1,000 job opportunities in various fields, skills, and expertise.



Source: EPU Sarawak

OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT

The Sarawak Government continues to drive sustainable development of its oil and gas industry through its State-owned oil and gas company Petroleum Sarawak Berhad (PETROS). Since its incorporation in 2017, PETROS has grown rapidly into the third largest oil and gas equity producer in Malaysia.

PETROS is actively involved in upstream activities through its subsidiary, Petroleum Sarawak Exploration and Production Sdn Bhd (PSEP). So far in 2023, in the offshore realm, PETROS has forged partnerships with oil majors from several countries to participate in seventeen Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) off the coast of Sarawak, offshore Malaysia.



PETROS signed several upstream agreements (PSC/JOA/LOU) in February 2023, formalising its participation in six (6) Sarawak Exploration Blocks marketed under the Malaysia Bid Round 2022. (Source: PETROS)

In October 2023, PETROS commemorated the first Onshore Drilling at SK433 Adong Kechil West in Miri underscoring PETROS' commitment to rejuvenating exploration onshore Sarawak and drive early commercialisation of onshore oil and gas discoveries to spur Sarawak's socio-economic growth.

The natural gas produced from Adong Kechil West field will be supplied to Miri Hub, as part of the Sarawak Gas Roadmap (SGR), for the 500 MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power plant, that has commenced earthworks at Lutong in Miri, and is on track to begin operations in 2027.

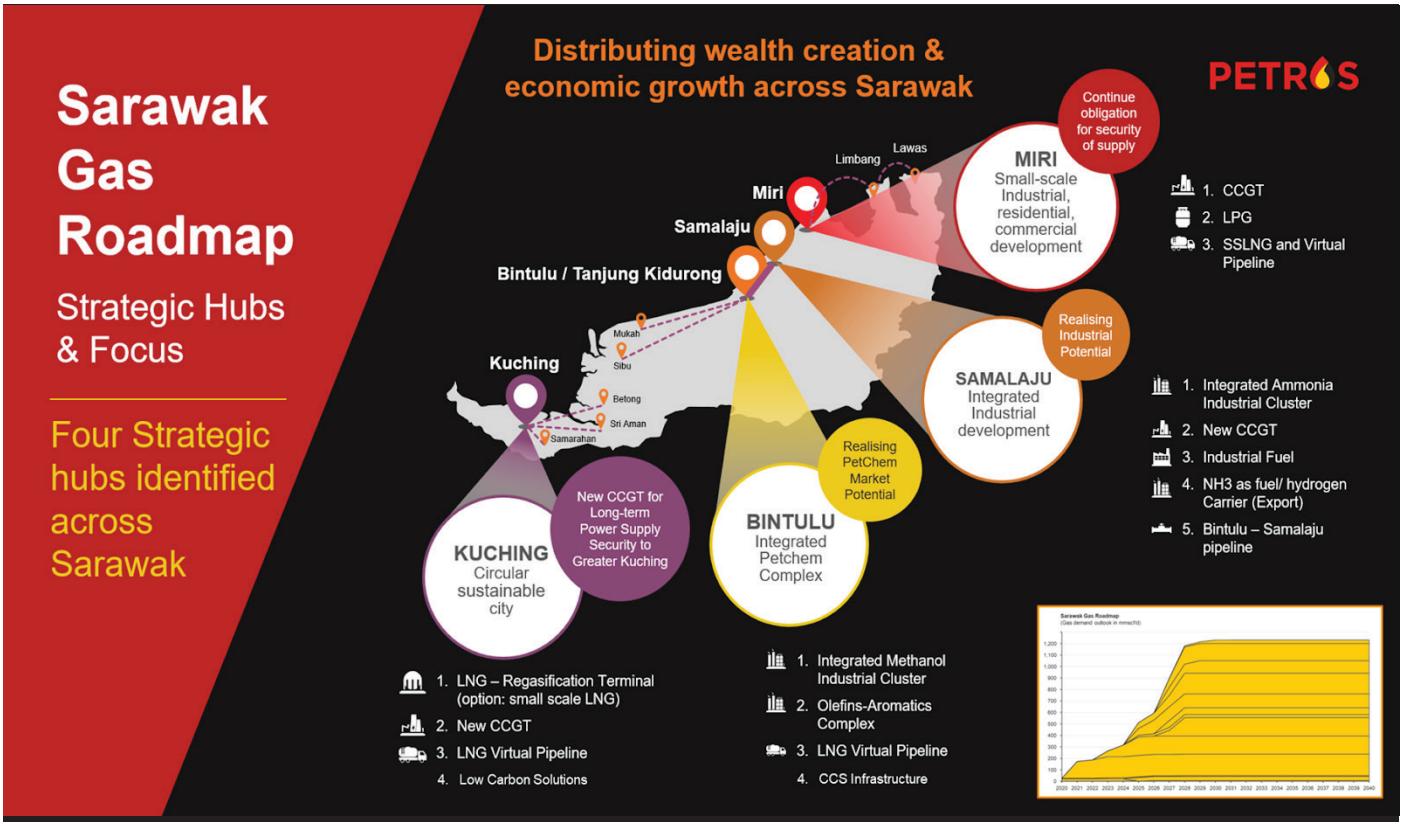


First onshore drilling at the SK433 block in Miri. (Source: PETROS)

Sarawak Gas Roadmap

The Sarawak Gas Roadmap (SGR) launched in 2019 is a 10-year roadmap aimed at utilising natural gas to drive socio-economic transformation for Sarawak. SGR aims to drive gas-based development and infrastructure across Sarawak. The SGR, focusing on four (4) strategic hubs in Kuching, Miri, Bintulu and Samalaju, will enable PETROS to promote greater utilisation of natural gas through the expansion of Sarawak's existing gas distribution network and infrastructure.

Through SGR, PETROS aims to increase domestic gas usage from about 6% currently to about 30% by 2030, ensuring a long-term supply of affordable and cleaner energy for the people of Sarawak.



The blueprint for Sarawak Gas Roadmap. (Source: PETROS)

Investment opportunities in Samalaju: Integrated industrial development	• Industrial cluster (e.g. iron & steel, ceramic, rubber, building materials, etc.) • New CCGT plant • Integrated ammonia-urea complex • Ammonia as hydrogen carrier (for export) • Bintulu-Samalaju gas pipeline
Investment opportunities in Miri: Light industrial, residential, commercial development	• New CCGT plant • Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) • Small scale Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and LNG trucking networks • Light industries
Investment opportunities in Bintulu: Integrated PetChem Complex	• Methanol cluster (e.g. acetic acid and other methanol derivatives) • Olefins-aromatics complex (with integrated mixed feed cracker and condensate splitter) • Clean ammonia • Liquefied Natural Gas trucking network • Industrial cluster in Mukah and Sibu

Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage

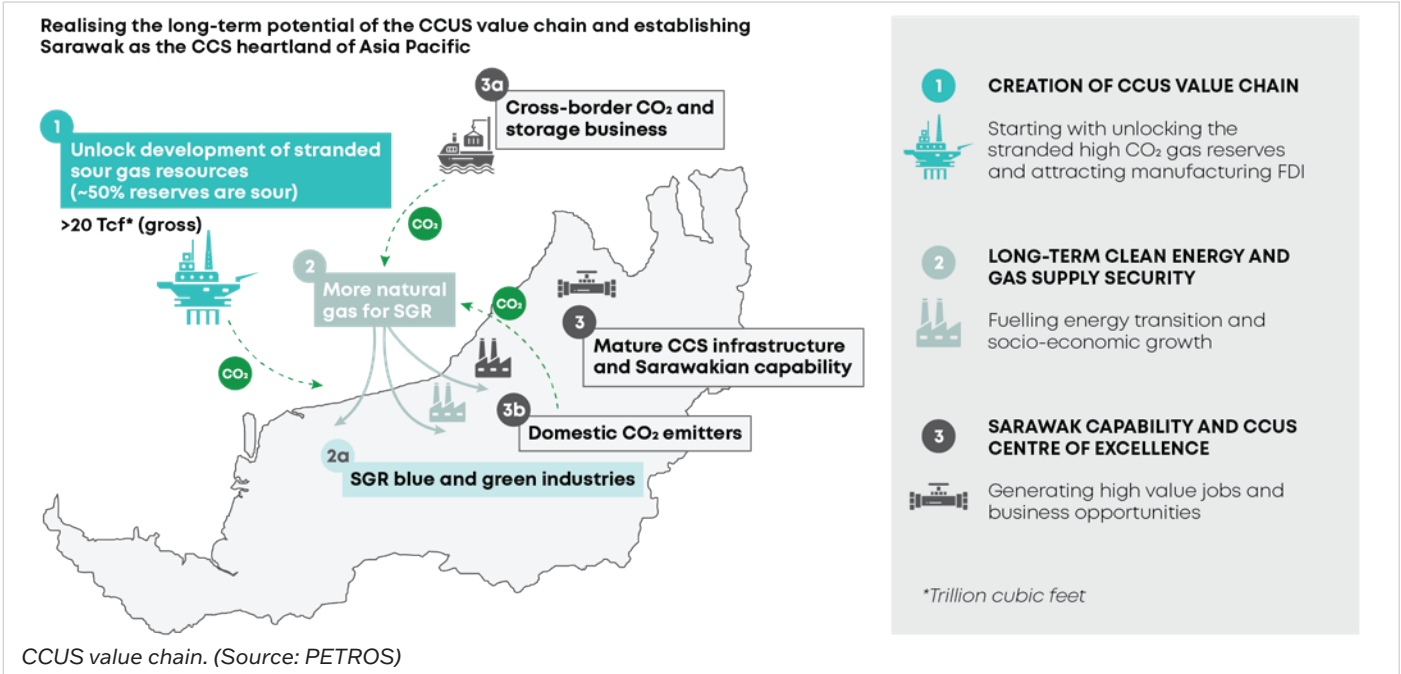
Sarawak's abundant natural gas production and reserves provides it with the inherent advantage to realise long-term potential of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) value chain, positioning Sarawak as the regional low-carbon solutions hub.

As the appointed resource manager for Sarawak's natural Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) resources, PETROS was issued the first licence for carbon storage in March 2023 to drive the development of CCUS infrastructure in unlocking and commercialising the development of stranded sour gas reserves offshore Sarawak into gas production and sales.



In March 2023, PETROS was issued the first license for carbon storage. (Source: PETROS)

The additional gas unlocked by CCUS can ensure long-term energy and gas supply security for Sarawak, complementing the energy transition for Sarawak and Malaysia. Down the line, the base CCUS infrastructure established to enable the sour gas field development can be further expanded to allow other carbon dioxide (CO_2) emitters, both local and foreign, to capture and store CO_2, to reduce the greenhouse warming effect and enabling the realisation of a net carbon-zero economy. These infrastructure expansions, in turn, will create business opportunities to operate CCUS infrastructures, generating revenue for Sarawak's economy, whilst further developing local capabilities.



CCUS value chain. (Source: PETROS)

THE WAY FORWARD

Under the purview of the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDeNR), Sarawak is embarking on transformative initiatives aimed at enhancing its natural resource management and economic sustainability.

Mining and Quarrying Economic Development Master Plan 2035

MQMP 2035 sets out the strategy and roadmap for the mining and quarrying industry in Sarawak. The Masterplan aims to enhance productivity, foster high-value downstream activities, and develop new industries within the mining sector. It is centred around attracting both private and foreign investment, developing mineral resources, optimising land use, and strengthening industries through infrastructure development.

The Master Plan also underscores the importance of social responsibility, intensive policies for the upstream industry, human resource development, safety, and environmental sustainability. To facilitate the Master Plan's objectives, the Sarawak Government is also developing the Mining Industry Policy as a comprehensive guideline for mining industry development. It covers crucial areas such as investment, resource development, land use, infrastructure, social responsibility, safety, and environmental sustainability.

Sarawak Minerals Information System

MUDeNR will develop the Sarawak Minerals Information System. This electronic system will comprise functional tabs for service delivery, geological mapping, mineral data, investor resources, general information, publications, reports, promotions, internal monitoring analytics, and contact nodes.

The Path to a Low-Carbon Future

The ministry also aims to transition Sarawak's economy to a low-carbon future through SGR and Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage initiatives. Driven by PETROS, these initiatives are set to increase Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) while reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and creating greater job and business opportunities for Sarawakians. The development of SGR will advance Sarawak's sustainable downstream economic and industrial hubs through the expansion of the State's gas distribution network, the establishment of new physical and virtual gas pipeline systems, and the construction of new CCGT plants. These efforts will increase access to affordable and clean energy while ensuring the security of gas supply for Sarawak.



"Several miners have conducted rehabilitation according to the approved Rehabilitation Plan. The Department's Report and Mine Compliance Auditing Report highlight Sarawak's substantial reserves of various minerals. We propose research and development (R&D) activities to diversify the applications of minerals like gold, bauxite, silica sand, ball clay, and rare earth elements (REE). Overall, we are satisfied with compliance with mining laws and regulations in Sarawak."

Ir. Juna Azleen bin Abdul Ghani
Assistant Director (Mining and Quarry),
Department of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia (JMG)

SOCIAL SERVICES

2030 ASPIRATION

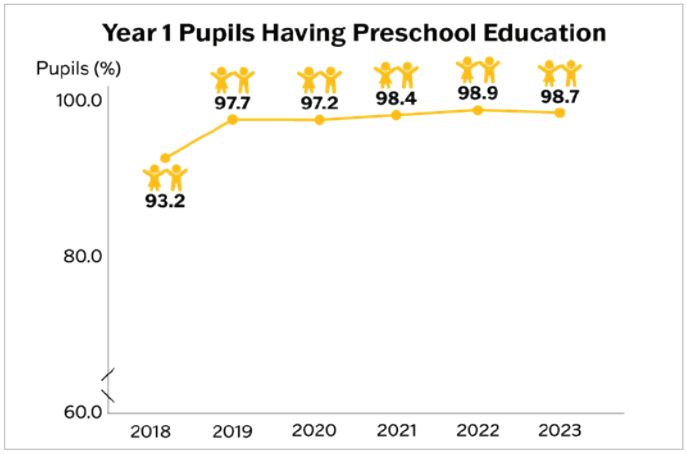
By 2030, Sarawak will have a healthy, inclusive and thriving society with high living standards having access to affordable and quality services delivered innovatively.

7.18/10
on the 2023 Sarawak Social Wellbeing Index

Source: KPWK

The Sarawak Government's urban renewal programme focuses on reducing poverty and improving citizens' wellbeing. The Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government (MPHLG) and the Ministry of Women, Early Childhood, and Community Wellbeing Development (KPWK) aim to create inclusive, health-conscious communities through innovative service delivery. Sarawak is working to narrow urban-rural development gaps, enhance economic integration, and promote community participation for sustainable development, supporting its vision of social inclusivity.

Sarawak's Affordable Housing Projects exemplify the state's commitment to housing affordability and social well-being. From 2021 to 2023, 796 units of affordable public housing were completed to improve societal well-being by ensuring more individuals and families have access to safe and affordable living spaces.



Enrollment rate for Year 1 children in preschool education (2018-2023). (Source: KPWK)

Simultaneously, Sarawak saw a 99% enrollment rate for Year 1 children in preschool and kindergarten education during the 2023/2024 session. Public preschool enrollment accounted for 98.8% of students, while private preschool enrollment stood at 98.3%.

By investing in housing, welfare, education, and holistic well-being, Sarawak ensures its citizens thrive physically, mentally, and socially. The commitment of the Sarawak Government to sustainable community well-being reflects its vision of a high-income, developed state that thrives on inclusivity and resilience. The Sarawak Social Wellbeing Index in 2023 stands at 7.18/10, reflecting a moderate to high level of well-being.



Minister for Public Health, Housing and Local Government, YB Datuk Amar Professor Dr Sim Kui Hian, presents the HDAS mock cheque to a recipient during its handover ceremony. (Source: MPHLG)

ONE-STOP EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRE

In 2020, KPWK established the One-Stop Early Intervention Centre (OSEIC) in Metrocity, Kuching. OSEIC aims to address the developmental, health, and support needs of babies and young children diagnosed with autism, down syndrome, or learning disabilities under one roof, the first of its kind in Malaysia.

This centre plays a crucial role in ensuring early intervention and holistic care, exemplifying Sarawak's commitment to nurturing every child. This centre was established with a RM4 million grant under the Petroliam Nasional Berhad (PETRONAS) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme in 2020. The Sarawak Government has also allocated a total of RM11 million to support the operations of OSEIC in Kuching and Dalat for the next five (5) years. This collaboration demonstrates how public-private partnerships can pool resources and expertise to create impactful solutions.

In 2023, a total of 82 children graduated from OSEIC Kuching while OSEIC Dalat saw nine (9) children graduating, summing up to 91 total graduates from both centres.

A total of 11 of the 82 children from OSEIC Kuching have successfully been enrolled in the mainstream for Primary 1, while the rest were placed in *Program Pendidikan Khas Integrasi* (PPKI) and *Sekolah Kebangsaan Pendidikan Khas*. Mainstream education for children with less severe special needs aims to foster inclusion and socialisation. It provides opportunities for these children to interact with their typically developing peers, fostering acceptance, understanding, and empathy among all children. Additionally, mainstream education offers a diverse and inclusive environment where special needs children can learn essential life skills, including independence, problem-solving, and self-advocacy.

OSEIC is strategically expanding its reach to better serve the northern region in Sarawak. Plans are underway to establish a new branch in Miri, with operations expected to begin in October 2024. Miri was chosen to also accommodate registrations from Limbang, Lawas and Baram. Additionally, the Sarawak Government has invested in the training of existing OSEIC staff and therapists at Kuala Lumpur-based schools for special education Genius Kurnia and the Sarawak Dyslexia Association, ensuring quality services for the children.



OSEIC Kuching's children with their teachers. (Source: KPWK)



A peek inside one of the rooms at OSEIC Dalat. (Source: KPWK)



"Now, my son can talk non-stop and he remembers every place that he's been to. He asks a lot of questions and is very curious. Thanks to OSEIC, I am more confident in putting him through primary school."

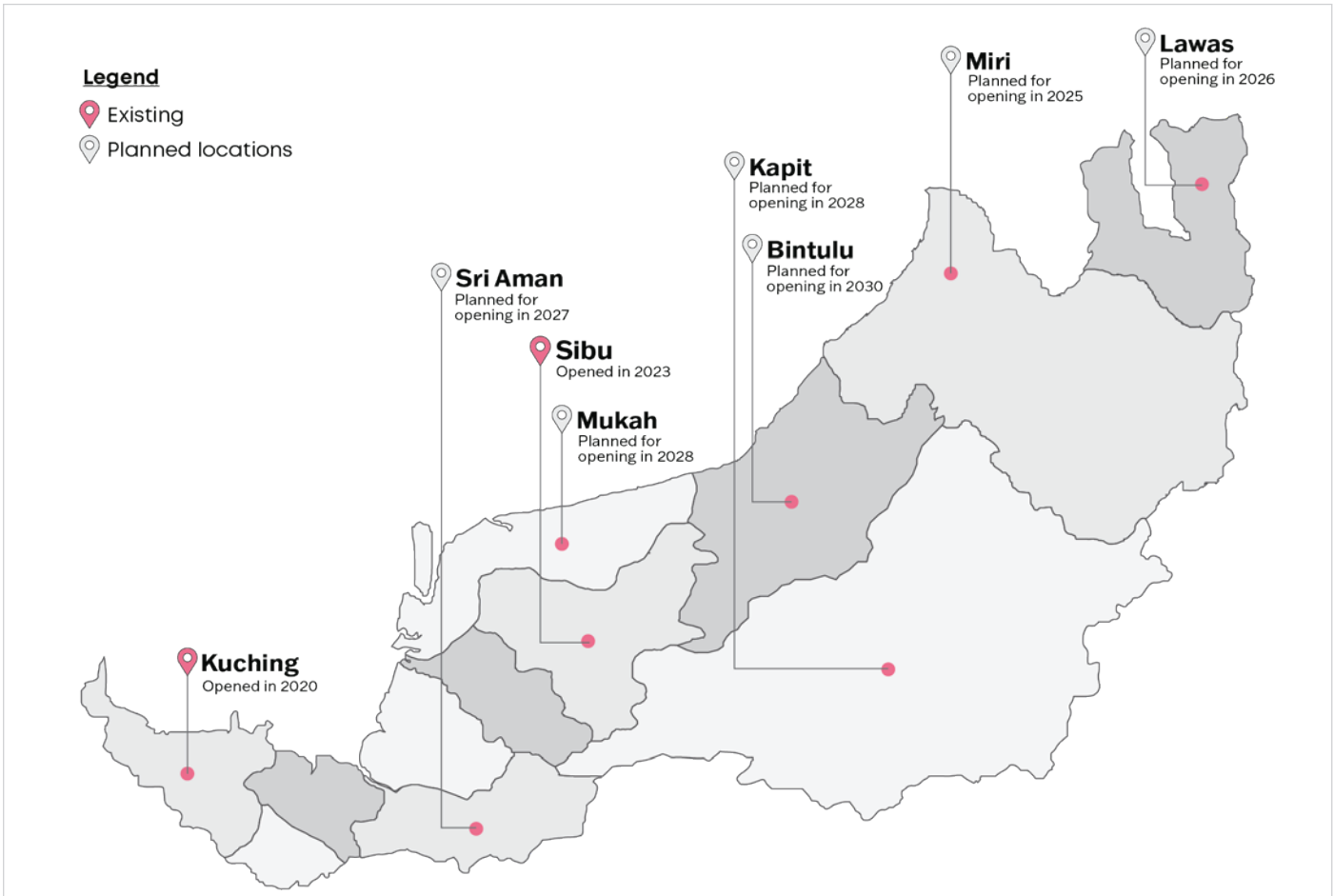
Neezafasella Binti Ali Noruddin
Parent

COMMUNITY SOCIAL SUPPORT CENTRE

Community Social Support Centre (CSSC) Kuching is a public-private-civil society collaboration between KPWK (representing the Sarawak Government); Elica Sdn Bhd; and the owners of the building (Ho Chou Yan and Lee Chin Leong), located at Jalan Abell, Kuching. Elica Sdn Bhd renovated the building as their CSR contribution, and the building owners offered their premises free of rental for five (5) years commencing 3 February 2022. The Sarawak Government is committed to setting up eight (8) CSSCs across the region, a testament to the government's commitment to enhance support services for the development of community well-being.



People queuing at CSSC's Soup Kitchen. (Source: KPWK)



Planned locations of CSSC throughout Sarawak. (Source: KPWK)


Drum Beat Therapy session organised at CSSC Kuching. (Source: KPWK)

CSSC serves as an integrated referral hub for social interventions. It addresses issues faced by vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, including the homeless, domestic violence survivors, those with mental health concerns, and families affected by substance abuse. CSSC's comprehensive approach aims to support all community members in need, promoting resilience, and inclusivity.

16,613
visitors received

137
individuals received intervention referrals

36,713
meals for the homeless and needy

542
families received intervention referrals

Source: CSSC

Services Provided at CSSC Kuching	Non-Governmental Organisations (NOGs) Involved
Tempat Transit Sementara	• Kuching Bring It On Association (KBIOA) • Anjung Singgah Yayasan Kebajikan Negara (YKN)
Integrated intervention referrals	• Single Mothers Association (PITSA) • Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) • Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (PPWE) • Sarawak Social Welfare Council • HOPE Place
Training centre for vulnerable groups and victims of social issues	*Open to all agencies/departments/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) • Single Mothers Association (PITSA) • Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS) • Sarawak Gerontology and Geriatric Society (SGGS) • Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE) • Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Emas (PPWE) • Toastmaster • Pertubuhan Pembangunan Insan Sarawak (PPIS) • National Cancer Council Malaysia • Pink Ribbon
Soup Kitchen	• Society for Kuching Urban Poor (SKUP)
Community food bank	• Kuching Bring It On Association (KBIOA)
Teenagers and childrens' activity area	*Open to all agencies/departments/NGOs • Pusat Aktiviti Kanak-kanak Petra Jaya
Social enterprise space	*Open to all agencies/departments/NGOs • Kuching Bring It On Association (KBIOA)
Community mental health services	• Mental Health Association of Sarawak (MHAS) • Befrienders
Psychology and counselling services	• Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak (JKMS) • National Anti-Drugs Agency (AADK) • Mental Health Association of Sarawak (MHAS) • Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS) • Jawatankuasa Pemulihan Dadah (JKPD) Kuching
Transit shelter for victims of social issues	• Sarawak Women for Women Society (SWWS)

List of services offered at CSSC Kuching and the NGOs involved. (Source: KPWK)

CSSC Sibu is being renovated and scheduled to be completed in July 2024. In Lawas, construction of CSSC Lawas is slated to begin in July 2024. Meanwhile, CSSC Bintulu is under construction and scheduled to be completed in the first quarter of 2025. Once operational, these centres serve as a vital hub for intervention referrals to address social issues for the community. These CSSCs represent Sarawak's commitment to fostering resilient communities, one centre at a time.

SOCIAL BENEFITS IN SARAWAK

The following are social benefits provided by the Sarawak Government as of 2023:



One of the recipients of Post Natal Assistance. (Source: Office of The Premier of Sarawak)

Post-Natal Assistance

Post-Natal Assistance is a grant of RM450 in cash to every Sarawakian mother who has just given birth starting 1 January 2020 regardless of race, religion or socio-economic status. Post-Natal Assistance aims to ease the financial burden after childbirth.



One of the recipients of EFS. (Source: Office of The Premier of Sarawak)

Endowment Fund Sarawak

The Endowment Fund Sarawak (EFS) is one of the initiatives by the Sarawak Government, providing a grant of RM1,000 in the form of savings for every Sarawakian baby born starting from the year 2019, regardless of race, religion, or socio-economic status. These funds can only be accessed when the child turns 18. EFS aims to assist Sarawakian children in preparing for higher education, starting a career, or as seed capital for small businesses.


Sarawak Preschool Kids Got Talent organised under the Special Annual Grant for Early Childhood Education Institutions. (Source: KPWK)

Special Annual Grant for Early Childhood Education Institutions

The Special Annual Grant (GTK) is a grant of RM5,000 allocated to Early Childhood Education Institutions registered in Sarawak to provide quality care, guidance and education towards the development of holistic early childhood education in Sarawak.


KGC registration. (Source: KPWK)

Kenyalang Gold Card

Kenyalang Gold Card (KGC) is special for Sarawak senior citizens aged 60 and above. This card provides facilities such as special discounts, free membership and other benefits at strategic partner stores in collaboration with the Sarawak Government.



Handover ceremony for BPBP with the Minister of Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development, YB Dato Sri Hajjah Fatimah Abdullah. (Source: KPWK)

Bantuan Pesakit Buah Pinggang

Bantuan Pesakit Buah Pinggang (BPBP) is an initiative by the Sarawak Government aimed at easing the burden of kidney patients, especially those from low-income (B40) and middle-income (M40) groups in Sarawak, who require treatment for kidney diseases. The assistance covers AV fistula (AVF) insertion, Erythropoietin (EPO) injections, Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD) treatment, hemodialysis treatments, transportation assistance, and transplant aid.



One (1) of the activities for the entrepreneurs under the Launching Grants. (Source: KPWK)

Launching Grants for Entrepreneurs

The Sarawak Government through the Welfare Department provided economic opportunities to the department's target groups, particularly welfare aid recipients, to join the entrepreneurial field by granting a launching grant of RM5,000.



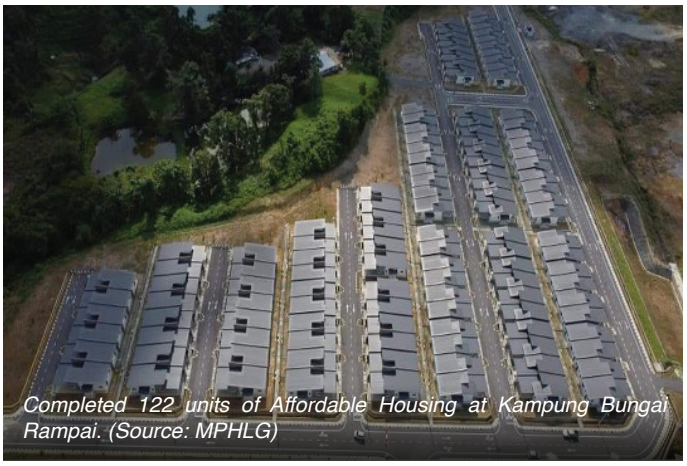
Caption: The handover ceremony for KIRWaS assistance with the Minister of Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development, YB Dato Sri Hajjah Fatimah Abdullah. (Source: KPWK)

Female Head of Household Assistance (KIRWaS)

Female Head of Household Assistance (KIRWaS) is one of the initiatives by the Sarawak Government for single mothers and female head of households, from disadvantaged groups. The KIRWaS assistance is in the form of cash amounting to RM500 for one household.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Completed 122 units of Affordable Housing at Kampung Bungai Rampai. (Source: MPHLG)



Development of Rumah Spektra Permata at Rancangan Pembesaran Kampung Majelin, Miri. (Source: MPHLG)

The Sarawak Government led by MPHLG together with its implementing agency, Housing Development Corporation (HDC) is determined to ensure that home ownership especially to the B40 and M40 groups is attainable.

Since 1972, HDC has successfully delivered more than 40,000 units of affordable housing throughout Sarawak.

It has implemented various schemes to assist the public such as Rancangan Perumahan Rakyat (RPR), Rumah Mampu Milik (RMM) and currently Rumah Spektra Permata (RSP) which are designed for the B40 and M40 groups in Sarawak. The selling price of these affordable housing units developed by HDC ranges between RM50,000 to RM160,000 per unit.

In 2023, HDC completed two (2) projects whereby 80 units were delivered. HDC has also started the development of 11 housing projects which are expected to be completed between 2024 and 2026. These projects will supply approximately 1,000 units of affordable housing in Kuching, Limbang, Miri, Kanowit, Betong, Mukah, Sarikei, Gedong, Samarahan and Lawas.

HOUSING DEPOSIT AND REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME

In 2022, the Sarawak Government launched the Housing Deposit Assistance Scheme (HDAS) to support first-time homebuyers in the B40 and M40 income groups. Under this initiative, eligible individuals receive financial assistance to cover their house deposit, equivalent to 10% of the house purchase price, up to a maximum of RM10,000. The scheme applies to government-built affordable housing and affordable houses developed by private developers. Buyers have the flexibility to choose the location of their home, ensuring it aligns with their daily needs while benefiting from the assistance provided.

This initiative was further enhanced and renamed as the Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme (HDRAS) where the eligible home buyer was approved with 100% financing from a financial institution and was assisted with the repayment of their loan of RM200 per month for 48 consecutive months. Since its introduction, 1,061 first-time house buyers have been assisted through RM9.5 million funding from the Sarawak Government for the initiative.



1,061

house buyers assisted through HDRAS
from 2021-2023

Source: MPHLG

SARAWAK RENTAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme (SRAS) was launched in 2021. This scheme aims to ease the living burden of the 20,000 Sarawakians who work and rent in four (4) major districts in Sarawak namely Kuching, Sibu, Bintulu, and Miri. For many families, the assistance from SRAS has become a lifeline. With monthly rental assistance of RM200, tenants can better manage their housing expenses, particularly during challenging economic periods. The assistance and duration of 36 months ensures sustained support, allowing families to plan their finances more effectively.

In 2023, SRAS has extended financial support to 955 tenants.

The Sarawak Government through MPHLG, Resident and District Offices, have been actively promoting the SRAS initiative using various media outlets to reach more potential applicants.

Starting in 2024, Sarawak will expand the eligibility criteria for SRAS, demonstrating its responsiveness to the needs of diverse households. By including tenants renting in Samarahan and raising the monthly household income cap to RM4,556 per month, SRAS now accommodates a broader range of applicants, including married couples, single parents, working singles, and tertiary students. This adjustment allows more individuals to access the scheme and reduces the rental stress effectively. Overall, SRAS underscores Sarawak's commitment to social welfare and housing stability for its residents.



2,299
tenants assisted through SRAS
from 2021-2023

Source: MPHLG

THE WAY FORWARD

To advance social inclusivity forward, KPWK along with MPHLG will continue to support evidence-based, integrated, and collaborative actions across public, private, civil society and community-based organisations to achieve inclusive, continuous, and collective responsibility for community wellbeing towards higher social wellbeing for Sarawakians.

KPWK's Significant Initiatives

- **Complete two (2) CSSCs in Sibu and Bintulu, two (2) *Tempat Transit Gelandangan* in Kuching and one (1) new OSEIC in Miri**
- **Alleviate poverty for 1,008 hardcore poor**
- **Provide intervention referrals for more than 2,000 families at seven (7) series of Integrated Sarawak Social Intervention and Community Support programmes**
- **Sustain the rating of standard one pupils with preschool experience at above 100%**
- **Improving help-seeking ratio to 1:4**

MPHLG's Significant Initiatives

- **Re-visit and enhance the state housing policy**
- **Continue to plan and develop affordable houses**
- **Study and analyse the local housing situation for better perspectives and approaches**
- **Embark on and leverage the latest construction technologies to improve deliveries**
- **Develop an innovative financing model**

CHAPTER 3:

Enablers

The six (6) economic sectors in the previous chapter are supported by seven (7) enablers, namely Digital Transformation, Innovation, Basic Infrastructure, Transport, Utilities, Renewable Energy and Education and Human Capital Development.



Key Achievements of PCDS 2030 Enabler Sectors in 2023



Digital Transformation

Internet coverage reached **78.8%** encompassing
279 towers under *Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara* (JENDELA), and
183 towers under Sarawak Multimedia Authority Rural Telecommunication (SMART)



Innovation

The strong innovation ecosystem enabled the Sarawak Government
to support **78** innovations and digitalised
6,233 Small and Medium-sized Enterprises



Education & Human Capital

58 school repair projects completed, as of 2023,
benefitting **15,081** students



Basic Infrastructure

As of 2023, Sarawak has built an extensive network of roads spanning
31,577 km



Utilities

Electricity supply coverage has reached **99.4%**
and water supply coverage is at **84.3%**



Transport

As of 2023, the ridership for public bus transport in Sarawak under the RM1.00 Flat Rate Bus Fare subsidy programme has increased to
4.38 million riders a year, an increase of **256%** since May 2020



Renewable Energy

In 2023, Sarawak maintained **60%** Renewable Energy Capacity Mix and sold
5 million Renewable Energy Certificates (REC)

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

2030 ASPIRATION

High income and equitable digital economy for Sarawak by the year 2030, powered by talents and innovations, leveraging on digital technologies and connectivity.

Overall Overview:

78.8%
internet coverage by settlement areas with average speed up to 30 Mbps as of 2023

Source: SMA

17,515
Sarawak Rural Broadband Network (MySRBN) Home Connect Users
in 2023

Source: SDEC

3.3 million
mobile-broadband subscriptions
in 2023

264,200
fixed-broadband subscriptions
in 2023

Source: MCMC

Sarawak Linking Urban, Rural, and Nation (SALURAN) is a government initiative aimed at providing internet connectivity to all Sarawakians by upgrading existing infrastructure and expanding telecommunications coverage, even to less viable areas. This responsibility, previously handled by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), is now shared with the Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA).

There are three (3) government agencies implementing the SALURAN projects which are:

1. Sarawak Digital Economy (SDEC)
   - Sarawak Multimedia Authority Rural Telecommunication (SMART)
   - Sarawak Rural Broadband Network (MySRBN)
2. Multimedia Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)
   - *Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara* (JENDELA)
3. Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS)
   - Digital Socio Economy

The agencies work together to optimise resources, avoid duplicating of sites, and ensure the smooth implementation of the SALURAN initiative throughout Sarawak.



SMART tower. (Source: SDEC)

SMART

The SMART programme, under SALURAN initiative, aims to expand 4G coverage to rural and remote areas by constructing 600 towers across Sarawak. These towers will be equipped with a Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN) system, ensuring that services from all major operators (CelcomDigi, Maxis, U Mobile, Unifi Mobile, and YES) will be available.

MySRBN

MySRBN, also part of the SALURAN initiative, aims to provide high-speed fixed internet to underserved homes in suburban and rural areas by implementing Fixed Wireless Broadband (FWB) technology on both existing and new infrastructure.

JENDELA

To provide wider coverage and better quality of internet experience nationwide through four (4) main projects:

1. Expansion of mobile broadband coverage
2. Expansion of gigabit fixed broadband access
3. Mobile network upgrade
4. Provisioning of Broadband Wireless Access service through satellite technology.

5G Initiative

5G initiative is a deployment of mobile 5G service by Digital Nasional Berhad (DNB) in collaboration with local Network Facilities Providers. Most of the sites are now operational, showing progress towards better connectivity and digital transformation in the region.

Digitalisation of Sarawak Government Services

State Government is continuously developing systems to provide digital services for ease of doing business with the government. The customer experience with the Sarawak Government is further enhanced with the implementation of SarawakID and SarawakID Corp where users only need to login once for seamless access to government online services.



27.1%

of the Sarawak Civil Service services, are digitalised end-to-end (E2E) online
as of December 2023



987,000

registered SarawakID users
as of December 2023

Source: SCSDU



Technical visit by Minister of Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak, YB Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi to JENDELA telecommunication tower at Kampung Surabaya, Lawas on 26 March 2023. (Source: MUT)

SMART

The SMART project is crucial in closing the digital gap and unleashing Sarawak's complete capabilities. This effort seeks to expand 4G mobile coverage and provide Sarawak Rural Broadband Network (MySRBN) services in rural and remote areas across all 12 divisions in Sarawak. The project costs RM2.01 billion for development and implementation.

This project benefits Sarawak by improving access to digital education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for people in all areas.

186
sites on-air
in 2023

868
benefitted households
in 2023

Source: SDEC

600
new towers established equipped with MOCN by the end of 2025.

Source: SDEC

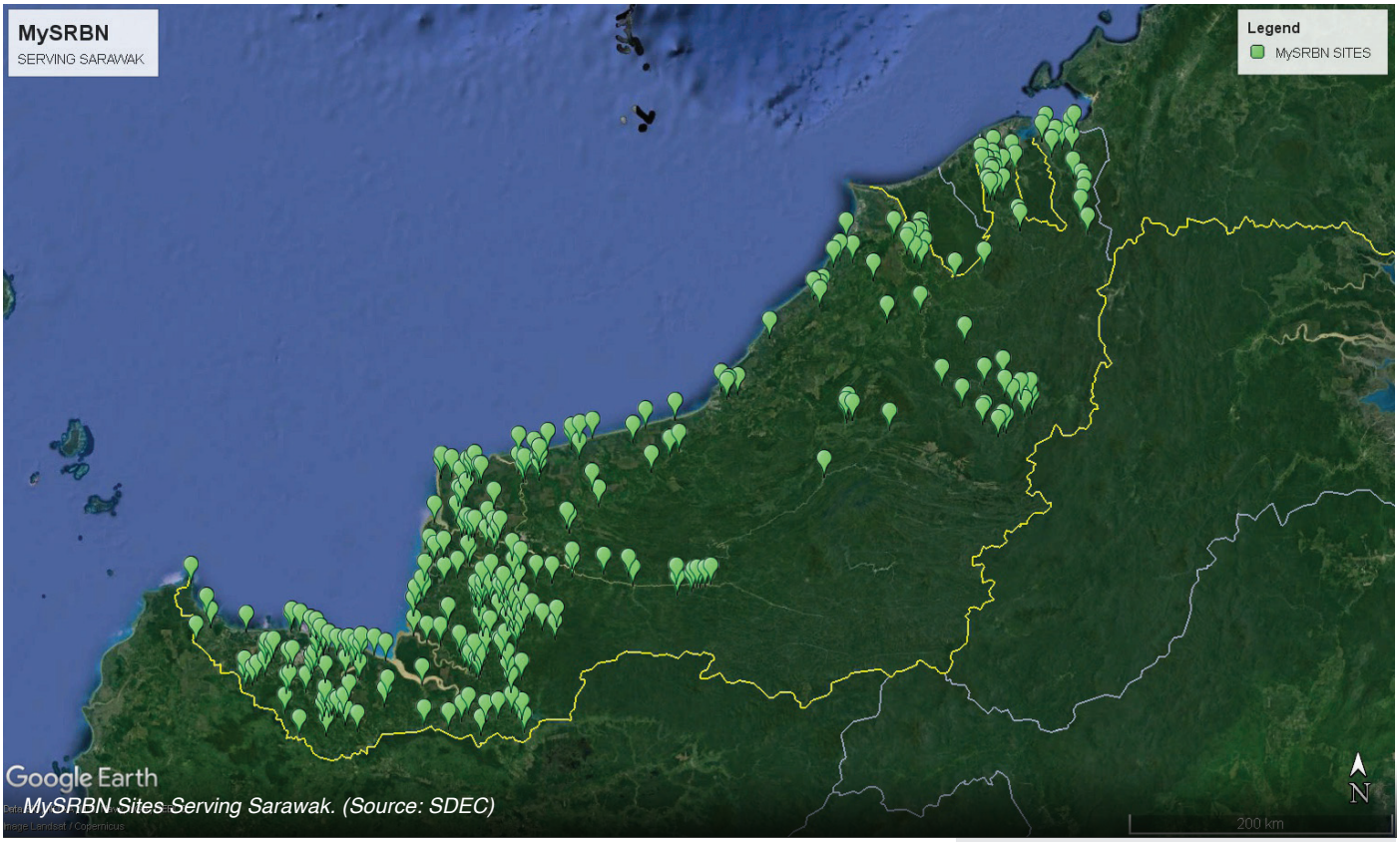
Together with JENDELA towers, these will contribute to the target of a 93.6% internet connectivity rate in Sarawak by 2025.



Two boys explore their tech project, benefiting from smooth internet services. (Source: SEDC)

MySRBN

During the pandemic in 2020, SDEC initiated a project called Sarawak Rural Broadband Network (MySRBN) to provide fast fixed internet to the homes of the underserved in the suburban and rural areas by implementing the Fixed Wireless Broadband (FWB) technology on the 194 existing towers. This project is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.



MySRBN Sites Serving Sarawak. (Source: SDEC)

Besides, users can subscribe to MySRBN prepaid plan by completing the registration process through the MySDEC mobile application. There are several cost-effective MySRBN prepaid plan available for subscription such as:



MySRBN prepaid plan. (Source:SDEC)

This initiative aims to expand coverage and improve broadband services, which benefits all sectors in Sarawak, contributing to the transformation of the region into a digitally advanced and inclusive society.



"As a student, MySRBN has been incredibly beneficial in helping me access educational resources, collaborate with peers, and engage in online learning, particularly during the post-pandemic."

Nurul Mazlyatul Aliana
Student,
Kampung Tebakang, Serian

JENDELA

The *Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara*, or JENDELA (2020–2025), was introduced by MCMC in 2020 to expand the coverage and advance the quality of digital infrastructure and services in Malaysia. This initiative aims to boost the technology sector by ensuring broad access to digital infrastructure, essential for an intelligent economy, advanced manufacturing, and attracting global investment in high-tech production facilities

With a significant investment of RM4.46 billion for Sarawak, JENDELA Phase 1 has been progressing well. The main components of JENDELA initiative in Sarawak are outlined below:

"Before this, only Maxis worked for guests, but now, thanks to the new tower, we have good signal and internet from all service providers, like Digi, and Celcom."

Encik Ding Ajeng
Tuai Rumah
Sungai Asap, Belaga

1. **Expansion of 4G coverage**
   - 864 new 4G telecommunication towers in Sarawak.
   - As of December 2023, 279 towers have been completed and are in operation with 4G service.
   - The remaining towers' operations are expected to be by the end of 2024.

2. **Expansion of Fixed Broadband Access**
   - High-speed internet through fibre-optic technology at over 200,982 homes and businesses.
   - As of December 2023, 110,020 premises have access to gigabit fibre-optic internet service.
   - Expected completion of balance premises to be by the end of 2025.

3. **Mobile Network Upgrades:**
   - Upgrading of 3,873 existing mobile transmitter stations.
   - As of December 2023, 3,790 mobile transmitter stations have been upgraded.
   - By the end of 2024, the remaining sites should be fully operational.

4. **Broadband Wireless Access (BWA):**
   - 523 locations (completed) equipped with internet service via satellite WiFi technology, mainly in remote areas. This initiative was completed on 31 May 2022.

5G INITIATIVE

Since 2022, Digital Nasional Berhad (DNB) has been implementing the roll-out of 5G at 585 sites in Sarawak to achieve 60% Coverage of Populated Area (COPA) by 2024. This project involves collaboration among nine (9) local Network Facilities Providers (NFPs), leveraging their expertise in 5G infrastructure. As of 2023, 512 out of 585 sites have been completed (integrated), with a Coverage of Populated Area (COPA) of 60.8%.

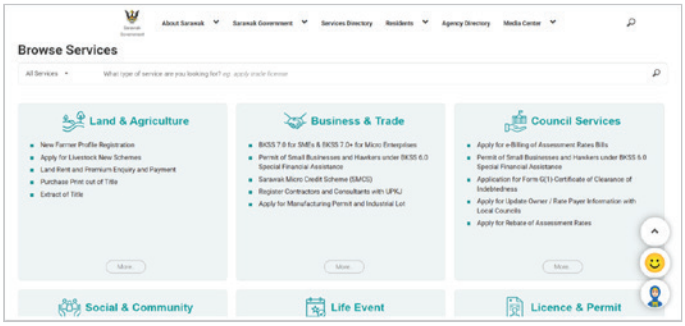
Furthermore, Ericsson, in collaboration with DNB and Curtin University in Miri, has showcased the potential of 5G for education, exploring cross-domain capabilities like Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) and network slicing (SLICE). They have enabled high-quality real-time distance learning using augmented reality and virtual reality, enhancing accessibility and engagement. Overall, 5G technology is poised to revolutionise both the business operations and community living by providing faster, more reliable and more efficient connectivity.



On aired 5G tower in Lorong Song 3G. (Source: DNB)

DIGITALISATION OF SARAWAK GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The digitalisation of government services aims to deliver 100% of selected Sarawak government services online by 2030 to ease public dealings with the government and to improve the customer experience and efficiency in accessing government services. The scope covers all frontline services provided by the Sarawak Government agencies, including Ministries, Departments, Resident and District Offices, Local Authorities, and Statutory Bodies. In total, 1,106 services will undergo digitalisation processes through various ICT projects.



Service catalogue. (Source: The Official Portal of Sarawak Government Website)

Access to government services is seamless and easy through the government's one-stop portal and mobile apps using SarawakID single sign-on. For instance, government services such as payment of water supply, gas supply and assessment rates, application of scholarships and housing loans, can be processed through a unified online portal, eliminating the need to navigate through counters of multiple government agencies, or websites, thereby reducing complexity and inconvenience.

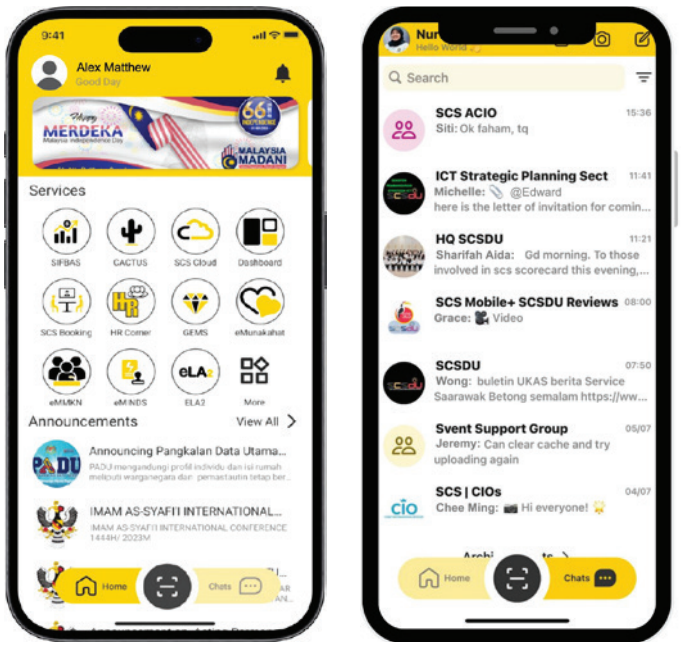
> **The primary aim is to provide a fast, secure, and trusted digital option for the public to access government services, enhancing accessibility and improving the *rakyat*'s experience.**

The Sarawak Civil Service Digitalisation Unit (SCSDU) is the central agency leading and coordinating this initiative with the collaboration and commitment of all relevant state agencies as services owners. This initiative will be driven by the Whole of Government approach, where inter-agency processes will be integrated and connected digitally to provide a seamless customer experience.

An Integrated Service Management (ISM) platform with the following key common features has been developed and put in place to accelerate service digitalisation and optimise resources.

- SarawakID and SarawakID Corp: A single sign-on platform.
- Public and corporate workspace: A central place to deliver notification and transaction status.
- Payment: A payment platform that support multiple channels payment collection.
- Signing: A platform that supports electronic and digital signatures.
- One-Stop Service Portal and mobile applications: Providing seamless access to services.

To improve the government operation efficiency and productivity, the government's internal services are also being digitalised. SCS Mobile+ and SCS Workspace have been implemented to support an intuitive and secure digital working environment for Sarawak Civil Service.



SCS Mobile+ Application. (Source: SCSDU)

S Pay Global

Sarawak Pay, now known as S Pay Global, is a fintech platform owned by the Sarawak Government. It provides the technology and business tools necessary for secure, fast, and convenient mobile wallet and digital payment transactions. Launched in November 2017, S Pay Global is a key strategic initiative aimed at digitalising the Sarawak economy. Since its inception, the platform has rapidly gained popularity among Sarawakians, including businesses and government entities across Sarawak. In May 2018, S Pay Global upgraded to Version 2, featuring a more appealing interface and enhanced user convenience. Notably, S Pay Global also supports overseas payments and promotes a cashless lifestyle with numerous daily functionalities such as:

- **Scan and Pay using QR Codes**
- **Perform Fund Transfers**
- **Subscribe, Manage, and Pay Bills**
- **Register and Operate a Personal Merchant Account for Premium Users**



As of 2023, S Pay Global has recorded:

733,000
registered users

89,000
merchants across Sarawak

RM3.6 billion
facilitated transactions

Source: S Pay Global



Mr Chang Chong Fui uses S Pay Global for convenient cashless payment at his fruit stall. (Source: Chang Chong Fui)

THE WAY FORWARD

Out of 1,106 identified services, 21.7% have been digitalised end-to-end.

To meet the 100% digitalised services in 2030 target, ongoing efforts will prioritise the continued digitalisation of remaining services, streamlining processes, and enhancing user experience by applying user-centric design principles.

To achieve 93.6% coverage of internet connectivity in settlement areas by the end of 2025.

This progress will be facilitated by the completion of the SMART and JENDELA tower projects, which have expanded network infrastructure to previously underserved regions. Moving forward, the Sarawak Government's focus will shift towards bridging the remaining connectivity gaps to achieve full coverage by 2030. This effort will involve leveraging innovative technologies to address access barriers and ensure equitable internet access for every individual and community, empowering participation in the digital economy and society.

The digital economy holds immense potential for driving growth, innovation, and job creation.

Initiatives to foster a thriving digital economy are underway, with a focus on laying the foundation for applying 5G technology across various economic sectors, including manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, forestry, mining, and services. Building on existing 5G initiatives, efforts will continue to advance infrastructure deployment, promote digital skills development, and support the emergence of digital startups and enterprises.

Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030

The Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint (SDEB) 2030 aims to transform Sarawak into a leading digital economy and society by 2030, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will enhance public service delivery, create sustainable business models, provide global market access, generate new job opportunities, and improve social wellbeing. The blueprint focuses on transitioning from a resource-based economy to a technology-driven, environmentally sustainable economy. A stable digital foundation is crucial, including infrastructure, talents, skills, inclusivity, data governance, cybersecurity, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The government is investing in and evaluating new technologies to improve internet coverage across Sarawak, aiming for widespread digital connectivity to foster innovation, inclusivity, and sustainable growth.



SCAN HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE BLUEPRINT

INNOVATION

2030 ASPIRATION

Sarawak aims to be a global innovation cluster by 2030 by leveraging excellence in research and commercialisation to contribute to strong economic growth.

6,233
Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) digitalised

Source: SDEC

Outlined in the PCDS 2030, the following key outcomes underscore the innovation sector's commitment to become a global innovation cluster by 2030:

1. Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD): 1.5% increase to 2%.
2. To achieve at least 1.5x private investment for every public funding spent in research.
3. Double the number of filed and approved patents.
4. Produce 3,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) researchers in research and development (R&D) per million people.
5. Launch and commercialise 500 high-tech startups and proof of concept projects via innovation hubs.

Sarawak aspires to leverage excellence in research and commercialisation to become a global innovation cluster. By harnessing its abundant natural resources and skilled workforce, Sarawak is prioritising specific clusters such as Biotechnology, Digital R&D, and Renewable Energy. These clusters are crucial for creating new products and services, especially to support sectors such as forestry and agriculture, as well as sustainable energy solutions.

15 approved patents
granted by the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)

78 innovations
facilitated with state support

RM80 million
Value of state-funded tech start-ups

133 start-ups
supported by Sarawak Government agencies



Artist's impression of the Central Hub in Sarawak Bioindustrial Park.(Source: SBC)

SARAWAK DIGITAL AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

The Sarawak Digital and Innovation Ecosystem (SDIE) is one of the catalytic initiatives developed by the Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC) as part of PCDS 2030 in support of the Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030.

SDIE fosters growth and innovation within the start-up landscape. Its main endeavour is the ecosystem's flagship programme, the Digital Village Accelerator (DiVA), a six-month-long accelerator programme that offers shortlisted start-ups a seed grant up to RM150,000.

Currently, the third DiVA Cohort is ongoing with six (6) shortlisted startups, and 10 high-tech startups have successfully completed the programme, cumulatively valued at RM80 million.

Other SDIE initiatives:

1. **Programmes & Impact**
   - 170 Programmes
   - More than 4,900 Beneficiaries
   - 8 Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH) across Sarawak
2. **Upcoming Initiatives**
   - New DIH in Mukah
   - Makerspace in Kuching
   - Purpose: Support start-ups and digital adoption
3. **Founder's Forge**
   - 24 Potential Founders: Identified for tech start-ups
   - Future Cohorts: Eligible for DiVA programme
4. **Malaysia Business Angel Network (MBAN) Sarawak Chapter**
   - Established in 2022
   - Goal: Train local investors for start-ups



"Digital Village Accelerator (DiVA) workshops and mentorship sessions provided the much-needed insights for cofounders to realign our roles and business models, which helped TLC scale commercially and be profitable. The networking events and platforms opened many doors and opportunities that led TLC into other ventures."

Kenneth Chai
Co-Founder of The Learning Curve (TLC) and Alumni of DiVA Cohort 2



DiVA's third cohort concluded in August 2024, with six (6) Sarawakian startups namely Satok Bridge Digital, MyScripts, Beli-Beli24, Formeta PLT, Worming Up and Nebula Technologies each receiving RM150,000 in seed funding upon completing the accelerator program. (Source: SDEC)

The main focus of the SDIE initiative include supporting SMEs, developing young talent, and promoting research. The following are the achievements of the SDIE initiative at the end of 2023:

1. Digitalised 18,000 SMEs through programmes like SME Digitise!, GO Digital, and Sarawak Digital Mall, offering grants, training, mentoring, and monitoring tailored to SMEs needs.
2. Supported 27 Digital Enablement Initiatives, including collaborations with Enuma Inc. and TOY8, impacting 15,589 students and 1,846 teachers. Additionally, 63 Science on Wheels sessions targeted rural and underserved areas.
3. Supported Sarawakian students to excel in national and international competitions:
    - Jaynerson from SMK Bintulu won third place in the 8th World Innovative Technology Challenge.
    - SK Maludam students became Sarawak State and National Champions in the Junior Innovate Competition.
    - SMK Tung Hua won RM15,000 in the Sime Darby Young Innovators Challenge and the "Young Innovator of the Year" award.

DIGITAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Sarawak is strengthening its Digital R&D efforts through the SDEC to advance its technological future. Efforts are focused on developing cutting-edge digital technologies, products, and services, with these innovations contributing not only to Sarawak's GERD but also to its competitive edge in the global arena.

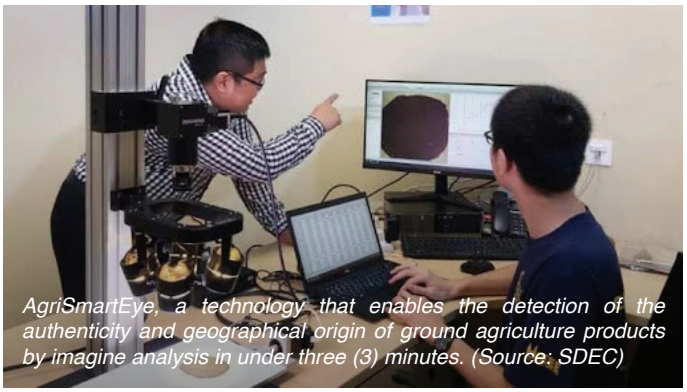
Digital R&D was operationalised by SDEC in 2020 to empower and intensify digital-based R&D, creating more experts and homegrown core technologies through initiatives such as developing new digital technology, products, and services through R&D and innovation, which contributes to Sarawak's GERD, commercialisation of R&D in digital fields, and establishing digital economy testbeds for relevant industries.

In line with PCDS 2030, the innovation sector's aim for Digital R&D is to contribute to the following aspects:

1. At least one Sarawak-based university to break into the Top 300 in Global Tech R&D University Rankings.
2. Nurturing 2,000 researchers and talents with profound knowledge in digital technologies.
3. Reduction of 6% in CO_2 emissions is a viably expected outcome that spans various sectors through digital solution.



SMK Tung Hua, Innovation Grant Winner, amounted to RM15,000.00 at the Sime Darby Young Innovators Challenge. (Source: SDEC)



AgriSmartEye, a technology that enables the detection of the authenticity and geographical origin of ground agriculture products by imagine analysis in under three (3) minutes. (Source: SDEC)

The Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation Technology Accelerator (STAcc) programme is a flagship programme of the Digital R&D initiative. This programme has played a pivotal role in spearheading the creation of four (4) university spin-off companies that are linked to a portfolio of six (6) intellectual properties (IP) within the inaugural cohort. These spin-offs represent the convergence of academic research and entrepreneurial acumen.

The four (4) teams in the first cohort accelerator programme have generated a cumulative commercialisation revenue of RM1.17 million. This success underscores the programme's effectiveness in translating research into tangible economic outcomes. The second cohort, comprising the final 10 teams, has secured four (4) high-potential partnerships for market & tech validations and is actively engaging them to accelerate the product-market-fit process.

The four (4) partnerships that were inked during World Congress on Innovation and Technology (WCIT) 2023 involve:

1. Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) and S Pay Global
2. UiTM Sarawak and TurnRed
3. UiTM Sarawak and Hornbill Agriculture Sdn Bhd
4. Swinburne and Trienekens (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd

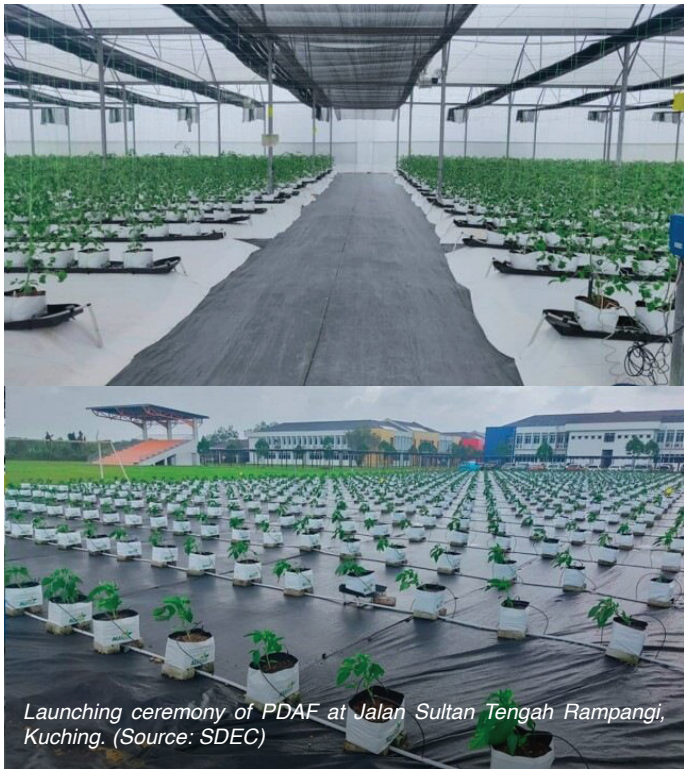


STAcc Cohort 1 Panel Discussion during Day 3 of WCIT 2023 in October. (Source: SDEC)

As SDEC continues to target and nurture innovation, it reinforces Sarawak's position as a dynamic hub for technology-driven growth. The agency managed to achieve its target of having two (2) Digital Economy Testbeds operationalised:

1. **The Smart City Testbed:** A dynamic platform for testing and validating smart city solutions. It provides a near-real-life environment where technologies can be explored, refined, and optimised.

2. **The Precision & Discipline Agricultural Facility (PDAF):** Malaysia's first fully integrated high-tech agricultural facility. It leverages cutting-edge technology for both greenhouses and open-field farming, with integrated climate control, fertigation, and irrigation systems.



Launching ceremony of PDAF at Jalan Sultan Tengah Rampangi, Kuching. (Source: SDEC)

SARAWAK RESEARCH AGENCIES AND CENTRES

Research agencies under the Ministry of Education, Innovation, and Talent Development (MEITD) generate findings that yield significant socio-economic benefits. Some of the agencies, each with their own unique focus and expertise, have recently achieved breakthroughs that underscore their commitment to innovation and societal advancements.

1. CRAUN Research Sdn Bhd

CRAUN pioneers a bio-compressed natural gas plant in Mukah, Sarawak, utilising sago waste to produce green cooking gas. This initiative benefits 147 rural households and public sites thus advances Sarawak's energy transition. It reduces fossil fuel reliance while tackling river pollution by converting sago waste into biogas and animal feed. This process promotes a circular economy in Sarawak.

2. Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute (TROPI)

TROPI serves as a prominent research facility in advancing sustainable management, conservation, and restoration of tropical peatlands, ensuring their long-term environmental sustainability while balancing ecological, social, and economic needs through innovative research, education, and collaborative partnerships. The key focus areas include:

1. Sustainable Use and Management
2. Carbon Sequestration and Climate Change Mitigation
3. Peatland Conservation and Restoration
4. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
5. Education and Outreach
6. Innovative Technologies and Methodologies
7. Collaborative Research and Partnerships
8. Policy and Governance

In 2023, TROPI has established collaborative research and partnerships with the University of Tartu, Estonia (LiWeFor and PeatlandN20) and the University of Leipzig, Germany (SoilBON).

3. Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC)

SBC's research facilities enable biodiscovery while sharing benefits with the community. Discoveries in herbal, nutraceutical, and pharmaceutical development, alongside versatile industrial applications like essential oils and enzymes, promise economic growth through bioindustry initiatives.

Looking ahead, SBC is advancing the commercialisation of Sarawak's unique Ganoderma species, alongside its major initiatives in algae cultivation and the development of the Sarawak Bioindustrial Park.



Researchers and scientist at CRAUN laboratory. (Source: CRAUN)



TROPI's Eddy Covariance Tower. (Source: TROPI)

The Sarawak Research and Development Council (SRDC) plays a pivotal role in supporting, stimulating, and facilitating research and development initiatives within Sarawak. The council works to enhance research standards and capabilities as well as facilitate commercialisation of research outcomes. Its key initiatives are the Sarawak Science Centre (SSCiEX) and the Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre (SIDC).

1. Sarawak Science Centre (SSCiEX)

SSCiEX is a Southeast Asian hub for scientific discoveries, set to become Borneo's first premier science tourist attraction. This 10 storey building will feature four (4) floors dedicated to indoor exhibition galleries showcasing themes such as biodiversity, genomics, and information and communications technologies (ICT). Planned on a 10.97 acre site, it will include laboratories, exhibition spaces, and hostels. As a subsidiary of SRDC, SSCiEX operates under MEITD's purview. The RM239 million project, which broke ground in October 2020, is expected to open its doors by the second quarter of 2026.

In 2023, a Sarawak delegation led by MEITD visited the Seoul Science Centre to learn about science centre operations. The delegation also visited Bukwang Pharmaceutical to explore collaboration in pharmaceutical R&D and manufacturing in Sarawak. Visits were also scheduled with Yonsei University Seoul, Seegen Medical Foundation, Asan Medical Centre, and SD Biosensor.

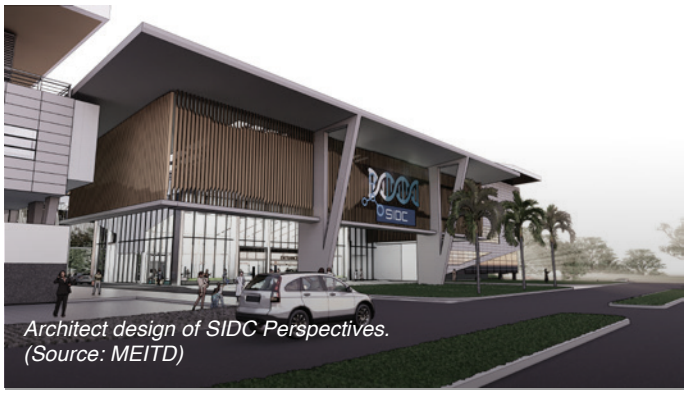
2. Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre (SIDC)

SIDC launches extensive research and development initiatives, focusing on disease surveillance, diagnostics, therapeutic discovery, vaccine development, data analytics, and human capital development. The Sarawak government is investing RM200 million into building the facility and infrastructure. This project aims to build Sarawak's biomedical fundamentals, develop talent, create new jobs, strengthen education, and explore the potential of local biodiversity.

In 2023, SIDC signed an MoU with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Malaysia on 21 September, paving the way for research excellence in biomedical sciences and human capital development in Sarawak. This establishment is expected to be a catalyst for the development of the biomedical industry in Sarawak, preparing Sarawak for future disease outbreaks while advancing its economy and development.



Architect design of SIDC Perspectives. (Source: MEITD)



Architect design of SIDC Perspectives. (Source: MEITD)

SARAWAK BIOINDUSTRIAL PARK

Sarawak Bioindustrial Park (SBP) is the first of its kind in Sarawak to become a hub for manufacturing of commercially viable bio-based products.

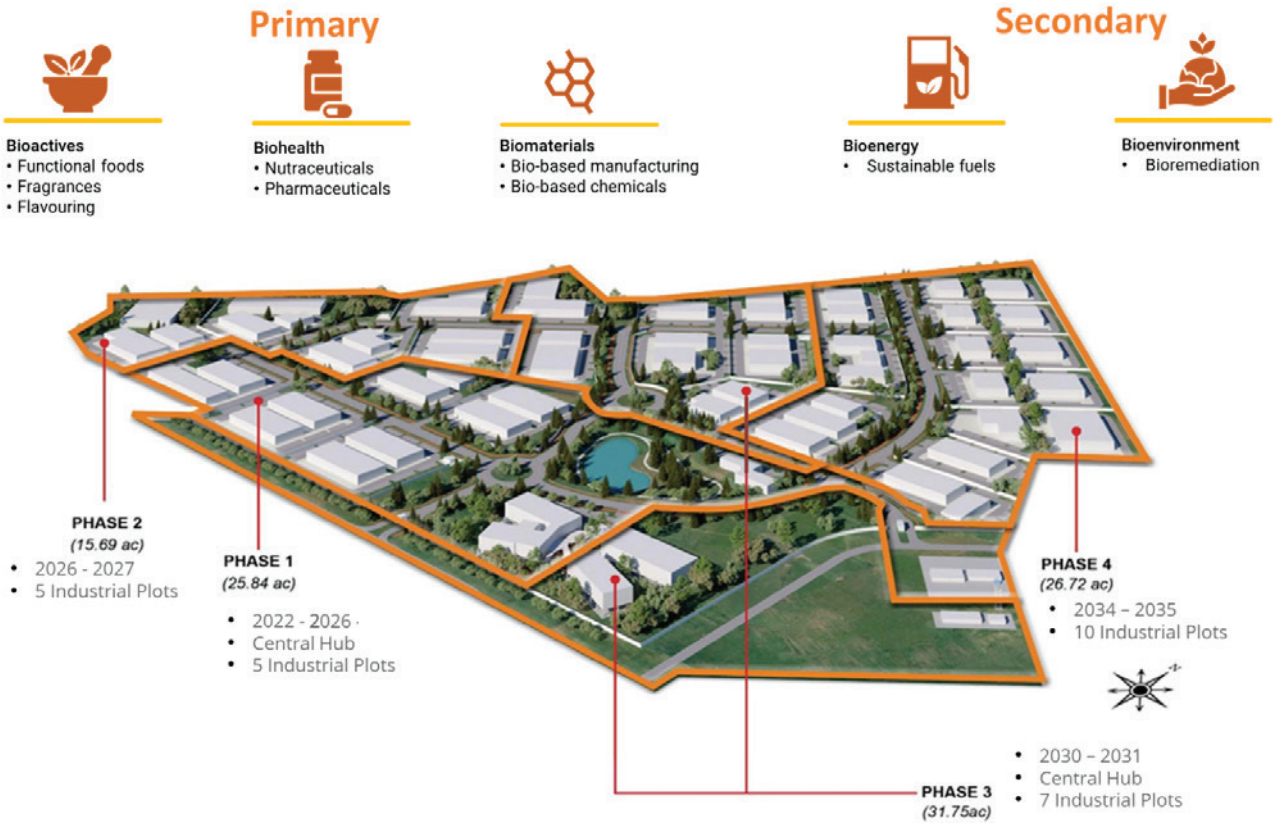
The SBP serves as a hub for bioprocessing and research establishments to advance the study of bioindustry. SBP supports Sarawak's goal to become a global innovation cluster by utilising its rich natural resources. Covering 100 acres, SBP will house 27 industrial plots. The park will be developed in four (4) phases, with full operations set to commence in 2035 in Kota Samarahan.

SBP aims to foster innovation and economic growth in the bioindustrial sector. It provides a conducive ecosystem for businesses and researchers to collaborate, offering extensive laboratory services for bioprocessing and analysis. With Phase 1 construction set to finish in the third quarter of 2027, SBP is set to generate new industry opportunities and create high-value jobs, contributing to the gross national income of the region.



"The key ingredients that will create a robust environment and growth in the bioindustry are research and innovation. We embed these elements into SBP to serve as catalysts for extraordinary home-grown scientific breakthroughs derived from our local natural resources."

Dato Dr Yeo Tiong Chia
Chief Executive Officer of
Sarawak Biodiversity Centre



Sarawak Bioindustrial Park Overview. (Source: SBC)

THE WAY FORWARD

Sarawak's innovation sector is advancing through three (3) strategic areas to propel economic growth and technological advancement. These initiatives aim to leverage the state's natural resources, foster cutting-edge research, and cultivate a thriving startup ecosystem. By investing in biotechnology, digital solutions, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing, Sarawak is positioning itself as an emerging hub for innovation in Southeast Asia. This approach not only aims to diversify the economy but also to create high-value jobs, attract investment, and drive sustainable development across various industries.

Sarawak Bioindustrial Park

The completion of the first phase of SBP in 2026 will usher in a new era of innovation, offering a productive ground for enterprises and entrepreneurs to pioneer cutting-edge bio-industrial products, spearhead transformative digital solutions addressing global challenges, venture into clean energy sectors, and cultivate state-of-the-art manufacturing prowess.

Sarawak Digital and Innovation Ecosystem

SDIE empowers startups and entrepreneurs to constantly explore new avenues for growth and value creation. To support this ecosystem, a Sarawak Venture Capital Fund will be proposed to provide funding for early-stage startups, enabling them to scale up their technologies for commercialisation.

Additionally from 2025 onwards, parallel accelerator tracks will be introduced to ensure even more scale-up pathways for growth stage startups. This will be in tandem with international market access opportunities forged through collaborations with global partners.

The programmes will be implemented through SDEC, further nurturing and developing startups within the digital and innovation landscape.

Digital Research and Development

Digital R&D focuses on pioneering new applications and capabilities in emerging digital technologies, aimed at benefiting Sarawak's society and unlocking commercial potential. To achieve this, the initiative aims to forge industry partnerships with established technology firms, create R&D testbeds, and pilot these innovations, with the ultimate goal of scaling them up for commercial use.

Advancing Digital Economy and Research in 2024	
New Initiatives	• **IR4.0 Prototype Lab:** Q1 2024 • **15 R&D Projects:** April 2024 • **6 R&D Projects:** By April 2025
Graduate Research Assistants	• **2024:** 18 Completing Studies • **2025:** 8 Completing Studies
Research Commercialisation	• **11 STAcc Phase 2 Teams:** Strategy Guidance • **Demo Day:** Showcasing Products
Workshops and Mentoring	• **5 Universities:** Focus on early-career researchers
Cataloguing Digital Solutions	• **Goal:** Increase visibility and investor reach

Advancing Digital Economy and Research in 2024.
(Source: SDEC)

EDUCATION & HUMAN CAPITAL

2030 ASPIRATION

Sarawak aims to have an agile workforce to drive the state's vision and excel globally.

58 school repair projects completed, as of 2023, benefitting 15,081 students

Source: MEITD

The Sarawak Government has launched ambitious initiatives to transform education and talent development across Sarawak under the leadership of the Ministry of Education, Innovation, and Talent Development (MEITD). These efforts range from infrastructure improvements to innovative educational programmes, aiming to provide quality education in safe, conducive environments. The establishment of Yayasan Sarawak International Secondary Schools (YSISS) and the implementation of the Dual Language Programme Sarawak (DLP Sarawak) demonstrate the state's commitment to delivering high-quality, globally competitive education.

Sarawak has also focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programmes as well as skills development.

Events such as WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak (WMS) and the Sarawak Career and Training (SCaT) Fair aim to elevate the profile of skilled individuals and bridge the gap between job seekers and potential employers.

Additionally, the government is reviewing a policy to provide free tertiary education in state-owned institutions of higher learning by 2026.

Key Achievements in 2023

- **STEM Education:**
  - STEM50 Programme: 300 Form 1 students engaged
  - Mini STEM Theatre: 100 students from 10 schools involved
  - Innovation Competitions: 1,003 students from 201 schools participated
- **Dual Language Programme Sarawak (DLP Sarawak):**
  - 110,110 students across 1,048 schools impacted



One of the newly rebuilt classrooms of the new SK Ulu Segan, Bintulu. (Source: MEITD)

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



Central courtyard of the newly rebuilt SK Ulu Segan, Bintulu. (Source: MEITD)

The Sarawak Government is committed to ensuring that all Sarawakian students have access to quality education in a safe and conducive teaching and learning environment.

The school redevelopment programme, launched in 2019, goes beyond repairing or upgrading old facilities. It includes providing essential utilities such as treated water and electricity, while addressing educational inequality caused by poor infrastructure. This initiative aims to provide top quality educational facilities to all Sarawakians, particularly marginalised communities, supporting the social inclusion goals of PCDS 2030.

The redevelopment projects were funded by both the Sarawak Government and the Federal Government, with varying progress across different localities which are implemented by various agencies.

Project	Description	Implementation Status	Students Impacted
Federal Government Funded			
RM1 Billion Advanced Payment Project to Federal Government for Dilapidated Schools Redevelopment	Redevelopment of 140 dilapidated schools	Estimated Completion: • Phase 1: Completed • Phase 2: End of 2026 • Phase 3: End of 2027	28,000
Sarawak Government Funded			
Projek Rakyat	Relocation and/or redevelopment of 8 schools	Completed: 4 projects In progress: 2 projects • Estimated completion: Q2 2025 Planning stages: 2 projects • Estimated completion: Q2 2026	28,000
Upgrading of Dilapidated Schools under Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA)	Repair or upgrading of 60 schools in Limbang and Lawas	Estimated completion: End of 2026	12,000
Rural Electrification Project	Electricity connection for 122 rural schools	Estimated completion: End of 2024	6,100
Supply of Treated Water to Rural Schools	Connection to water pipeline for 42 rural schools	Estimated completion: End of 2024	2,100
Rural Transformation Project (RTP)	Repair or upgrade of 1,320 school buildings and facilities	Estimated completion: Within the current project year	141,548

School redevelopment projects and descriptions. (Source: MEITD)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) PROGRAMME

Since 2017, Sarawak has launched STEM-related programmes and initiatives in collaboration with various agencies, both State and Federal, and private industries. These initiatives, which aim to increase STEM enrolment in upper secondary education by 60%, reflect Sarawak's commitment to fostering early STEM mindsets, promoting opportunities, and creating a science-literate society in line with PCDS 2030's strategic partnership and goals.

List of STEM programmes as of 2023:

- Raspberry Pi Forum
- Innovation Competition
- Sarawak Robotic Competition
- STEM Trailblazers Sarawak
- NASA Space Apps Challenge

By the end of 2023, MEITD has initiated several other significant STEM programmes as follows:

1. **STEM50:** Launched in 2022, this programme targets 150 lower secondary students in Sibu annually to boost STEM enrolment at the upper secondary level.
2. **Mini STEM Theatre:** A collaboration with the National STEM Association Malaysia. It aims to foster innovation and creativity, targeting low-performing students from schools in Serian and Samarahan Divisions, with an ultimate goal to enrol all its participants into Pure Science stream at Form 4. A total of 100 lower secondary school students from 10 schools are involved in this programme.
3. **Innovation Competitions:** Comprising the Junior Innovate Competitions and the Young Innovators Challenge, these competitions aim to inspire a digital creator mindset and develop problem-solving skills among primary and secondary school students, impacting 420 and 583 students across 127 and 74 schools, respectively.
4. **STEM Trailblazers:** An annual STEM festival held concurrently in Kuching and Miri to showcase students innovations and career opportunities in STEM. It attracted approximately 4,000 participants in 2023.

These initiatives reflect Sarawak's commitment to nurturing STEM professionals and increasing STEM enrolment, aligning with the social inclusivity goals of PCDS 2030.



A group of Form 1 students from various schools working together. (Source: MEITD)



YSISS students win the Young Innovators' Competition for the Southern Zone. (Source: MEITD)

YAYASAN SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Yayasan Sarawak International Secondary School (YSISS) was established to provide access to international education and develop global competitiveness among students in the state. The establishment of YSISS is to ensure that international educational opportunities are accessible to all, regardless of socioeconomic background.

Currently, YSISS Petra Jaya has 266 students enrolled. The second YSISS school will commence operations in Kuching in 2024, while construction of the third school in Sibu is expected to be completed in 2025.



YSISS, Petra Jaya, Kuching. (Source: MEITD)



Students of YSISS Petra Jaya, Kuching. (Source: MEITD)

YSISS Branch Location	Completion Date
Petra Jaya, Kuching	May 2022
Mile 12 Sentah-Segu, Kuching	March 2024
Sibu	2025
Bintulu	TBA
Miri	TBA

YSISS branch locations and completion date. (Source: YSISS)

"When I learned more about this school, I saw it gives students a wider view of the world. This is really good. We can't just think about Sarawak within Malaysia. Our children need to see the bigger picture. This school helps them do that."

Parent of student from YSISS Petra Jaya, Kuching

Dual Language Programme Sarawak (DLP Sarawak)

The teaching of Science and Mathematics in English, also known as the DLP Sarawak, was introduced in 2020. The objective was to provide our young children with a strong foundation in the English language, facilitating smoother transition in their learning of these subjects as they advance to higher education, where a wealth of relevant resources is accessible. Now in its fourth year, the Sarawak Government remains fully committed to ensuring the continuity and success of this programme.

Sarawak is the only region that uses 100% English language as the medium of instruction in the teaching of Science and Mathematics subjects in all its government primary schools. Now in its fourth year, this programme has benefited 110,100 students across 1,048 schools as of 2023.

In 2023, 606 teachers received training under the Teaching of Science and Mathematics in English programme, also known as DLP Sarawak. This adds to the 5,200 teachers trained in previous years.



DLP Sarawak training at Kingwood Hotel, Sibu. (Source: MEITD)

SARAWAK-OWNED HIGHER LEARNING AND TRAINING INSTITUTION

Sarawak is developing a competitive, highly skilled workforce to meet the demands of the new economy. MEITD is coordinating efforts to equip young Sarawakians with quality education and skills training, focusing on enhancing competencies in public and private sectors. This initiative aims to mainstream technical, vocational education and training (TVET) as well as align educational programmes with technological advancements and scientific research, ensuring a strong talent pipeline for the future. The Sarawak Government currently owns five (5) higher learning institutions and two (2) training institutions.

Colleges and Universities

1. Curtin University Malaysia (Miri)

- Excelled in academic and research fields, focusing on engineering, science, business, and humanities. It has established partnerships with local and international organisations to enhance research, education, and career opportunities.
- Specialises in niche programmes tailored to emerging industries, including energy engineering, sustainable development, data science, petroleum engineering, and digital innovation, equipping students with skills for future job markets.
- 2,462 students enrolled in 2023.

2. Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus (Kuching)

- Ranked in the top 1% of universities worldwide in Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), Times Higher Education (THE), and Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) rankings. Achieved Berdaya Saing (Competitive) ranking in SETARA 2022 and maintains over 95% employability rate. Researchers won multiple medals in the Innovation Technology Exposition 2023.
- Focuses on technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship, offering courses in arts, business, design, engineering, computing, and science. Emphasises Work Integrated Learning (WIL) experiences in all bachelor degrees, providing students with real industry experience through partnerships.
- 3,379 students enrolled in 2023.

3. University of Technology Sarawak (UTS) (Sibu)

- Offers programmes focusing on both academic and skills recognised by local and international industries. As a TVET university, UTS provides graduates with the latest technical knowledge and expertise in science and technology.
- Awarded “Pusat Bertauliah” status by Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran under the Ministry of Human Resource Malaysia. Ranked 1st in Sarawak for the UI Green Metric World University Ranking 2023 for campus sustainability.
- 3,147 students enrolled in 2023.

4. I-CATS University College (Kuching)

- Received BrandLaureate SMEs BestBrands 2023 award, silver in Premier of Sarawak Industry Excellence Award 2023, and achieved competitive rating in My-Quest. Received recognition for 3-star 5S environmental quality and won medals in various competitions including Smart Innovation Competition and SMARTUNI IoT Hackathon.
- Specialises in technical, technology, and sustainability-focused education across all programs, from Civil Engineering to Culinary Arts. Aims to equip graduates with skills to address global challenges through innovative, sustainable solutions in various fields including Computing & Software Engineering and Agrotechnology & Applied Sciences.
- 1,024 students enrolled in 2023.

5. Kolej Laila Taib (Sibu)

- All programmes accredited by MQA and recognised by *Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam* (JPA) and professional bodies. Licensed as "*Pusat Bertauliah*" for TVET programmes by Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran (JPK). Rated "COMPETITIVE" in MyQUEST 2022 and ISO 9001 certified since 2006.
- Focuses on producing graduates competent in theoretical and technical knowledge with effective communication skills. Aims to equip students with fundamental knowledge, practical and analytical skills for further studies and lifelong learning, contributing to Sarawak's development.
- 201 students enrolled in 2023.

Training Centres

1. Sarawak Skills

- Sarawak Skills offers a wide range of skills and corporate training programmes for secondary school leavers and working adults. The focus on IR 4.0, Automotive (Hybrid & Electric Vehicles), Digital Skills, Electrical & Electronics, Renewable Energy (including Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology), Green Skills, Plantation, Smart Agriculture, Oil & Gas, and Drone Technology supports the transformation of Sarawak's six key economic sectors (main engines of growth) in line with the Sarawak Post Covid-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2023).
- Numerous accolades and awards bestowed on Sarawak Skills – an affirmation of its position as a TVET Trendsetter and Hub of Industry-Driven Talent Development, especially in developing a future-ready workforce.
- 2,865 students enrolled up to April 2024 in six (6) campuses (Sarawak Skills Kuching, Sarawak Skills Miri, Sarawak Skills Sri Aman, Automotive & Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR), Sarawak Agriculture Vocational Training Institute (SAVTI) and Sarawak Electrical Industry Training Institute (SEITI).

2. CENTEXS (Centre for Technology Excellence Sarawak)

- Achieved significant outcomes with 16,201 graduates since 2014, 93% employability rate, and 84 industry training programmes (77% internationally certified). Received awards from Huawei and Malaysia GPM for talent development.
- Specialises in niche programmes including digital hardware, telecommunications, 5G, IoT, Industry 4.0, green energy, microelectronics, environmental sustainability, agriculture, construction, hospitality, tourism, and heritage, all certified by leading industry partners.
- 1,730 trainees enrolled in 2023 across six (6) campuses in Kuching, Lundu, Mukah, Betong, Dalat and Lawas.

SKILLS AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Sarawak is committed to developing a highly skilled workforce, aiming to achieve 30% skilled workforce by 2030. Some of the initiatives that have been implmented in effort to enhance skills and talent development in Sarawak are reskilling and upskilling of existing workforce through collaboration with State-owned training institutions, WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak, Sarawak Career and Training Fair (SCaT Fair), and Sarawak Workforce Information System (SWIS).



A contender in the welding category of WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak 2023 determined to showcase their skills and vie for the championship title. (Source: MEITD)

WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak

WMS is a bi-annual competition that serves as a prestigious platform for showcasing skills across 16 areas, aligned with the workforce sectors outlined in PCDS 2030. This event not only highlights the diverse talents within Sarawak but also encourages young professionals to strive for excellence in their chosen fields.

Key Outcomes of WMS 2023:

- 380 contestants participated in 2023, an impressive 83.6% increase since 2017
- 16 skill areas represented, contributing to diverse workforce development.
- Enhances participants' confidence and industry-ready skills



"WMS boosted my confidence in the food and beverage industry. Winning the cooking category and Anugerah Tangan Emas Premier was an incredible journey of creativity, passion, and dedication. I'm grateful for my lecturers' guidance and excited to push beyond our limits with my mentors in future competitions."

Marvin Lim Zhi Cheng
Winner, Anugerah Tangan Emas Premier Sarawak 2023 and the Winner for cooking skills category

Sarawak Career and Training Fair

The SCaT Fair stands as Sarawak's largest annual career event, bridging the gap between job seekers and potential employers. It offers a unique opportunity for attendees to explore various career paths and educational opportunities under one roof.

Key Outcomes of SCaT Fair 2023:

- Total attendees: 20,467 (Kuching: 12,208, Miri: 8,259)
- 69 participating industries
- 2,694 job vacancies offered
- 132 successful job placements

Benefits to Participants:

- Direct access to multiple job opportunities
- Exposure to various industries and career paths
- On-site interviews, accelerating the job search process

Building on these successes, Sarawak continues to advance its skills development and employment initiatives. Sarawak is committed to expanding and refining its programmes to meet future workforce needs.

Future Initiatives for Skills Development:

- Expansion of SCaT Fair to Sibu in 2024, broadening its reach across Sarawak
- Program Latihan Kemahiran Program Khas Bumiputera (PKB) Sarawak: A targeted approach to upskill the B40 Bumiputera community
- Industry Continuous Professional Development (iCPD): Focusing on enhancing workforce efficiency through upskilling and reskilling programmes

These ongoing and future initiatives demonstrate Sarawak's unwavering commitment to fostering skills excellence, nurturing emerging talent, and increasing employment rates. By investing in its human capital, Sarawak is laying a strong foundation for achieving its goal of becoming a high-income state by 2030.

THE WAY FORWARD

Moving forward, the Sarawak Government focuses on improving Sarawak's educational outcomes and workforce readiness through MEITD and its various agencies. Some of the upcoming key initiatives include the Standardised Assessment for DLP Sarawak at Primar 6 and Form 3, Sarawak Education Enhancement Programme (SEEP), Free Tertiary Education, Free Laptop and Book Vouchers, and scholarships for deserving students. These efforts aim to foster skills meeting market demands and drive socio-economic development.

Standardised Assessment for DLP Sarawak at Primary 6 and Form 3

This standardised assessment will provide the following instruments:

- To gauge the general performance in Science, Mathematics and English subjects.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the DLP Sarawak programme and subsequently provide recommendations for interventions where appropriate.
- To provide a more objective assessment for the purpose of streaming especially for pupils going into Upper Secondary schools.
- To facilitate admissions into State-owned Yayasan Sarawak International Secondary Schools without the requirement of an entrance assessment.

Interventions will be developed based on the needs of the students. The general interventions will include ongoing tutoring for the students using different strategies like scaffolding, mnemonics, mentoring, and differentiated instructions for individual students.

Sarawak Education Enhancement Programme (SEEP)

One of the key goals of SEEP is to improve the Gred Purata Sekolah (GPS), which will ultimately raise the overall SPM results in the state. This programme also aims to increase enrolment in the Science stream, helping students prepare for Sciences subjects such as Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. This, in turn, will contribute to building a qualified workforce that can meet the future demands of Sarawak's growing economy.

Free Tertiary Education

The Sarawak Government is reviewing a policy to provide Free Tertiary Education at State-owned institutions of higher learning starting 2026. This initiative aims to empower and train Sarawakians to meet market demands. Furthermore, the state is also committed to providing scholarships and bursaries to deserving students.

In conclusion, advancing a conducive education ecosystem in Sarawak requires synergistic collaboration not only between the state, the federal government, and industries but also with the education's grassroots communities, such as educators, non-profit organisations, and students. By enhancing creativity, innovation, soft skills, aptitude, and positive attitudes among graduates and students, future education and human capital would not only be strengthened but also contribute positively to Sarawak's socio-economic development.

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE

2030 ASPIRATION

By 2030 Sarawak will have high quality and environmentally sustainable public infrastructure, driving the social economic growth.

31,577 km
of roads in Sarawak as of 2023

64.2 million tonnes
Total cargo handled by Sarawak ports in 2023

Source: MIPD

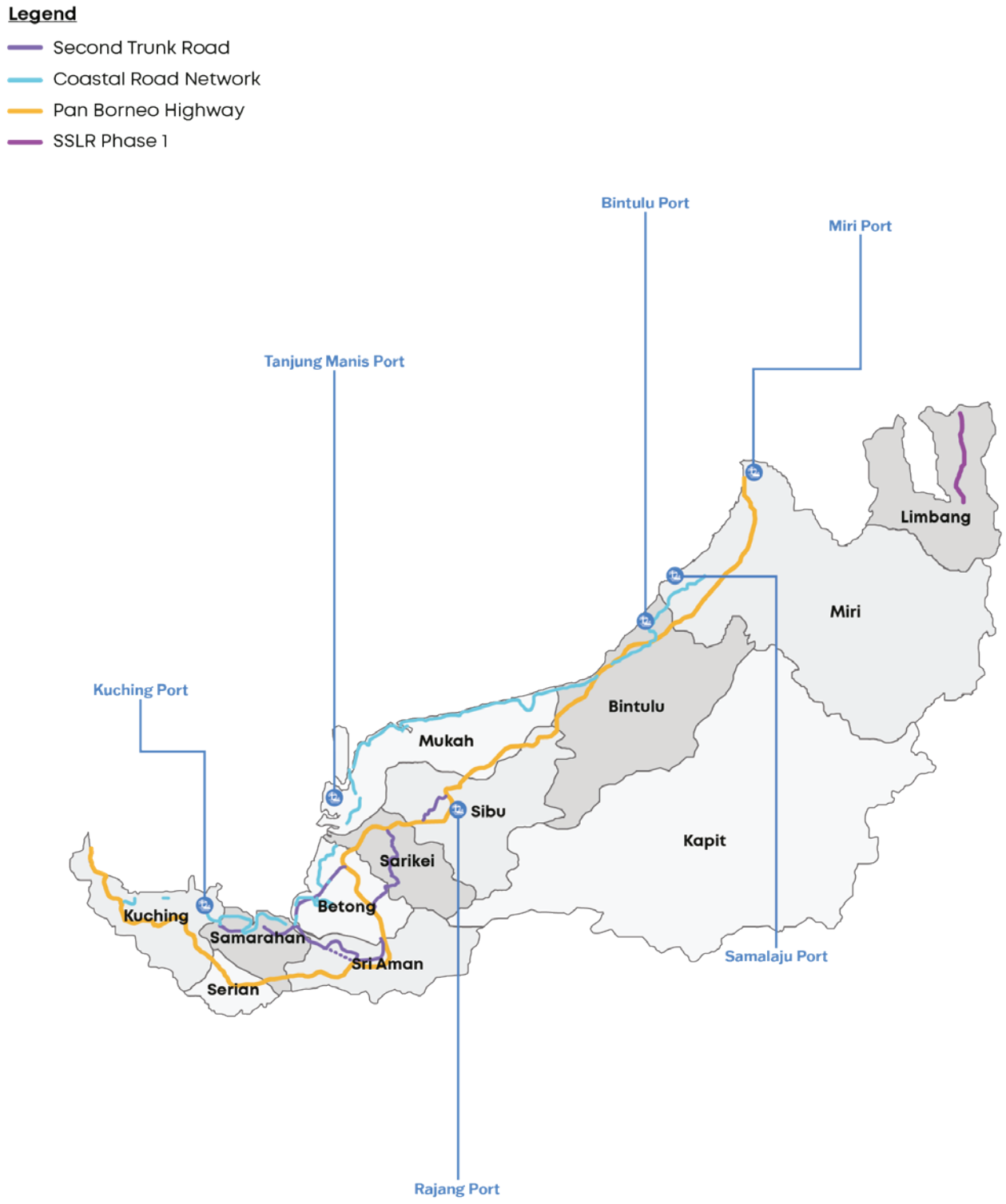
A total of 19 catalytic initiatives have been proposed for implementation under the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP) and 13th Malaysia Plan (13MP), focusing on improving land connectivity and port facilities. Major infrastructure projects include the Coastal Road Network and Second Trunk Road (CSTR), Projek Rakyat, and the Pan Borneo Highway (PBH), representing a significant investment. CSTR, with an allocation of RM11 billion, supports 60 sub-projects, while Projek Rakyat, allocated RM4.41 billion, includes 173 projects focused on road construction, bridges, buildings, jetties, and Short Take-Off and Landing Ports (STOLports). The PBH project, costing RM16.54 billion has greatly improved the travel time and provides a smoother journey for the road users.

Furthermore, ports are also crucial for economic growth. Sarawak is committed to the development of its ports which in turn, opens up a wealth of employment possibilities in areas such as logistics, transportation, and port operations. These initiatives demonstrate Sarawak's commitment to infrastructure development.



Batang Lupar No.1 Bridge (crossing Sebuyau - Triso) (expected completion in the end of 2025). (Source: JKR Sarawak)

OVERVIEW OF MAIN ROAD NETWORK AND PORTS IN SARAWAK



Pan Borneo Highway Phase 1 expected completion in October 2025
Coastal Road Network expected completion in the fourth quarter of 2025
Second Trunk Road expected completion in the fourth quarter of 2025

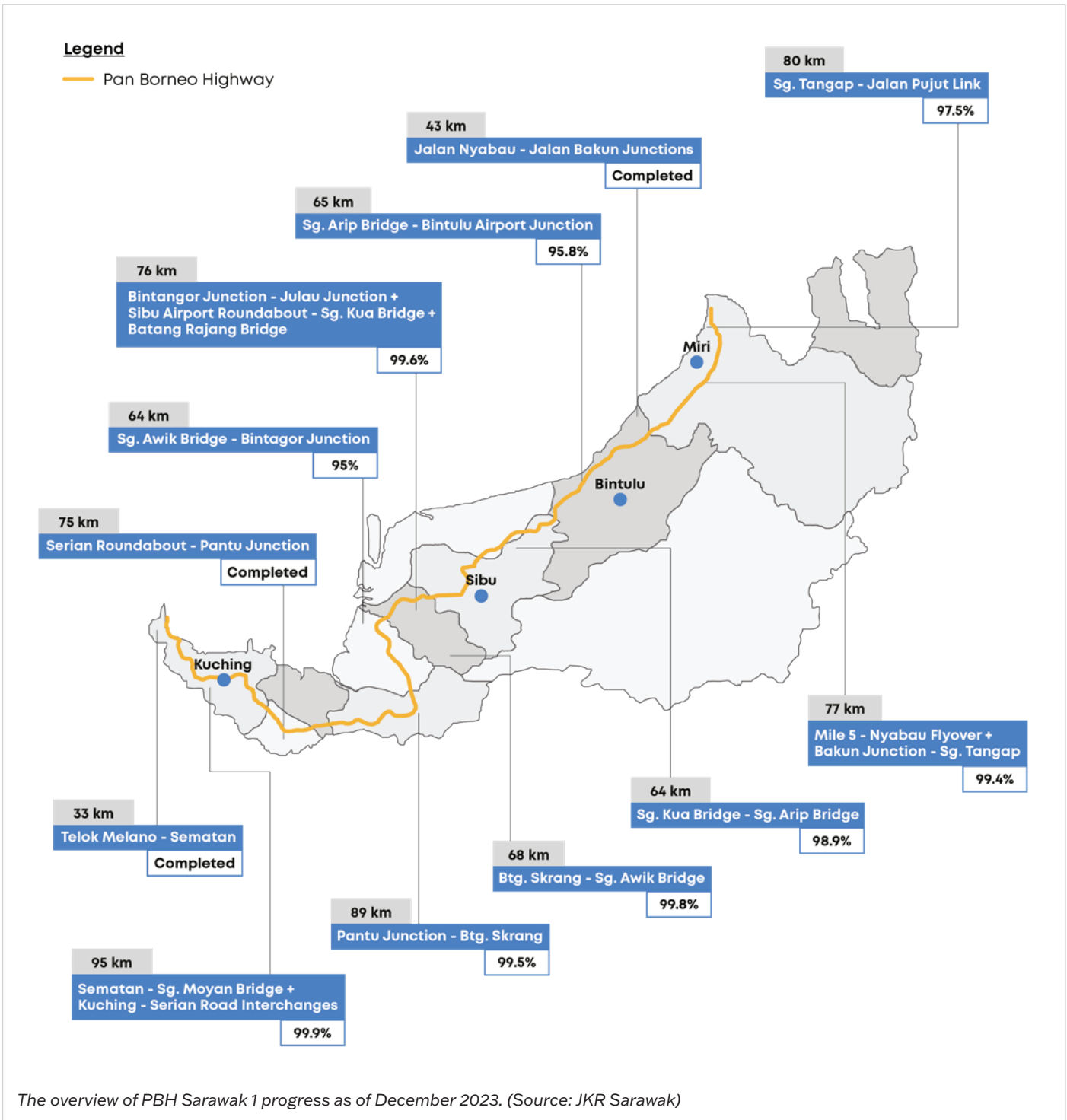
The overview of Sarawak's main projects. (Source: MIPD & JKR Sarawak)

PAN BORNEO HIGHWAY

The Pan Borneo Highway (PBH), designated as Asian Highway 150 (AH150), constitutes an existing federal trunk road in accordance with the Highway Network Development Plan (HNDP) Phase 2, as outlined by Malaysia's Ministry of Works (Kementerian Kerja Raya - KKR) in 2010. The project commenced in 2016, encompassing the upgrading of a 786-kilometer single-carriageway to dual-carriageway JKR R5 standards. This undertaking is divided into 11 work packages, facilitating concurrent execution to accelerate implementation and ensure timely project delivery. As of December 2023, the PBH Phase 1 has achieved a completion rate of 98.6%.

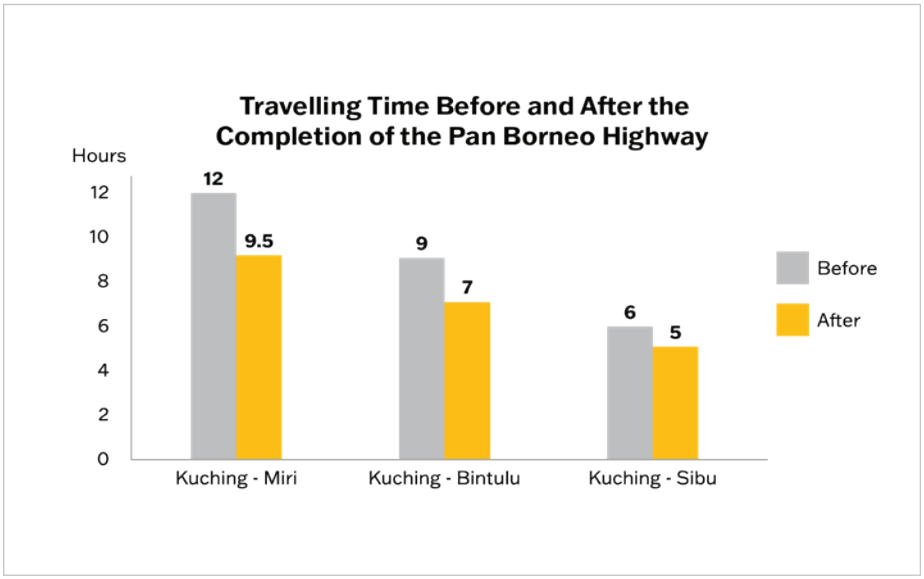


Serian Interchange. (Source: JKR Sarawak)



The overview of PBH Sarawak 1 progress as of December 2023. (Source: JKR Sarawak)

The PBH **enhances travel speed and road connectivity**, and with 25 planned flyovers, it provides smooth and efficient journeys.



Travelling time before and after the completion of PBH. (Source: JKR Sarawak)

"The Nyabau Interchange reduces traffic congestion, especially during peak hours. Additionally, it also shortens the travel distance to the city centre."

Hamsyah Bujang
Setiausaha Rumpun Silat Sarawak

The PBH will provide a comfortable journey to the road users due to the following:

4-lanes compared to current 2-lanes

Improved road alignment

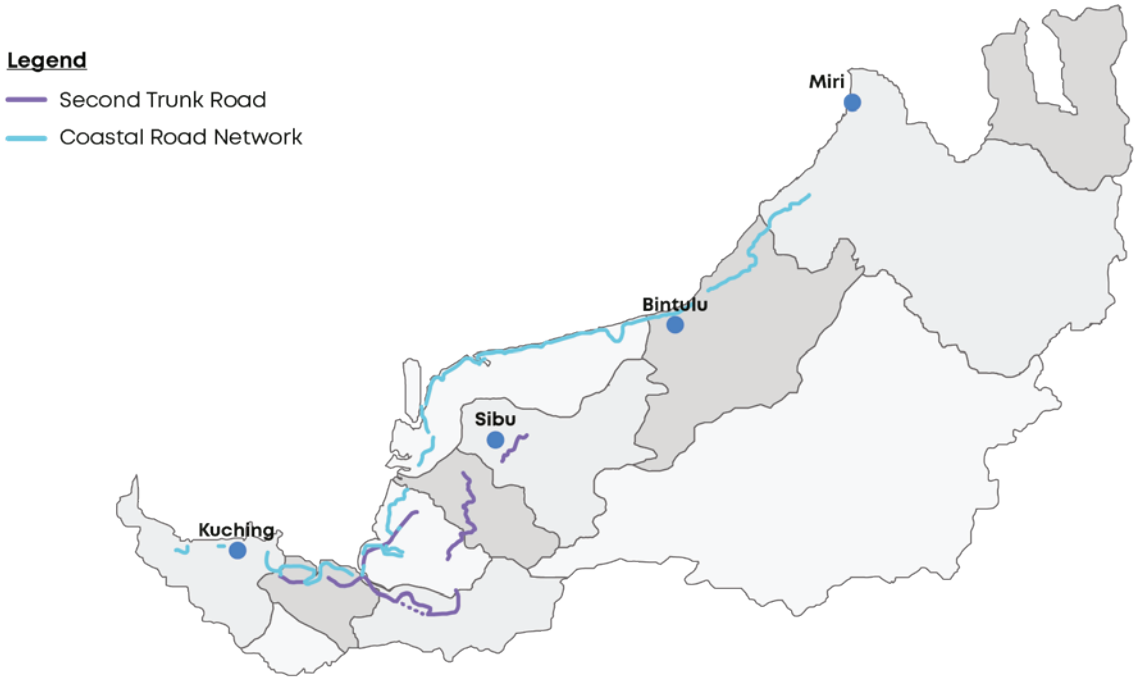
Modern Rest and Services Areas (RSA) and laybys along PBH



Nyabau Interchange. (Photo credit: JKR Sarawak)

COASTAL ROAD NETWORK AND SECOND TRUNK ROAD

The main goal of the Coastal Road Network and Second Trunk Road (CSTR) project is to improve travel efficiency and experience for its users.



The overview of the Coastal Road Network and Second Trunk Road. (Source: JKR Sarawak)

Coastal Road Network

The Coastal Road Network (CRN) project seeks to replace ferry services at multiple river crossings with permanent concrete bridges, ensuring reliable and efficient transportation. Additionally, the project will fill gaps in the road network by constructing missing links, including segments between Sarikei and Tanjung Manis, and from Bintulu to the Jepak area. Improvements and rehabilitation of the CRN project are also part of the plan to ensure safety and smooth connectivity for road users. Furthermore, the project aims to link economic development areas and drive socio-economic growth in coastal regions, benefiting local communities.



Artist impression: Batang Lupar 1 - Sebuyau - Triso (expected completion in the end of 2025). (Source: JKR Sarawak)

Project Scope for CRN

Construction of 10 major bridge crossings:
17 km

Development of connecting and approach roads:
46 km

Pavement rehabilitation and improvement works along the existing coastal road:
330 km

Source: JKR Sarawak

10 Major Bridge Crossings

Kuching Division	• Batang Rambungan Bridge (expected completion at the end of 2023) • Bridge Over Sungai Sarawak at Sejingkat (expected completion in the second quarter of 2025)
Samarahan Division	• Batang Lupar Bridge No. 1 (expected completion in the end of 2025)
Betong Division	• Sungai Krian Bridge (expected completion in the third quarter of 2025) • Batang Saribas Bridge No. 1 - (expected completion in the second quarter of 2024) • Batang Saribas Bridge No. 2 - (expected completion in the second quarter of 2025)
Sarikei Division	• Batang Rajang (expected completion by the first quarter of 2025)
Mukah Division	• Batang Paloh Bridge (expected completion at the end of 2025) • Muara Lassa Bridge (expected completion at the end of 2024) • Batang Igan Bridge (expected completion in the second quarter of 2025)
Bintulu Division	• Bintulu - Jepak Bridge Crossing Kuala Kemena (expected completion in the end of 2024)

Second Trunk Road



Artist impression: Batang Lupar Bridge No. 2 (expected completion in the third quarter of 2025). (Source: JKR Sarawak)

The Second Trunk Road (STR) initiative provides shorter alternative routes that interconnect with the CRN and PBH, offering significant advantages to communities along the Kuching-Sibu and Kuching-Betong corridors.

Destination	Existing Travel Distance & Travel Time	Travel Distance and Travel Time via Second Trunk Road
Kuching - Sibu	400 km (via Pan Borneo) 5 hours	225 km 3 hours
Kuching - Betong	246 km 3 hours	142 km 2 hours
Sebuyau - Sri Aman	200 km (through Simunjan & Pan Borneo) 3 hours 185 km (through Coastal Road) 2 hours 45 minutes	80 km 1 hour 15 minutes
Sri Aman - Betong	73 km 1 hour	37 km 30 minutes
Pakan - Betong	150 km 2 hours	80 km 1 hour 15 minutes

The comparison of existing travel distance and travel time to the travel distance and travel time via STR (with an average speed of 70 km per hour). (Source: JKR Sarawak)



YB Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas being interviewed during his visit to the project site at Jambatan Kemena Jepak, Bintulu. (Source: MIPD)

RURAL ROAD CONNECTIVITY



Upgrading of 1.85 km road at Kampung Danau Melikin. (Source: JKR Sarawak)

To ensure that all Sarawakians have access to economic opportunities and social services, the Sarawak Government is committed to expanding its road network to rural areas. The Rural Road Connectivity initiative embodies this vision to achieve 100% connectivity in rural areas by 2030.

As of 2023, approximately 4,944 settlements have been linked through a comprehensive road network.

It is anticipated that the Rural Road Connectivity initiative will bridge the divide between rural and urban areas. It is also expected to catalyse the growth of commercial, agricultural, and tourism sectors in rural areas and settlements. This is likely to spur the creation of localised job opportunities, fostering economic development and prosperity in these regions.



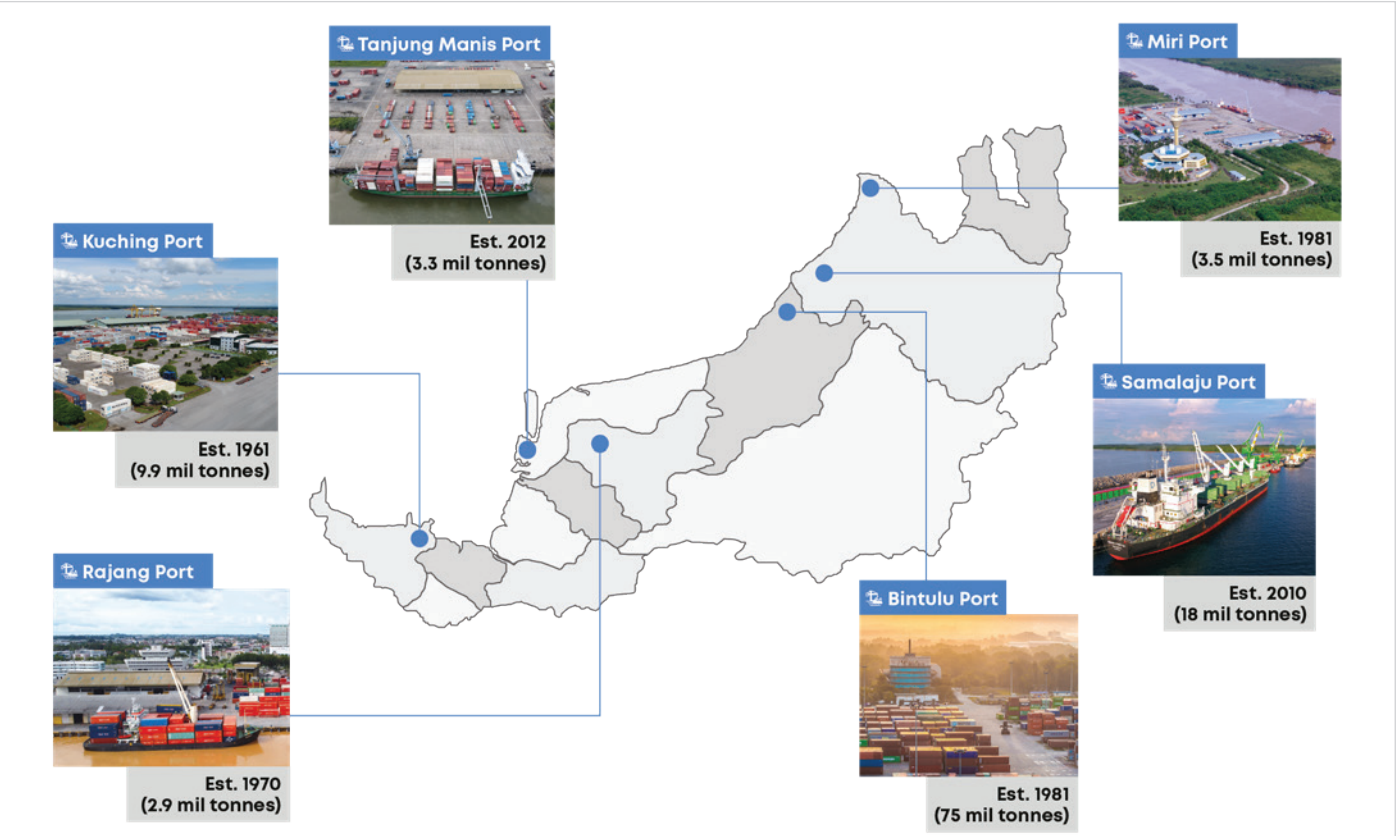
Improved rural roads enhance community access and connectivity (Source: JKR Sarawak)



"We commend JKR Sarawak for their outstanding contributions to the development of our rural road infrastructure. Their collaborative approach and unwavering commitment to excellence have set a benchmark for future projects."

Puan Madonna Linggi
Uma Penan, Long Lidem, Belaga

PORT DEVELOPMENT



Location of six (6) ports in Sarawak, year of establishment, and annual cargo capacity. (Source: MIPD)

Sarawak has six (6) main ports located in Kuching, Tanjung Manis, Rajang, Bintulu, Samalaju, and Miri, which play a crucial role in facilitating the import and export of goods. Currently the Federal Government is in the process of handing over Bintulu Port Authority to the Sarawak Government.

Under PCDS 2030, four (4) catalytic initiatives have been introduced to enhance port efficiency, each with associated approved projects as follows:

Efficient Port Services

Installation of Quay Cranes at Senari Terminal

Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) for Kuching Port

Southern Terminal

Proposed Construction and Completion of Tanjung Embang Terminal Phase 1, Kuching Port, Kuching

Free Zone Senari

Free Zone at Senari Terminal

Reinvigorate Miri Port as the Northern Gateway to Sarawak

Proposed Kuala Baram Capital Dredging & Associated Works

Among the approved projects, two (2) projects, as follows, have been completed:

1. The Supply, Installation, and Commissioning of Two (2) New Quay Cranes for Kuching Port Authority

As of December 2023, both cranes have completed assembly and passed their factory acceptance testing in China. The delivery of the cranes to Kuching Port Authority's (KPA) container terminal at Senari, Kuching, is scheduled in January 2024. With the commissioning of the new cranes, KPA is expected to double its container vessel handling productivity from the current 26 Gross Moves Per Hour (GMPH) to 50 GMPH, ensuring faster container vessel turnaround time at berth. This enhancement is anticipated to enhance KPA's competitiveness in container operations, thus enticing shipping lines to bring in larger vessels to Senari Terminal and encouraging local logistic providers to utilise its services.



Delivery of two (2) units quay crane to Senari Terminal, KPA. (Source: MIPD)

2. The Vessel Traffic Management System for Kuching Port

The Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) was successfully finalised on 31 May 2023. A trial run of the system was conducted from 1 June 2023 to 31 October 2023, and it has been in full operation since 1 November 2023. This system has improved the efficiency of vessel traffic management on the Sarawak River.



VTMS Tower. (Source: MIPD)

THE WAY FORWARD

The Ministry of Infrastructure and Port Development Sarawak (MIPD) is dedicated to enhancing road accessibility throughout Sarawak, with ongoing and future road construction and improvement projects. These efforts aim to enhance road networks across Sarawak, ensuring connectivity and convenience for all residents. Additionally, MIPD remains committed to advancing port development, strengthening Sarawak's infrastructure to meet increasing demands and promote economic prosperity.

Sarawak-Sabah Link Road

To enhance land connectivity in the northern part of Sarawak, the Federal Government has approved the Sarawak-Sabah Link Road (SSLR) to connect Sabah and Sarawak without passing through Brunei. The project is divided into two (2) phases of implementation (Phase 1 & Phase 2), with a budget allocation of RM8.17 billion. Phase 1 comprises the construction of the road from Simpang Gelugos to Long Luping and Phase 2 comprises the construction of the road from Mulu to Ba'Kelalan. Total completion of the SSLR is expected to be in the third quarter of 2029.

Port Consolidation

The Sarawak Government is studying the consolidation exercise to merge all Sarawak Port Authorities into a single, central Port Authority named Sarawak Ports Authority.

A new bill named Sarawak Port Authority Ordinance 2024 was tabled and passed in Dewan Undangan Negeri in May 2024 to replace the current Port Authorities Ordinance, 1961. Once the groundworks are ready, the current ordinance shall be repealed, and the new ordinance shall take place.

The benefits of consolidation of the Port Authorities include but are not limited to the following:

- A streamlined management, planning, and development of all ports in Sarawak, including Bintulu.
- Harmonised port tariff across all Sarawak Ports.
- Accelerate corporatisation or privatisation of ports.

Bintulu Port as a State Port

As of 2023, Bintulu Port is a Federal Port under the purview of the Ministry of Transport Malaysia. The Bintulu Port Authority regulates the port, while its operation is licensed to Bintulu Port Sdn Bhd as an approved port operator.

A memorandum of understanding between the Federal and Sarawak Governments has been signed on 22 March 2023 to facilitate the change of Bintulu Port's status from federal to state port, with finalisation expected by the end of 2024.

Miri Port

Miri Port, located in Kuala Baram, Miri is envisioned to become a deep-sea port capable of handling all types of cargo and cruise vessels, following the capital dredging of the access channel project from September 2024 until the second quarter of 2027.

The capital dredging project will also greatly benefit the northern region of Sarawak by improving the shipping efficiency via the deepening of the access channel

The project will stimulate growth in industries like oil palm and other industries in Miri and its surrounding areas.

Port Operational Efficiency

Sarawak prioritises the development and modernisation of ports to enhance trade efficiency in meeting global and local demand for increased exports. Sarawak Government initiatives include:

- Installation of VTMS and modern quay cranes at Kuching Port.
- Deployment of Aids to Navigation (AtON) at Tanjung Manis Port.

To enhance port efficiency, Sarawak Government has:

- Introduced digital platforms.
- Improved road networks.
- Provided adequate workforce training and development.
- Encouraged collaboration among port authorities, government agencies, and private stakeholders.

UTILITIES

2030 ASPIRATION

By 2030 Sarawak will have world-class utilities, which are reliable, economical, safe and sustainable throughout the State, to uplift the economic and social well-being of Sarawak.

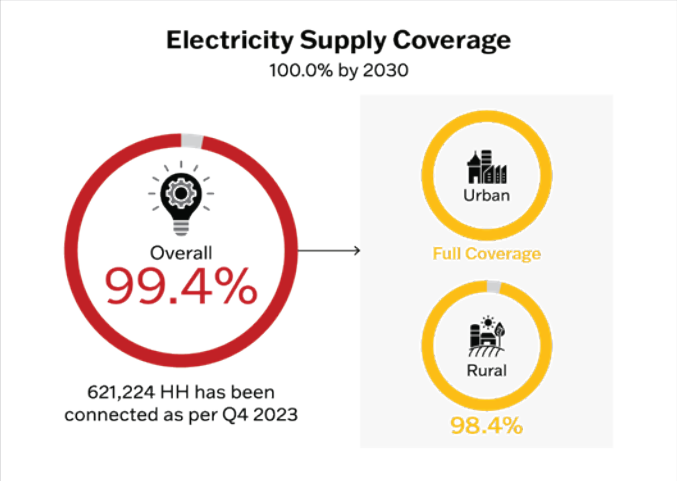
99.4%
electricity supply coverage as of 2023

Source: MUT

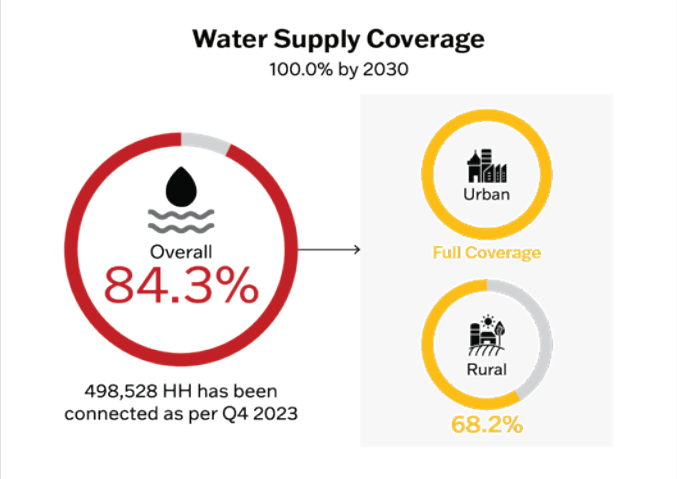
As of 2023, the overall electricity supply coverage stands at 99.4%, with rural areas achieving 98.4% coverage. The Sarawak Government, through the Ministry of Utility and Telecommunication (MUT), continues to invest in expanding the electricity grid and the implementation of the Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES) to serve remote communities. In addition, the Sarawak Government remains committed to achieving 100% water supply coverage by 2030 through the Sarawak Water Supply and Water Grid Master Plan.

As of December 2023, the current water supply coverage is 84.3% and the rural coverage is 68.2%.

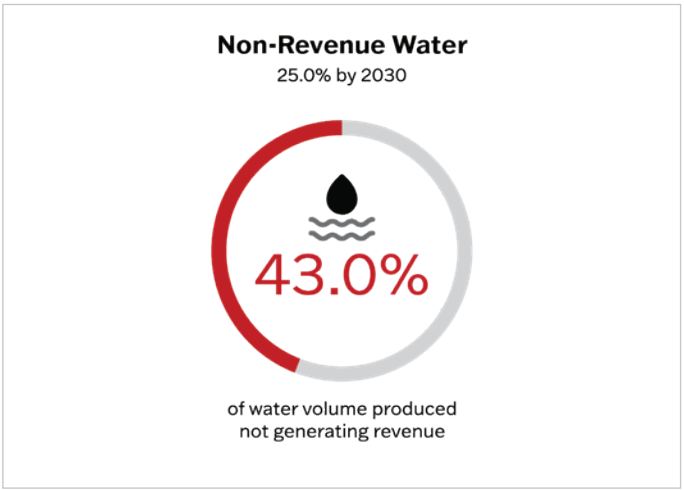
Furthermore, the Sarawak Government aims to utilise a minimum of 30% of the natural gas produced within Sarawak for domestic purposes by 2030. The recent approval of the Sarawak Distribution of Gas (Amendment) Bill 2023 designates Petroleum Sarawak Berhad (PETROS) as the exclusive gas aggregator responsible for procuring natural gas from all sources. This move will significantly boost domestic gas consumption in Sarawak.



Electricity coverage in Sarawak as of 2023. (Source: MUT)



Water coverage in Sarawak as of 2023. (Source: MUT)



Percentage of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) in Sarawak as of 2023. (Source: MUT)

SARAWAK ALTERNATIVE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME

The Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES) implemented by Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) responds to the pressing need for 24-hour electricity supply in remote areas. The project addresses the needs of remote communities which are unconnected to the main electricity grid, through the deployment of standalone solar or micro hydroelectric systems.



Implementation of the SARES project at Long Bedian, Miri. (Source: MUT)

15,006
households connected to SARES
(2017-2023)

Source: MUT

The implementation of the RM774 million SARES initiative in 548 villages is expected to be completed by 31 December 2025.

SARES offers a cleaner, quieter and cheaper alternative to costly diesel generators, thereby reducing the financial burden of rural communities. As of December 2023, the SARES project has provided electricity to 15,006 rural and remote households in Sarawak.

To overcome the difficulty and high costs of transporting heavy materials, SARES emphasises local participation in construction such as casual labour and transportation services. This has provided communities with an opportunity to supplement their income. The local communities are also involved in contracts for routine maintenance such as grass cutting and solar panel cleaning.



Involvement of local communities in transporting materials for SARES. (Source: MUT)

As solar station batteries only have a lifespan of five (5) to seven (7) years, there are ongoing projects to replace these batteries. Additionally, there are ongoing Rural Electrification Scheme (RES) projects under Projek Rakyat to extend the overhead electricity lines to rural areas within the vicinity of SARES/hybrid stations, and permanently connect SARES households to the main electricity grid.



"I am truly grateful that this SARES project has been implemented in my area. This initiative in building these solar systems at our kampung really helps support our day-to-day activities at our *kampung*."

Maren Uma Nareu Pua
Uma Penan, Long Lidem, Belaga

ADDITIONAL LATE APPLICANT FUND

Additional Late Applicant Fund (ALAF) was introduced in Sarawak in 2018 and provides electricity connection to eligible households in rural areas that were not electrified after projects under RES were completed. These houses were normally either still under construction or newly constructed homes. ALAF aims to connect them to the existing power grid. This scheme was managed by MUT and implemented in phases by SEB.



Implementation of the ALAF project. (Source: MUT)

Since 2018, the Sarawak Government has provided funding from Projek Rakyat allocation amounting to RM315 million. The ALAF project focuses on providing additional service connections to individual households, community buildings such as places of worship and community halls, and longhouses within Sarawak's villages.

Since its inception, in 2018, ALAF has benefited 21,073 households. As a result of improved infrastructure and utilities, the gap between rural and urban areas has narrowed. Residents in rural areas can now reduce their cost of living and dependence on diesel generators.

In 2023, 5,600 households were connected to the electricity grid under this scheme. This brings an overall total of 21,073 households connected since the ALAF programme was implemented.

SARAWAK WATER SUPPLY GRID PROGRAMME FOR STRESSED AREAS

Sarawak Water Supply Grid Programme for Stressed Areas Phase I is a part of the overall Sarawak Water Supply Grid and was first implemented in 2018. This RM4 billion project, set to provide a reliable, sustainable, and resilient water supply, is expected to be completed in 2028. By securing water access, supporting livelihoods, and promoting efficient resource utilisation, this programme contributes significantly to Sarawak's growth and development.



Nyabau Upgraded Water Treatment Plant, Bintulu. (Source: JBALB)



Semariang High Level Tank, Kuching. (Source: JBALB)

The programme has expanded Sarawak's combined capacity of new and upgraded water treatment plants to 387 million litres per day.

The extensive pipeline network spans 1,970 km, with 514 km of old pipelines replaced and 1,456 km of new and extended pipelines laid, bringing benefit to 6,496 new households with water supply and increasing the water supply coverage in Sarawak to 84.3% as of 2023.



Samarahan Water Grid to Sebuyau, Samarahan. (Source: JBALB)

SARAWAK ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY



Implementation of SAWAS project at Kampung Belantak, Limbang. (Source: JBALB)

Commenced in 2017, the Sarawak Alternative Water Supply (SAWAS) continued with Phase II in 2020 with an allocation of RM113 million. This initiative provides remote and inaccessible rural communities with an off- grid water supply system. This is to ensure that rural households are provided with a clean water supply to further improve their quality of life and raise their living standards.

The completion of all 22 packages under SAWAS Phase II is expected to benefit a total of 1,548 households across different divisions including Samarahan, Sri Aman, Sarikei, Sibu, Kapit, Bintulu, Miri, and Limbang.

A total of 16 of these 22 packages have been completed as of the end of 2023, providing water supply to 1,089 households in these divisions across Sarawak.

The SAWAS initiative is aligned with the guidelines of the World Health Organisation's Water Supply for Rural Areas and Small Communities, which includes the selection of raw water sources, types of treatment systems and water storage and distribution mechanisms.

In achieving full water supply coverage in Sarawak, SAWAS acts as a stopgap in providing amenities in terms of clean water to the people who need it the most.

"The SAWAS project is excellent in providing clean and safe water supply to rural communities. For over 40 years, we have been waiting to enjoy the convenience of clean water, and now we can finally wash, bathe, and carry out our daily activities with this clean water supply."

Abdul Aji Bin Ali
Ketua Kampung Belantak, Limbang

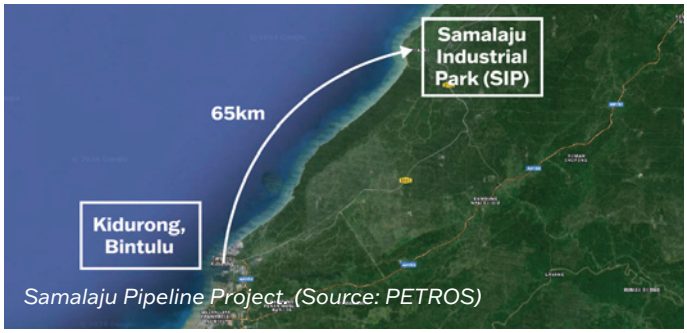
"Previously, we only fetched water from the river, but now we have a water tank with clean water, so we use it. I hope this project can continue to provide clean water for us villagers here, and may it last forever. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the implementation of this project."

Nadun Bala
A resident of Long Seridan, Ulu Baram

BINTULU-SAMALAJU GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

The Bintulu-Samalaju Gas Pipeline project is a strategic endeavour designed to address energy needs and boost industrial growth within Sarawak. The proposed gas pipeline will transport feed gas from the Bintulu Additional Gas Facility-2 (BAGSF-2) in Bintulu to the Samalaju Industrial Park (SIP). The 65-km offshore pipeline will provide up to 300 million standard cubic feet per day (mmscfd) of gas to energy-intensive industries in the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE), including aluminium and ferroalloy smelting plants. The project will also supply natural gas to the proposed 1,000 MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power plant in SIP, which will be developed by SEB.

The project has completed its Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) and Final Investment Decision (FID) in 2023. The project is currently in the Detailed Design (DD) phase and is on track for expected commissioning by the end of 2025.



Samalaju Pipeline Project. (Source: PETROS)


Site visit for Samalaju Pipeline project. (Source: PETROS)

SARAWAK VIRTUAL PIPELINE SYSTEM

The Sarawak Virtual Pipeline System (VPS) pilot project aims to supply Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to multiple demand centres across Sarawak from Bintulu. The primary mode of transporting the gas molecules is through LNG trucking. The project is currently in the commercial discussion phase and will receive private funding from PETROS.

The LNG VPS business plays a key role in shaping Sarawak's energy landscape. By extending natural gas supply through trucks equipped with cryogenic tanks, it reaches off-grid customers, enabling them to make the switch from conventional fuels. The project is part of the Sarawak Gas Roadmap (SGR) which aims to significantly boost domestic gas use in Sarawak - from the existing 6% to at least 20% by 2030. The project is anticipated to go live in the first quarter of 2025.



The handover of Gas Aggregator appointment from the Minister for Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak, YB Dato Sri Julaihi Bin Haji Narawi to PETROS Group Chief Executive Officer, Dato Janin Girie. (Source: MUT)

PETROS AS GAS AGGREGATOR FOR SARAWAK

In November 2023, the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly passed the bill for the amendment to the Distribution of Gas Ordinance, 2016 to appoint a gas aggregator to procure adequate natural gas for distribution and supply in Sarawak.

Following the passing of the Bill, PETROS was appointed as the sole gas aggregator in Sarawak. This is a proactive decision initiated by the Sarawak Government to exercise greater control over the utilisation of its oil and gas resources and to ensure that sufficient gas is available to the people and for the industrial development of Sarawak.

Under the regulatory purview of the Sarawak Government, PETROS, as the sole gas aggregator in Sarawak, is the only party deemed licensed to manage the procurement of all natural gas produced in Sarawak by upstream gas producers for distribution, supply, and sale to any person, plant, facility, or premises. PETROS is also entrusted to develop, expand, manage, and maintain Sarawak's gas distribution network and system.

The appointment of PETROS as the gas aggregator marks a significant step for Sarawak in procuring sufficient natural gas supply to enhance domestic utilisation and industrial development, enabling the implementation of the SGR, and increasing job opportunities for the people of Sarawak and local businesses to participate in Sarawak's gas distribution industry. This will contribute to Sarawak's new income streams and enable Sarawak to progress its aspiration of becoming a high-income developed state by 2030.

PETROS LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS

Effective 1 December 2023, PETROSNiaga Sdn Bhd, a local company owned by PETROS (51%) and PETRONAS Dagangan Berhad (49%), holds the full market share for the distribution of subsidised liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in Sarawak, serving an expanding consumer base of about 770,000 people throughout Sarawak.

Serving approximately
770,00
customers in Sarawak

Approximately
1.8 million
14-kg LPG cylinders in circulation

67 dealers
300 sub-dealers
throughout Sarawak



PETROS LPG cylinders. (Source: PETROS)



Fire safety demonstration at Sarawak BOMBA Run 2023, in collaboration with Sarawak Fire and Rescue Department, Persatuan Sukan dan Kebajikan BOMBA Sarawak (PESKEBS), and Kuching South City Council (MBKS). (Source: PETROS)

PETROSNiaga is committed to ensuring the availability of reliable and affordable 14-kg LPG cylinders across homes, with a total of about 1.8 million cylinders currently in market circulation through its statewide distribution network of 67 dealers and 300 sub-dealers.

To ensure a continuous supply of subsidised LPG to Sarawak's households, PETROSNiaga has invested more than RM50 million to strengthen its supply network, upgrade storage capacity, inject replacement cylinders, and enhance logistics management. These efforts are part of the company's long-term commitment to meeting the increasing demand for LPG supply in Sarawak while ensuring seamless deliveries to customers, now and in the future.

With safety as a top priority, PETROSNiaga also focuses its efforts on raising public awareness of fire and LPG safety through various community engagement programmes and fire safety demonstrations at festive bazaars, as well as other initiatives.



LPG safety awareness campaign at Ramadan Bazaar 2022 at Stutong Market, Kuching. (Source: PETROS)

THE WAY FORWARD

The Sarawak Government is committed to ensuring that all Sarawakians have access to reliable electricity and clean water supply. The recently passed amendments to the Electricity Ordinance reinforces Sarawak's commitment to renewable energy. The amendment encourages public and investor participation in electricity production through solar panels and cascading power sources from rivers. SEB, designated as the Single Buyer, will facilitate power procurement and promote renewable energy, including solar power adoption.

In addition to that, MUT aims to implement the next phase of the water supply grid, SAWAS, pipe upgrading and replacement programme, and NRW programme in order to achieve full water supply coverage and reduce NRW to at least 25% by the year 2030.

In regard to gas distribution, the Bintulu-Samalaju Gas Pipeline project and the Sarawak Virtual Pipeline System pilot project are among the key components under the Sarawak Gas Roadmap, as well as in delivering PETROS' purpose of 'Harnessing Resources for the Sustainable Progress of Sarawak and Beyond'.

In short, MUT's strategic direction focuses on sustainable energy, water accessibility, and infrastructure development, ensuring a resilient and prosperous future for Sarawak.

List of major future projects:



Electricity Supply	• Cascading Power Source programme • Rural Electrification Scheme (RES), To Grid Connect SARES/Hybrid Villages • Construction of 33 kV Medium Voltage Covered Conductor (MVCC) from Gaat to Tunoh and 33 kV Substation at Tunoh Town



Water Supply	• New Landeh Water Treatment Plant, Kuching Division • Serian Regional Water Supply Phase II, Serian Division • Upgrading of Salim Water Treatment Plant, Sibu Division • Upgrading of Kaki Wong Water Treatment Plant, Saratok, Betong Division • Upgrading and Replacement of Water Pipelines Programme in Sarawak



Gas	• 500 MW Miri Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Plant, Sarawak

TRANSPORT

2030 ASPIRATION

An integrated transport system that is safe, reliable, affordable, energy-efficient and increases travel choice in Sarawak by 2030.

4.38 million

bus ridership recorded in 2023 through the RM1 Flat Rate Bus Fare subsidy programme

Source: MOTS

Between 2021 and 2023, significant strides were made in sustainable transport and infrastructure development. This includes the initiation of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) powered by hydrogen, the commencement of riverine infrastructure to boost the river economy, and strategies for broadening air connectivity. Additionally, a successful proof of concept (POC) for Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) has been carried out, and the increase in both bus ridership and number of international flights. These initiatives aim to expand transport infrastructure, promote eco-friendly transport modes, and enhance safety. The expected result is an improvement in regional connectivity and urban mobility through the adoption of sustainable transport solutions.



"I am pleased to note the commencement of the installation of Aids to Navigation and Surveillance System in Sarawak. This initiative will significantly enhance the safety of river navigation, enabling river economic activities to be carried out at any time of the day and night."

Mr Lee Kim Kwang
Chairman,
Sarawak Shipping Association



YB Dato Sri Lee Kim Shin, together with MOTS and Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd staff following a briefing on the progress of Stage 2 of the POC Exercise and inspection of the dedicated ART lanes along the Kuching-Samarahan Expressway. (Source: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd)



Artist's impression of an ART station. (Source: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd)

KUCHING URBAN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



A glimpse of the future: The ART prototype vehicle undergoing engineering run at Isthmus, Kuching. (Source: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd)

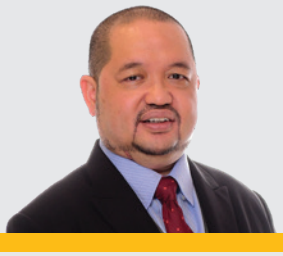
The Ministry of Transport Sarawak (MOTS) is overseeing the development of the KUTS which is implemented by Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC). This initiative is set to revolutionise public transport in major cities, starting with the development of KUTS to address traffic challenges in the Greater Kuching area. KUTS aims to offer a safe, comfortable, reliable, and eco-friendly mode of public transport. This project will utilise hydrogen technology in its fleet of ART vehicles and feeder buses. This green technology approach supports Sarawak's goal for a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable society by 2030.

The estimated RM6 billion project is a transformative initiative planned to be built in phases, with the first phase expected to be completed by the end of 2027.

These innovative vehicles combine features of buses and trams. Equipped with rubber tires, they operate on trackless lanes, guided by virtual tracks.

The comprehensive transportation improvements in Kuching aim to address several critical aspects. These include:

- Creating a well-connected network for improved accessibility.
- Reducing traffic congestion through reliable public transit options.
- Integrating modern technology with eco-friendly solutions, including zero-emissions hydrogen usage.
- Contributing to the economic and social development of the city.
- Strengthening Sarawak's leadership in hydrogen production and technology.



"Sarawak Metro has been entrusted to implement a noble project which will definitely be a game-changer for the socio-economic landscape in the city and we are committed to realising this aspiration. We are also committed in creating a pool of skilled and professional workforce, to manage the public transport industry in the future."

Ts. Mazli Mustaffa
Chief Executive Officer,
Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd

38
ART hydrogen vehicles

30 meters
length of trams

29 stations
to be built under Phase 1 of the KUTS
(with an additional 6 provisional stations planned for future phases)

55
feeder buses

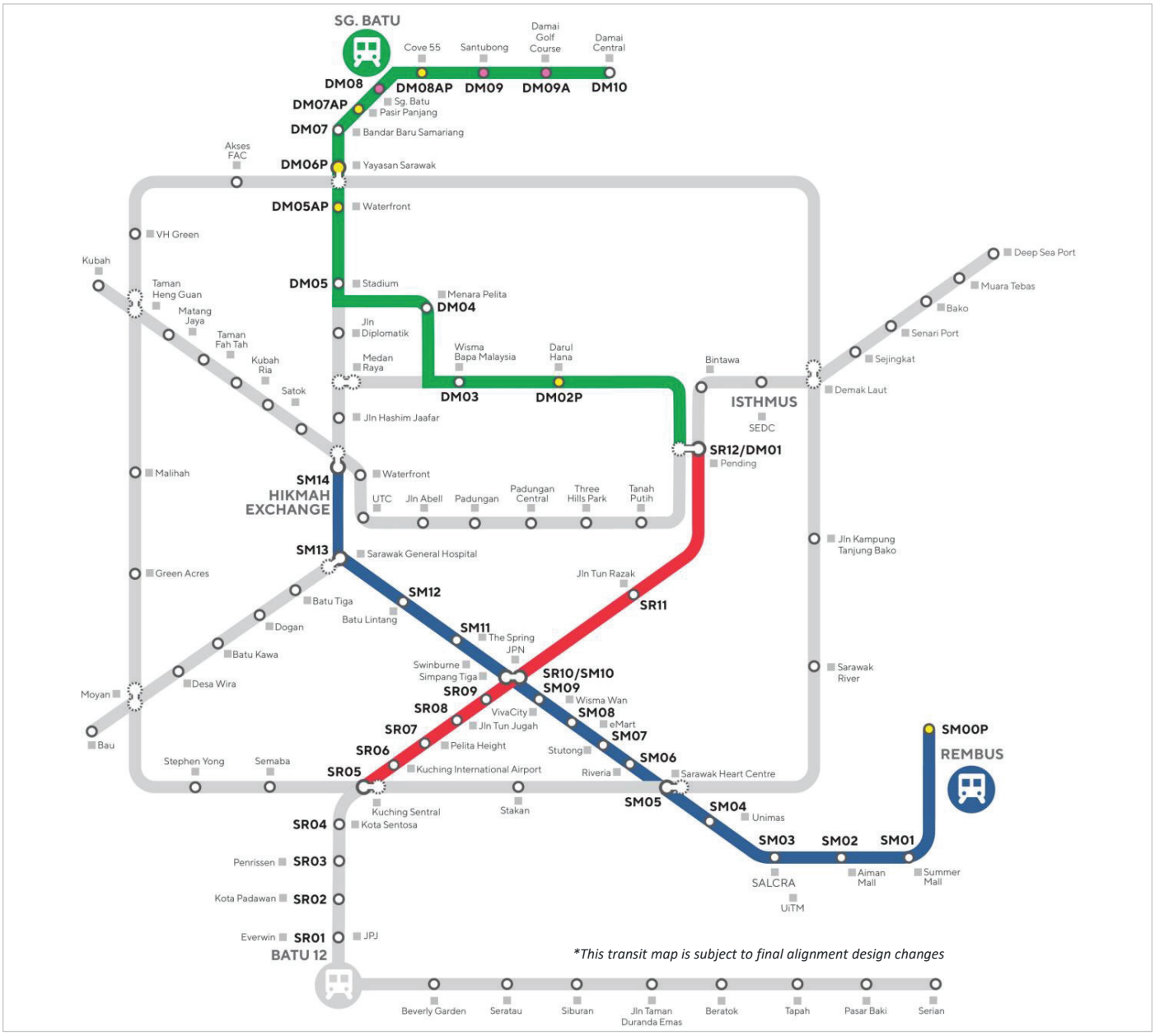
The ART links Kota Samarahan, Kuching city centre, Pending, and Santubong, with an estimated 78,000 daily ridership on weekdays in 2028 for all three (3) lines.

The details for the three (3) lines are as follows:

Blue Line (27 km): This line connects Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Hikmah Exchange in Kuching city centre (Phase 1 of Blue Line Package 1 expected completion date: December 2025).

Red Line (12 km): This line connects Kuching Sentral to Pending (Expected completion date: December 2026).

Green Line (30 km): This line connects Pending to Damai Central in Santubong (Expected completion date: June 2027).



Proposed KUTS Transit Map. (Source: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd)

In 2023, Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd completed the engineering run and POC exercise on the prototype ART hydrogen vehicle at Kuching-Samarahan Expressway to gather technical data essential for the final design of the ART vehicles. In 2024, KUTS will focus on executing various construction projects, such as Blue Line Package 1, Red Line Package, Rembus Depot Main Building Package, and Blue Line Package 2. Additionally, the emphasis is on producing ART sets in batches and collaborating with stakeholders to address legal gaps concerning ART, including Right of Way, Transit Signal Priority, and Vehicle Insurance. Efforts also include enhancing project management processes while upholding safety, health, and environmental standards throughout the construction phase.

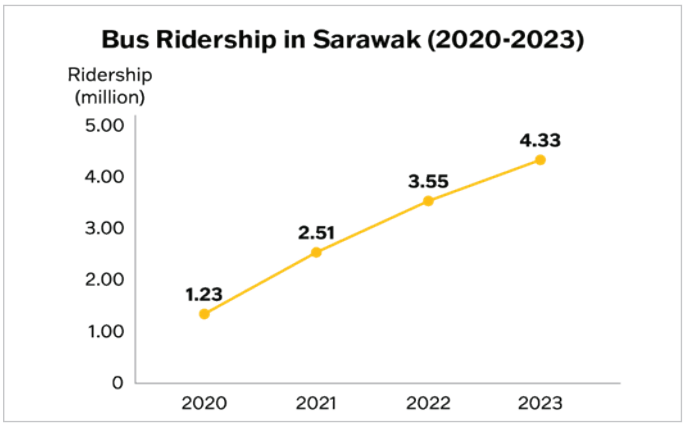
RM1 FLAT RATE BUS FARE SUBSIDY PROGRAMME



A passenger boarding the bus at one (1) of the drop points in Kuching. (Source: MOTS)

RM1 Flat Rate Bus Fare Subsidy Programme was approved by Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (MMKN) on 4 May 2020 and implemented by MOTS. The main objective of this programme is to help the low income (B40) group to have better access to urban public transport by reducing their transport expenses. It is also designed to encourage the use of public transport to reduce traffic congestion. The subsidy for the bus passengers is paid to bus companies based on the cumulative differences between the RM1 flat rate bus fare and the approved stage bus fare permitted by the Sarawak Commercial Vehicle Licensing Board (CVLB).

This programme reflects Sarawak Government's commitment to easing citizens' financial burdens. Since its inception, the programme has received positive feedback, particularly from the B40 group. Since its launch, there has been a 73% surge in ridership from 2021 to 2023.



Number of bus ridership in 2020 to 2023. (Source: MOTS)

A total of 11 bus companies operate on 67 routes, covering:

- Kuching
- Samarahan
- Sri Aman
- Sarikei
- Sibu
- Mukah
- Bintulu
- Miri

Due to rising usage each year, the programme is set to continue until 2025. Discussions are ongoing with bus operators to improve their services, aiming to improve bus conditions and address operational challenges. A new integrated bus system is being introduced to enhance public transport. Plans are also in motion to develop urban areas, emphasising active mobility through mixed-use areas, compact development, and pedestrian-friendly spaces. Additionally, the plan entails integrating active mobility infrastructure with public transport to facilitate seamless transitions between different modes of transportation. Education and awareness programmes will also be implemented to promote behavioural change and encourage the adoption of active mobility.

RIVER ECONOMY

Sarawak has a vast network of rivers, which has been crucial for sustenance, income, and transportation for generations. Despite road developments, rivers remain vital, especially in rural and coastal areas. Leveraging this extensive river network is essential to boost the river economy. Sarawak Rivers Board has prioritised enhancing safety, security, and efficiency of river navigation in line with international maritime standards set by the International Maritime Organisation and The International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities, which Malaysia has ratified.

Installation of Aids to Navigation and Surveillance System at Sarawak River

The first project under this initiative is the installation of Aids to Navigation (AtoN) and a Surveillance System at the Sarawak River, which commenced on 27 April 2023 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. The main goal of this project is to enhance river navigation safety and ensure reliable access for all waterway users, which will facilitate economic growth and promote river tourism and activities.

AtoN are external vessel systems that help navigators to:

- **Identify their location**
- **Plot a safe course**
- **Warn them of potential hazards**

AtoN includes various safety precautions for vessels navigating rivers and specific bodies of water, such as:

- **Navigation Buoys**
- **Light Beacons**
- **Transits**
- **Bridge Lighting**
- **Signage**

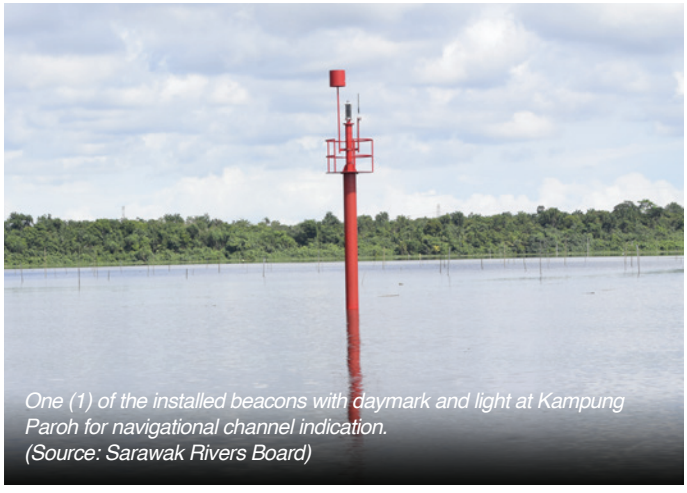
Furthermore, introducing Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) is essential to oversee riverine traffic, particularly at blind corners. This system is being implemented at Sarawak River, with the proposed scheme value of RM30 million for the first phase of the river which is scheduled to be completed in 2024.

VTMS also:

- **Enhances waterway safety and security**
- **Regulates navigation**
- **Enables continuous vessel traffic monitoring**

The proposed river management plan aims to ensure safe and secure navigation to facilitate economic growth and promote riverine tourism and activities. Implementing this plan can significantly reduce boat accidents caused by collisions.

The installation project of AtoN and a surveillance system in the Sarawak River is progressing as planned and is expected to meet its schedule. Additionally, plans are underway to implement similar systems in the Miri River and Kuala Baram, Miri, aligning with the expansion of the oil and gas industry in the region. This initiative ensures compliance with Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention and enhances communication and monitoring of river activities for security and emergency response.



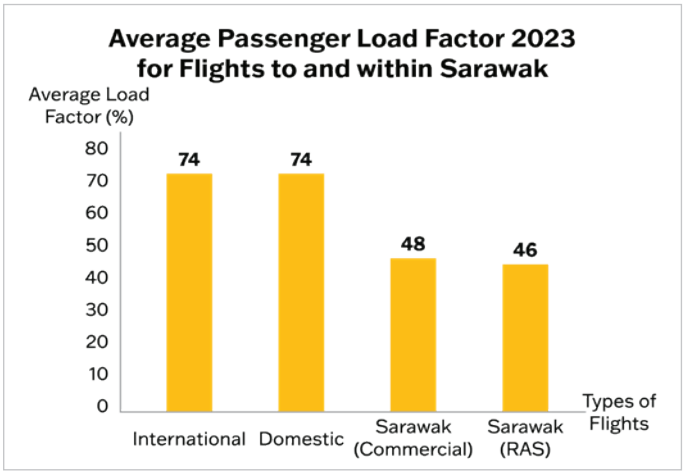
One (1) of the installed beacons with daymark and light at Kampung Paroh for navigational channel indication.
(Source: Sarawak Rivers Board)

THE WAY FORWARD

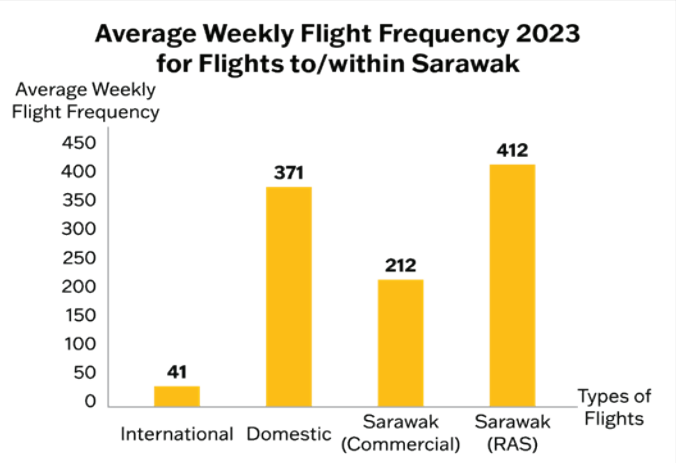
MOTS is dedicated to the planning and development of transportation networks across Sarawak, focusing on rivers and specified water bodies, urban transport, and urban traffic management. With a steadfast commitment to improving connectivity and mobility, MOTS aims to enhance transportation infrastructure and services to meet the evolving needs of residents and support sustainable development throughout Sarawak.

In addition, Sarawak is actively enhancing its air connectivity to stimulate tourism and enhance economic development, as evidenced by the following developments in 2023:

- International flights operate 41 times weekly with a 74% passenger load factor, supported by collaboration between Sarawak and Federal Government agencies.
- Domestic flights within Sarawak and across Malaysia total 371 weekly, maintaining the same load factor of 74%.
- Key routes like Kuching to Bintulu, Miri, and Sibu, and vice versa, show an 81% passenger load factor, indicating strong demand.
- Despite an average load factor of 46%, Rural Air Services (RAS) plays a vital role in connecting remote communities in the interior of East Malaysia and providing them with essential access to healthcare, education, economic opportunities, and other vital services.
- Subsidised by the Federal Government, RAS routes like Kuching to Limbang, Miri to Bario, and Miri to Long Banga maintain high passenger load factors.
- The Sarawak Government aims to improve RAS by acquiring MASwings Sdn Bhd and transforming it into a regional carrier. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 20 July 2023, between the Sarawak Government and the Federal Government, ensures ongoing RAS subsidies under Sarawak's administration, enhancing support for remote communities.



Average passenger load factor 2023 for flights to and within Sarawak. (Source: MOTS)



Average weekly flight frequency 2023 for flights to and within Sarawak. (Source: MOTS)

Overall, Sarawak aims to transform its aviation sector into a prominent regional hub through:

- Enhance RAS connectivity and services.
- Establish Sarawak Airline as a major network carrier to connect Sarawak with destinations across Greater China, North Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Australia.
- Upgrading the Kuching International Airport into a world-class facility capable of efficiently handling transit traffic. Leveraging its strategic location between Asia and Oceania, the airport will adopt a hub-and-spoke model to enhance connectivity.
- Achieve regulatory autonomy which will allow Sarawak to independently manage civil aviation, align policies with Sarawak's ambitions, and oversee critical initiatives.
- Develop and foster the local aerospace value chain through ecosystem development and global market integration.
- The establishment of a Transport Authority which aims to boost administrative efficiency and coordination, supporting sustainable economic and social development.

In conclusion, these efforts underscore Sarawak's commitment to developing a modern and efficient transport network that drives regional sustainability and inclusivity.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

2030 ASPIRATION

To achieve sustainable growth and prosperity for Sarawak by 2030 as Southeast Asia's powerhouse through affordable, reliable, and renewable energy.

60%
Renewable Energy Capacity Mix maintained in 2023

Source: MEESty

Sarawak sets out to capitalise on its renewable energy sources, such as hydropower and solar, as it recognises the importance of clean energy to combat climate change. Through the Sarawak Government's agencies, Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) and SEDC Energy Sdn Bhd (SEDC Energy), Sarawak has become a front-runner in energy transition in Malaysia as well as Southeast Asia.

Sarawak's aspirations to become a regional renewable energy powerhouse are fuelled by its commitment to sustainable hydropower development, fulfilling the commitments highlighted in PCDS 2030.

Sarawak is the regional leader in Green Energy Transition. In 2010, 90% of the electricity generated in Sarawak was from thermal sources, namely coal, oil and gas.

By 2023, Sarawak has achieved approximately 68% of its electricity generated from hydroelectricity, from three (3) hydroelectric projects (HEP) - Batang Ai HEP, Murum HEP and Bakun HEP.

Sarawak aims to become a regional renewable energy powerhouse and a leader in the hydrogen economy. The Sarawak Government has made substantial investments in the energy sector, including the Baleh Hydroelectric Project, the Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm, and large-scale hydrogen export initiatives.

The Baleh HEP will be Sarawak's fourth hydroelectric plant and is expected to be commissioned by the end of the decade. The Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm is a pioneering initiative in Sarawak's renewable energy infrastructure and is set to be Malaysia's largest floating solar plant upon commissioning.

Sarawak is spearheading hydrogen production with two (2) major export projects; H2ornbill and H2biscus.

The hydrogen exports are expected to produce up to 240,000 metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually, positioning Sarawak as a significant global supplier.

Sarawak has also made its mark as a regional renewable energy powerhouse. In 2016, the power interconnection between Sarawak and West Kalimantan was completed, enabling SEB to export 80 MW of electricity to Indonesia.

Sarawak remains steadfast in its pursuit of a brighter, cleaner, and more prosperous future driven by sustainable and renewable energy sources through catalytic initiatives:

- **Promote and increase private sector participation and collaboration with renewable energy sector**
- **Stimulate Sarawak hydrogen economy**
- **Export Sarawak Renewable Energy sector**
- **Net Energy Metering**

BALEH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT



An artist's impression of Baleh HEP. (Source: SEB)

Baleh Hydroelectric Project

- **Generation Capacity:** 1,285 MW
- **Current Status:** Construction in progress

Location:
- **River:** Baleh River
- **Distance:** 105 km upstream from the Rejang River in Kapit
- **Elevation:** 225 m above sea level

Dam Specifications:
- **Type:** Concrete-faced Rockfill Dam (CFRD)
- **Reservoir Volume:** 29,867 mcm

Power Station Details:
- **Turbines:** 5 Francis turbines
- **Capacity per Turbine:** 257 MW
- **Total Installed Capacity:** 1,285 MW
- **Annual Energy Generation:** 8,076 GWh

Infrastructure Components:
- **Diversion Tunnels:** 2 parallel tunnels
- **Spillway:** Left-bank radiated gated spillway
- **Power Transmission Line:** Double-circuit 500 kV

The Baleh HEP promises significant energy potential and SEB is committed to integrating robust environmental, social, and governance considerations. The company adheres to the International Hydropower Association's Hydropower Sustainability Standard (HSS), ensuring sustainable development that aligns with global benchmarks for social, environmental, technical, and economic practices. This commitment underscores SEB's dedication to maintaining high sustainability standards throughout the project's lifecycle.

As of 2023, the project has achieved significant milestones, including the completion of the power station open excavation and the piling works at the operators' residence. These accomplishments underscore the project's steady progress and adherence to established timelines, further positioning its trajectory towards successful completion.

In addressing the needs of the affected Baleh communities, SEB has implemented several proactive measures to support continuous livelihoods during the project's river closure phase. These include constructing a bypass road, providing a boat landing area, towing facilities, daily shuttle services, and longboats to facilitate transportation. Additionally, a dedicated grievance mechanism is introduced, allowing stakeholders to voice concerns and complaints, ensuring that feedback is managed transparently and fairly, in line with international best practices. Once operational by the end of the decade, the Baleh HEP will play a crucial role in bolstering Sarawak's energy supply, supporting industrial growth, and driving economic development, propelling Sarawak towards becoming a high-income state by 2030.

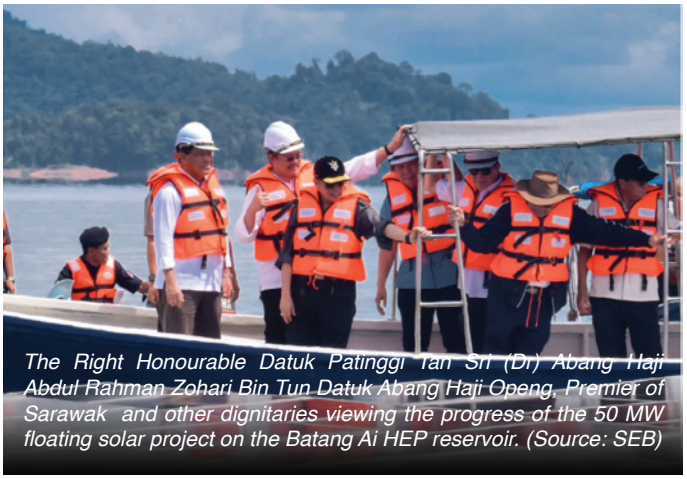
BATANG AI FLOATING SOLAR FARM

The Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm is a pioneering initiative in Sarawak's renewable energy infrastructure. Once completed, it is set to become the largest floating solar farm in Malaysia.

The successful integration of the Batang Ai Solar Farm into the existing energy infrastructure will enhance energy security and reinforce Malaysia's commitment to sustainable development. As the project nears completion, it represents a shift towards cleaner, more resilient energy solutions, paving the way for a more sustainable future.



Artist impression of the floating solar farm. (Source: MEESty)



The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak and other dignitaries viewing the progress of the 50 MW floating solar project on the Batang Ai HEP reservoir. (Source: SEB)



Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm. (Source: SEB)

Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm

Area: 193 hectares

Capacity: 50 MWac / 69 MWdc

Annual Energy Output: 97,000 MWh

Carbon Emissions Reduction: 52 kilotonnes annually

Significance:
- Malaysia's Largest Floating Solar Farm: Upon commissioning
- Pioneering Initiative: First of its kind in Sarawak

Development Milestones:
- Completion of Conceptual Design: Finalised
- Soil Investigations: Completed
- Mechanical Completion: Expected by Q4 2024

Key Features:
- Technological Advancement: Cutting-edge technology
- Environmental Stewardship: Minimal impact, sustainable practices.

Commitment:
- Efficiency and Sustainability: Meticulous planning and execution
- Operational Integrity: Adherence to strict quality standards and timelines.

RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES

SEB first introduced Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) in 2019, enabling corporate purchases of renewable energy primarily generated from sustainable hydropower in Sarawak. Since the introduction of RECs from the Batang Ai HEP issued by the Tradable Instrument for Global Renewables (TIGR) registry five (5) years ago, the response has been positive, supporting more corporations in their sustainability ambitions.

The I-REC registry is an online platform designed for transparent, secure, and reliable tracking of RECs. Established to implement best practice guidelines and Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) standards for REC tracking and reporting, it ensures the integrity of each REC transaction to provide assurance to buyers. International REC Standard Foundation (I-REC) is a globally recognised registry that offers credible and trusted means of REC issuance and tracking, well-established in Southeast Asian countries.

RECs represent 1 MWh of clean energy produced and added to the grid.

Administered by SEB for Batang Ai HEP, RECs help organisations meet renewable energy targets and reduce carbon footprints, even where direct procurement is difficult. This aligns with Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol guidelines for emission accounting.

In 2023, Sarawak demonstrated its commitment to sustainable energy by selling 5 million RECs. Building on this success, SEB plans to expand its reach by trading on the Bursa Carbon exchange platform from the end of 2024. The state aims to sell 6 million RECs in 2024, further strengthening its position in the renewable energy market.

Renewable Energy Certificates

- **5 million REC were sold in 2023.**
- **31% (1.55 million) of the REC were sold to Sarawakian companies, and the remaining 69% (3.45 million) were sold to West Malaysian companies.**
- **SEB targets 6 million REC sales in 2024.**

“The availability of RECs from SEB has been transformative for our projects’ sustainability framework. These certificates have enabled us to support renewable energy initiatives and achieve our environmental objectives, providing us with a reliable and transparent means to track and validate our green energy purchases. This development has significantly enhanced our ability to meet renewable energy targets and has cemented our role in advancing sustainable project practices.”

Testimony from project management professionals in Sarawak

HYDROGEN EXPORTS

Clean energy, produced from renewable sources, plays a crucial role in decarbonising carbon-intensive sectors, reducing emissions, and combating climate change. As nations worldwide address the pressing need for a sustainable future, Sarawak is at the forefront with its innovative approach to harnessing renewable energy. SEDC Energy is coordinating and implementing two (2) ambitious large-scale hydrogen export projects; H2biscus and H2ornbill.



Artist impression of H2biscus Project. (Source: Samsung Corporation)



FEED contract signing ceremony between SEDC Energy with Sumitomo Corporation and ENEOS Corporation for H2ornbill. (Source: SEDC Energy)

H2ornbill and H2biscus

The front end engineering design (FEED) for H2biscus is currently underway, with completion scheduled for 2025. The first round of auctions under the Clean Hydrogen Portfolio Standard (CHPS) was submitted in September 2024, and power purchase agreement (PPA) negotiations are still ongoing. Similarly, the FEED for H2ornbill is ongoing, with completion anticipated by August 2025. Preparations are underway for the Japanese Government Subsidy, with a targeted submission by the end of October 2024, while PPA negotiations continue.

In 2023, Sarawak announced a RM20 billion investment for the H2ornbill and H2biscus.

These collaborations involve SEDC Energy with Japanese and Korean consortiums respectively. Additionally, SEDC Energy committed RM526 million to ongoing projects that year. This includes investments in the Rembus Hydrogen Plant, Refuelling Station, and Pilot-Commercial Microalgae Plant.

Aspect	H2ornbill	H2biscus
Partners	SEDC Energy, Sumitomo Corporation, ENEOS Corporation	SEDC Energy, Lotte Chemical, Samsung Engineering, Korea National Oil Corporation (KNOC)
Annual Production of clean hydrogen	88 kilotonnes	150 kilotonnes
Main Product	Methylcyclohexane (MCH)	Ammonia
Primary Export Market	Japan	South Korea
Secondary Market	Malaysia (domestic)	Malaysia (domestic)

H2ornbill and H2biscus project details.

SUSTAINABLE BIOFUEL

CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central Sarawak

Sarawak is pioneering two (2) significant microalgae projects, demonstrating its commitment to sustainable green technology and carbon capture. The CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central Sarawak (C4 Sarawak), launched in May 2023 at SEB Sejingkat Coal Fired Power Plant, is a collaboration between CHITOSE Group, SEB, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC), and ENEOS Corporation.

Technology:
Flue gas delivery system for CO_2 capture

Annual CO_2 Capture:
450 tonnes

Annual dried biomass production:
300 tonnes

Applications:
Aviation fuels, animal feeds and pharmaceuticals

Bio-Algae Initial Commercial Plant

Concurrently, the Bio-Algae Initial Commercial Plant (ICP) in Bintulu, a collaboration with Petronas Research Sdn Bhd, is advancing through its research and development stage..

Technology:
Open tank system with proprietary coagulation harvesting

Projected daily production:
200,000 barrels of crude algae oil

Target Scale:
10,000 acres

Equivalent Sustainable Aviation Fuel production:
100,000 barrels daily

Applications:
Sustainable Aviation Fuel, biodiesel and naphtha



Bio-algae Initial Commercial Pilot (IPC) plant, Bintulu. (Source: MEESty)

THE WAY FORWARD

Sarawak is positioning itself to lead Malaysia's hydrogen economy, targeting large-scale production and export of low-carbon hydrogen by 2028. This initiative aims to expand Sarawak's green energy footprint by exporting to key Asian markets like Japan and South Korea. These plans demonstrate Sarawak's commitment to sustainable development and its emerging role in the region's clean energy landscape.

Baleh Hydroelectric Project

The Baleh Hydroelectric Project, which is currently at 40.4% completion as of the end of 2023, is on track to meet major milestones despite the challenges of managing the limitations of the Movement Control Order (MCO) while keeping the site team safe from the COVID-19 infection.

Batang Ai Floating Solar Farm

With the mechanical completion nearing, the subsequent commissioning of the plant heralds a new era in renewable energy production for Sarawak. By the end of 2024, the project aims to deliver its first power to the grid, marking a momentous achievement in the region's energy transition.

CHAPTER 4:

Conclusion & Moving Forward



Paving the Way for a Prosperous, Inclusive, and Sustainable Sarawak

2023 marked a year of remarkable achievements for Sarawak as we advance towards our vision of a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable society under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030). The progress recorded across the three key pillars—**Economic Prosperity, Social Inclusivity, and Environmental Sustainability**—reflects not only our resilience in the face of challenges but also our collective determination to shape a brighter future for all Sarawakians.

This year's milestones lay the foundation for even greater momentum as we journey towards our 2030 goals. Through strategic partnerships with the Federal Government, private sector, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and local communities, we are driving socioeconomic development, embracing data-driven innovations, and fostering solutions that uplift livelihoods.

The planning for the second phase of PCDS 2030 has commenced in 2024. We will undertake a comprehensive review of the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP), ensuring we address gaps, refine strategies, and accelerate the progress toward our bold aspirations. With the implementation of Integrated Results-Based Management (IRBM), we will ensure that every initiative—from planning to execution—delivers meaningful, measurable impact, enhancing the effectiveness of public investments and translating directly into better outcomes for our citizens.

Our commitment to narrowing the urban-rural divide remains stronger than ever. Through strategic infrastructure investments, we are expanding Sarawak's road and logistics network, electrifying rural communities, improving water access, modernising the agriculture sector, and improving our schools. These efforts bring opportunity and growth to every corner of Sarawak.

At the heart of our vision is the drive to create a dynamic, investment-friendly ecosystem. The upcoming Sarawak Investment Policy will create new pathways for business growth, supported by initiatives to improve ease of doing business, ultimately attracting domestic and foreign investments. As we cultivate a skilled and innovative workforce, we are preparing Sarawakians to become business pioneers and key partners in emerging sectors such as Digital Transformation, the Green Economy, Hydrogen Economy, Oil and Gas services, and Low-Carbon solutions.

With the rollout of the Sustainable Environment Blueprint, Sarawak is leading the way in implementing comprehensive green and blue economic initiatives that address climate action, forestry, water management, green cities, sustainable energy, and resilient infrastructure. These efforts ensure that our development is not just prosperous but also sustainable for generations to come.

The success of PCDS 2030 hinges on the ability to continuously build the capacity of the Sarawak Civil Service (SCS) to deliver transformative outcomes across all sectors. With a focus on upskilling the workforce, a new scheme of service is being introduced, along with training and development programmes, to empower civil servants to lead with vision and purpose.

By maintaining a steadfast commitment to these strategic areas, Sarawak will continue to advance towards its PCDS 2030 vision, ensuring inclusive growth, sustainable development, and shared prosperity for all.

Acronyms

12MP	12th Malaysia Plan
13MP	13th Malaysia Plan
AADK	Agensi Antidadah Kebangsaan
ac	Acres
AH150	Asian Highway 150
AIMS	Association of International Marathons and Distance Races
AIZ	Aquaculture Industrial Zone
ALAF	Additional Late Applicant Fund
ART	Autonomous Rapid Transit
ARWU	Academic Ranking of World Universities
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASF	African Swine Fever
ASX	Australian Securities Exchange
AtON	Aids to Navigation
AVF	AV fistula
AWISAR	Automotive & Welding Institute of Sarawak
B2B	Business-to-business
BAGSF-2	Bintulu Additional Gas Facility-2
BDA	Bintulu Development Authority
BDC	Borneo Development Corporation
BIB	Post Natal Assistance
BIMP-EAGA	Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Phillipines East ASEAN Growth Area
BKSS	Bantuan Khas Sarawakku Sayang
BPBP	Bantuan Pesakit Buah Pinggang
BST	Bonus Side Trip
BWA	Broadband Wireless Access
C4	CHITOSE Carbon Capture Central
CANFF	Culture, Adventure, Nature, Food and Festivals
CAPD	Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis
CCGT	Combined Cycle Gas Turbine
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage
CDP	Carbon Disclosure Project
CENTEXS	Centre for Technology Excellence Sarawak
CFRD	Concrete-Faced Rockfill Dam
CHPS	Clean Hydrogen Portfolio Standard
CIFTIS	China International Fair for Trade Services
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
COPA	Coverage of Populated Area
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CPPC	Collection, Processing, and Packaging Centre
CRN	Coastal Road Network
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSSC	Community Social Support Centre
CSTR	Coastal Road Network and Second Trunk Road
CVLB	Commercial Vehicle Licensing Board
DCEC	Damai Craftsworld and Events Centre
DD	Detailed Design
DDI	Domestic direct investment
DELIMa	Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia
DID	Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak
DIH	Digital Innovation Hub
DiVA	Digital Village Accelerator
DLP	Dual Language Programme
DNB	Digital Nasional Berhad

DOA	Department of Agriculture Sarawak
DOSM	Department of Statistics Malaysia
DTTG	Divisional Tourism Task Group
DVS	Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia
E&E	Electronic and electrical
E2E	End-to-end
EATOF	East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism Federation
EFS	Endowment Fund Sarawak
EIA-HIA	Environmental Impact Assessment-Health Impact Assessment
EPO	Erythropoietin
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
FAMA	Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority
FDI	Foreign direct investments
FDS	Forest Department Sarawak
FEED	Front-End Engineering Design
FID	Final Investment Decision
FLR	Forest landscape restoration
FMC	Forest Management Certification
FMD	Foot-and-mouth disease
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
FTI	Flexible Independent Travel
FWA	Fixed Wireless Access
FWB	Fixed Wireless Broadband
GAHP	Good Animal Husbandry Practices
GAP	Good Agriculture Practices
GDP	Gross Domestic Products
GERD	Gross Expenditure on Research and Development
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GMPH	Gross Moves Per Hour
GPS	Gred Purata Sekolah
GWh	Gigawatt hour
ha	Hectares
HDAS	Housing Deposit Assistance Scheme
HDC	Housing Development Corporation
HDRAS	Housing Deposit and Repayment Assistance Scheme
HEP	Hydroelectric Project
HNDP	Highway Network Development Plan
HSS	Hydropower Sustainability Standard
I-REC	International REC Standard Foundation
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
ICP	Initial Commercial Plant
iCPD	Industry Continuous Professional Development
ICT	Information and communication technologies
IoT	Internet of Things
IP	Intellectual property
ISM	Integrated Service Management
JBALB	Jabatan Bekalan Air Luar Bandar
JENDELA	Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara
JKMS	Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Sarawak
JKPD	Jawatankuasa Pemulihan Dadah
JKR	Jabatan Kerja Raya Sarawak
JMG	Department of Minerals and Geosciences
JORC	Joint Ore Reserve Committee
JPA	Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam
JPK	Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran
KBIOA	Kuching Bring It On Association
KGC	Kenyalang Gold Card
KIRWaS	Female Head of Household Assistance

km	Kilometre
km²	Kilometre Square
KNOC	Korea National Oil Corporation
KPA	Kuching Port Authority
KPWK	Ministry of Women, Early Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development Sarawak
KUTS	Kuching Urban Transportation System
kV	Kilovolt
LiWeFor	Living Lab for Wetland Forests
LNG	Liquefied natural gas
LPG	Liquefied petroleum gas
MAKNA	Majlis Kanser Nasional
MBAN	Malaysia Business Angel Network
MBKS	Kuching South City Council
Mbps	Megabits per second
MCH	Methylcyclohexane
mcm	Million cubic metres
MCMC	Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission
MCO	Movement Control Order
MEESty	Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability Sarawak
MEITD	Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak
MH	Malaysia Airlines
MHAS	Mental Health Association of Sarawak
MINTRED	Ministry of International Trade, Industry and Investment Sarawak
MIPD	Ministry of Infrastructure and Port Development Sarawak
MMKN	Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri
MNCs	Multinational corporations
MOCN	Multi-Operator Core Network
MoE	Ministry of Education
MOTAC	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Sarawak
MOTS	Ministry of Transport Sarawak
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Management Plans
MPHLG	Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government Sarawak
MQA	Malaysian Qualifications Agency
MQMP 2035	Mining and Quarrying Economic Development Master Plan 2035
MRP	Minor Rural Project
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
MTCP	Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak
MUT	Ministry of Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak
MVCC	Medium Voltage Covered Conductor
MW	Megawatt
MWac	Megawatt alternating current
MWdc	Megawatt direct current
MWh	Megawatt hour
myGAP	Malaysian Good Agriculture Practices
MyIPO	Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia
MySRBN	Sarawak Rural Broadband Network
NBG	North Borneo Gold Sdn Bhd
NFPs	Network Facilities Providers
NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NRDA	Northern Region Development Agency
NRES	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability of Malaysia
NR-REE	Non-Radioactive Rare Earth Elements
NRW	Non-Revenue Water
OSEIC	One-Stop Early Intervention Centre
OUV	Outstanding Universal Values
PAWE	Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas

PBH	Pan Borneo Highway
PCDS 2030	Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030
PDAF	Precision and Discipline Agricultural Facility
PERTAMA	Pertama FerroAlloys Sdn Bhd
PESKEBS	Persatuan Sukan dan Kebajikan BOMBA Sarawak
PETRONAS	Petroliam Nasional Berhad
PETROS	Petroleum Sarawak Berhad
PFA	Pig Farming Area
PITSA	Persatuan Ibu Tunggal Sarawak
PMD	Performance Management and Delivery
POC	Proof of concept
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PPE	Personal protective equipment
PPIS	Pertubuhan Pembangunan Insan Sarawak
PPKI	Program Pendidikan Khas Integrasi
PPMS	Persekutuan Persatuan Melanau Sarawak
PPWE	Pusat Perkhidmatan Warge Emas
PSEP	Petroleum Sarawak Exploration and Production Sdn Bhd
QS	Quacquarelli Symonds
R&D	Research and Development
RAS	Rural Air Services
RB	Royal Brunei Airlines
REC	Renewable Energy Certificates
RES	Rural Electrification Scheme
RSA	Rest and Service Areas
RMM	Rumah Mampu Milik
RPR	Rancangan Perumahan Rakyat
RPS	Rain Protection Structures
RSP	Rumah Spektra Permata
RWMF	Rainforest World Music Festival
RSA	Rest and Services Areas
S-MM2H	Sarawak-Malaysia My Second Home
S-MM2H-MOAS	Sarawak-Malaysia My Second Home-Management and Online Management System
SAEC	Sarawak Economic Action Council
SAF	Sustainable Aviation Fuel
SAINS	Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd
SALCRA	Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority
SALURAN	Sarawak Linking Urban, Rural, and Nation
SAPOM	Saratok Palm Oil Mill
SAREF	Sustainable and Renewable Energy Forum
SARES	Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme
SARIB	Sarawak Rubber Industry Board
SAVTI	Sarawak Agriculture Vocational Training Institute
SAWAS	Sarawak Alternative Water Supply
SBC	Sarawak Biodiversity Centre
SBP	Sarawak Bioindustrial Park
SCaT	Sarawak Career and Training Fair
SCORE	Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy
SCS	Sarawak Civil Service
SCSDU	Sarawak Civil Service Digitalisation Unit
SDEB	Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint
SDEC	Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation
SDGp	Sarawak Delta Geopark
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDIE	Sarawak Digital and Innovation Ecosystem
SEB	Sarawak Energy Berhad
SEDC	Sarawak Economic Development Corporation
SEEP	Sarawak Education Enhancement Programme

SEITI	Sarawak Electrical Industry Training Institute
SEO	Search engine optimisation
SET	Socio-Economic Transformation
SFA	Singapore Food Agency
SFC	Sarawak Forestry Corporation
SFM	Sustainable forest management
SFO	State Farmers' Organisation
SFSO	State Financial Secretary's Office
SGGS	Sarawak Gerontology and Geriatric Society
SGR	Sarawak Gas Roadmap
SIDC	Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre
SIP	Samalaju Industrial Park
SJFIZ	Sama Jaya Free Industrial Zone
SKUP	Society for Kuching Urban Poor
SLICE	Network slicing
SMA	Sarawak Multimedia Authority
SMART	Sarawak Multimedia Authority Rural Telecommunication
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SoilBON	Soil Biodiversity Observation Network
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea
SOSEK-MALINDO	Sosio Ekonomi Malaysia-Indonesia
SPIKS	Loan Scheme for Medium and Small Industry
SPM	Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia
SRAS	Sarawak Rental Assistance Scheme
SRDC	Sarawak Research and Development Council
SSCiEX	Sarawak Science Centre
SSLR	Sarawak-Sabah Link Road
SST	State Sales Tax
STAcc	Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC) Technology Accelerator
STASOS	Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore
STATOB	Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Brunei
STATOP	Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Pontianak
STB	Sarawak Tourism Board
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
STIDC	Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
STR	Second Trunk Road
SWWS	Sarawak Women for Women Society
SWIS	Sarawak Workforce Information System
TBA	To be announced
TIGR	Tradable Instrument for Global Renewable
TKPM	Program Taman Kekal Pengeluaran Makanan
TPA	Totally Protected Areas
TROPI	Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute
TVET	Technical, Vocational Education and Training
UCCN	UNESCO Creative City Network
UGGp	UNESCO Global Geopark
UiTM	Universiti Teknologi Mara
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNGCMYB	UN Global Compact Malaysia & Brunei
UNIMAS	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crimes
UTS	University of Technology Sarawak
VOP	Variation of Price
VTMS	Vessel Traffic Management System
WCIT	World Congress on Innovation and Technology
WIL	Work Integrated Learning
WMS	WorldSkills Malaysia Sarawak
YKN	Yayasan Kebajikan Negara
YSISS	Yayasan Sarawak International Secondary Schools

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Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government Sarawak (MPHLG)
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Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Sarawak (MOTAC)
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Ministry of Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak (MUT)
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