

NEWSLETTER

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE

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MAIN EVENTS

Launch of the Malaysia SDG Investor Map

YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) launched the SDG Investor Map, an online market intelligence tool designed to help private investors find investment opportunities that are aligned to, and compliant with, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Miss Karima El Korri, UN Resident Coordinator, United Nations in Malaysia and Mr. Niloy Banerjee, Resident Representative of UNDP Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam co-hosted the event which was held on 19 June 2023 at Dewan Perdana, MITI.



The Map was developed following the methodology established by UNDP SDG Impact. Datuk Bahria Mohd Tamil co-chaired the Advisory Panel meeting which comprises experts and representatives from various organisations to ensure a thorough and comprehensive development of the Map.

The Malaysia SDG Investor Map could be accessed: <https://www.undp.org/malaysia/publications/malaysia-sdg-investor-map-report>. The Map provides a snapshot of 15 identified Investment Opportunity Areas (IOAs) within six sectors that have the most potential for deep development impact, namely Technology & Communications, Health Care, Renewable Resources & Alternative Energy, Financials, Food & Beverage and Infrastructure.



The First Annual Ministerial Dialogue Between Malaysia & Singapore

YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) Malaysia, and H.E. Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry (MTI), Singapore co-chaired the first Annual Ministerial Dialogue (AMD) in Kuala Lumpur on 14 June 2023.

Recognising the strength and potential of Malaysia-Singapore economic relations, both Ministers agreed on having a regular platform, the Annual Ministerial Dialogue, to boost bilateral trade and investments between the two countries, as well as to strengthen ties among the officials from both Ministries. During the inaugural AMD, the Ministers reviewed the progress of the two Frameworks on Cooperation (FoC) in the Digital Economy and Green Economy, signed between the two governments during YAB Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim's visit to Singapore on 30 January 2023.

Under the FoC in the Green Economy, six sectors that were identified are the Next Generation Mobility, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Capacity Development Programme for Exporters, Low Carbon Solutions (Hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation and storage), Carbon Credits Industry Collaboration, Development of New and Renewable Energy Related Technology Standards to Support Domestic and Regional Decarbonisation and Other Areas for co-operation which participants may mutually decide upon.



KNOWESG: OUTREACH IN JOHOR BAHRU

The Industry Environmental, Social and Governance (i-ESG) Division organised an Outreach Programme in Johor Bahru on 22 June 2023. This event garnered positive responses among the industry players in Johor and was attended by 150 participants.

In his opening remarks, Datuk Hanafi Sakri, Deputy Secretary General (Industry) emphasized the importance of the vital role that ESG plays in driving sustainable growth. Dr. Jessica Muniandy, Senior Director of the i-ESG Division presented on the i-ESG framework to the industry players in order to get their buy-in and feedback.

A panel discussion to discuss on the Importance of ESG and Sustainability Reporting was held to further elaborate on the four components of the i-ESG framework which are standard, capacity building, financing assistance and market mechanism.

The panel session consists of panelists from MATRADE, MIDF, Exim Bank, MGTC, ESG Right, Western Digital as well as Ramatex Textiles. Among the topics deliberated in the panel session includes on how SMEs could start their sustainability journey, reporting standards as well as available funding and incentives.



The objective of the ESG Outreach Programme was to raise awareness and encourage the adoption of ESG to the industry players was achieved.

This program served as a catalyst for sustainable transformation, contributing to a greener, socially responsible, and economically resilient industry players, particularly in Johor.



SEMINARS & CONFERENCE

AKI'S ESG EXCELLENCE AWARD OUTREACH



The i-ESG Excellence Award has been introduced for the first time to recognize companies that have adopted the ESG best practices and have made positive contributions in all three primary aspects which are the Environment, Social and Governance in their businesses.



The i-ESG division participated in the AKI Roadshow which were held in Kuala Lumpur, Pahang and Johor. Puan Shireen Jasmin Ali, Director of the i-ESG division presented on the award and the selection criteria at MITI, whereas Miss Shamini Gunaseelan and Mr. Fahd Ezadee Jamaludin presented in Pahang and Johor, respectively.

UNFCCC BONN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

MITI was entrusted to continue its participation in the UNFCCC Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB58) which took place from 5 to 15 June 2023 in the World Conference Centre Bonn. The conference designed to prepare draft decisions for adoption at COP28 in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates in December 2023. Malaysia was represented by officials from NRECC, KLN, AGC, MOHR, MOF, KKR and MAFS. Among the sessions attended by MITI were related to the Impact of Implementation of Response Measures and the Just Transitions Work Programme.

Forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures which is indeed important for the developing countries as the discussion touched on policies implemented from the climate mitigation measures/approach to reduce emissions in one country and achieving its climate objective (such as carbon taxes, subsidies, energy reforms, green investments, trade-related measures, standards and labelling) may lead to impacts in the implementing/another countries (economic growth, income distribution, employment, health).

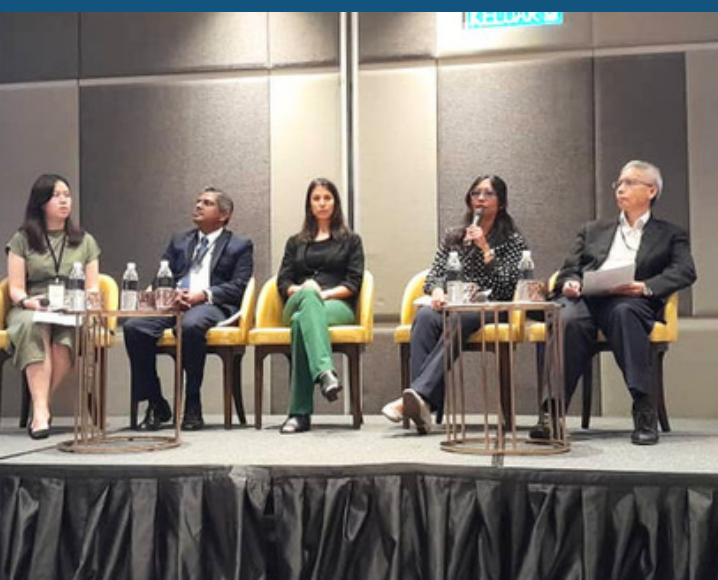
In addition, parties had the opportunity to attend the workshop on Country Driven Strategies for Just Transitions and Economic Diversifications. Noting that different countries take different just transition and economic diversification paths and these pathways should be tailored to the national and/or local context. The presentations also outline several examples of identified opportunities, challenges and lessons learned for just transitions and economic diversification.

The participation has provided valuable experience and deeper insights on several issues of critical importance in the climate change conference as well as fostering the collaboration and camaraderie among Malaysia's officials.





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SEMINAR ON ESG: RESHAPING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The Seminar on ESG: Reshaping Towards a Sustainable Future was organised by the Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association (MPMA) on 8 June 2023. Dr. Jessica as one of the panelists spoke about the importance of ESG factors and how it creates values for businesses. The seminar aimed to raise awareness and promote responsible investing and business practices that have broader societal and environmental impacts.

MIA ESG CONFERENCE

Dr. Jessica Muniandy was one of the panelists at the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) conference which was held on 13 June 2023. The key issues discussed were on ESG and sustainability, technology adaptation, taxation, and governance. The conference also delved into best practices and emerging trends to enhance participants' understanding and ability to make informed decisions regarding sustainable investments and responsible business practices.



GREEN PRODUCTION FORUM BY THE EMBASSY OF SWEDEN

Pioneer the Possible: Green Production Forum was held on 15 June 2023. During the panel session, Dr. Jessica spoke on promoting sustainable practices in various industries that revolved around adopting sustainable manufacturing processes, transitioning to clean energy & green supply chains. The forum aimed to enhance collaboration and accelerate towards a greener and more sustainable future.



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INTEGRATED NATIONAL FINANCING FACILITY (INFF) – ASIA PACIFIC KNOWLEDGE SHARING FORUM AT BANGKOK

Mr. Zamil Ariff Zahari (MITI), together with Dr. Nirwan Noh (MOF) and Mr. Hussein Mullar (BPMB) attended the INFF Regional Knowledge-Sharing Forum. About 130 representatives from governments, investors, banks, international & domestic private institutions, academia and civil society participated in the forum, and shared their views and experiences on national financing framework to support sustainable development



During the event, blended financing was highlighted as the way forward for sustainable development. Blended finance may entice private financier to chip in for the sustainable development projects/programs, particularly in this uncertain and challenging times. Furthermore, this blended financing may attract various financial sources if it is done right.



BRIEFING ON INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES AND PRODUCT USE (IPPU), NDC AND LT-LEDS

i-ESG in collaboration with Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC) conducted a talk on 20 June 2023 at Perdana Hall on the IPPU Sector for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Roadmap and the Long-Term Low Emissions and Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) Countries and National Reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The talk was delivered by Ms. Dayang Ratnasari, representative from NRECC. This talk was attended by MITI's officers and representatives from MITI's Agencies.

