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INTERNATIONAL GREEN BUILD CONFERENCE 2023

Realising Low Carbon Real Estate

1 AUGUST 2023 | 7:30AM - 5:45PM
ONE WORLD HOTEL, PETALING JAYA

PRICING CARBON IN MALAYSIA • ENERGISING GREEN FINANCING • BUILDING THROUGH INNOVATION (CASE STUDIES)

PRESS REPORT

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ENGLISH NEWS

DRIVE QR:



Source link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ptill8n3XT6UyKZSNF0eS3vdoKKTjaqc?usp=sharing>

Press: News Straits Times

Published date: 1/8/2023

UOB Malaysia approves RM6 bln "green" loans, partly to support real estate players.



United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Bhd executive director and chief executive officer Ng Wei Wei (third, left), Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad (fourth, left), and GreenRE chairman Datuk Seri FD Iskandar (third, right) at the International Green Build Conference 2023 in Kuala Lumpur. Bernama/Photo

KUALA LUMPUR: United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Bhd (UOB Malaysia) has approved RM6 billion in sustainable finance, partly driven by its two financing frameworks designed specifically to help real estate players make the switch to net zero emissions.

The first is the Sustainable Finance Framework for green building developers and owners to develop green real estate, while the second is the Smart City Sustainable Financing Framework to support companies that contribute towards the creation of sustainable and smart cities.

According to UOB Malaysia's executive director and chief executive officer, Ng Wei Wei, the frameworks were developed to help building owners and other players in the building value chain.

"We believe that a sectoral approach is more effective as it addresses each sector's unique characteristics and challenges," she said in her opening address at the International Green Build Conference 2023 here today.

Sustainable built environments were the main topic of the one-day conference, which was organised jointly by Green Real Estate (GreenRE) and the Rehda Institute.

The conference's theme, "Realising Low Carbon Real Estate," included international speakers and business leaders

Ng called on building owners to participate in the bank's U-Energy programme and save 50 gigawatt hours between now and December 31, 2024.

According to her, this programme aids in the implementation of energy efficiency projects in new developments and the retrofitting of existing buildings by real estate players and building owners.

GreenRE chairman Datuk Seri FD Iskandar urged for the long-delayed Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act to be passed in order to promote demand-side energy reduction.

He said that GreenRE has also proposed that suppliers and equipment makers be required to reveal their emissions factors, especially for steel and concrete.

FD Iskandar said GreenRE is prepared to collaborate with the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change (NRECC) to drive these initiatives through its certification framework.

In Malaysia, he said, there are more than 400 green projects that have been registered, totaling more than 400 million square feet of space.

"Our reach has also expanded globally with two international projects," he said.



Source link:

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Press: EdgeProp Malaysia

Published date: 2/8/2023

Green Build Conference 2023 aims to foster long-term sustainability.



(From left) GreenRE Sdn Bhd chairman and Glomac Bhd managing director Datuk Seri FD Iskandar; Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad; and Rehda Malaysia president Datuk NK Tong at the Green Build Conference 2023 on Tuesday (Aug 1) at One World Hotel, Petaling Jaya. (Photo by Shahrill Basri/The Edge)

PETALING JAYA (Aug 1): The third installment of the Green Build Conference (GBC) 2023, which was held on Tuesday (Aug 1), highlighted the importance of long-term sustainability in the country's real estate industry by urging stakeholders to plan their climate ambitions accurately and demonstrate their commitment and ability to take decisive climate actions.

Attended by over 300 participants, the conference was jointly organised by GreenRE Sdn Bhd and Rehda Institute. With the theme "Realising Low Carbon Real Estate", the full-day conference featured panel discussions, presentations and talks by 14 speakers from all over the world.

In his opening speech, GreenRE chairman and Glomac Bhd managing director Datuk Seri FD Iskandar said that it is without a doubt that the construction industry needs to be greener. "With buildings accounting for over 40% of carbon emissions and more than a third of electricity consumption, reducing a building's carbon emissions can go a long way in enabling us to achieve our nation's goal of net zero emissions. The actions we take this decade are critical to set us on the right path toward this target.

"Investors are progressively calling on businesses to evaluate their climate risks and plan for transitioning to a low-carbon future through mitigation and adaptation. "Building for the future" must be the mantra of the real estate sector. In tandem with heightened attention on ESG reporting and benchmarking, the property development industry can leverage on robust green building certification to sustain a high-performance lifecycle," FD Iskandar added.

Endorsing the GBC 2023, Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad said the conference showcased the industry's commitment towards advancing sustainable real estate in the country.

"The repercussions of climate change are being seen worldwide, including recent heatwaves that have affected many Asian countries, increasing sea levels, and more regular flooding in our backyards. We're looking into revising and strengthening existing policies to orient Malaysia on the right path in combating climate change.

"We also know that energy efficiency and the wider sustainability agenda is a significant undertaking, to say the least. It cannot simply be legislated into existence. We must also acknowledge that not only consumers but even big companies and builders, to say nothing of small-and-medium enterprises (SMEs), will find the process daunting," he said.

Nik Nazmi continued, "The principles of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) are now imperatives for trade and investment. Malaysia must master them, but companies will have to also work hard to accommodate these demands".

The conference was segmented into three sessions: the first panel discussion titled "Pricing Carbon in Malaysia", second panel discussion titled "Energising ESG Through Green Financing" and several presentations under the theme "Building Through Innovation".

The first panel discussion focused on how setting a signal for carbon can drive the price economic case for carbon abatement, creating systemic change and accelerate progress. Panelists included The Asia Foundation (Malaysia) climate consultant and World Bank (Malaysia) climate specialist Darshan Joshi and Climate Governance Malaysia council member Gary William Theseira with United Nations Global Compact Network Malaysia; and Brunei state director (Johor) Edey Suresh as the moderator.

Panelists of the second panel discussion included International Finance Corp chief industry specialist of green buildings and climate-smart cities Prashant Kapoor, as well as United Overseas Bank (UOB) Ltd managing director and sectors solutions group head of real estate & hospitality and construction & infrastructure Jasper Wong Soong Ling, with moderator Rehda Institute chairman and UOB (Malaysia) Bhd chairman Datuk Jeffrey Ng Tiong Lip. This panel discussed the new innovations and levers that are being implemented, together with their implications for the property sector and how they will affect risk, compliance and investment.

In the "Building Through Innovation" session, six speakers took the stage to present their respective topics. This included AB Consulting Canada principal Albert Bicol, who talked about "Designing the Future of Net-Zero Energy Buildings for Resilient and Sustainable Communities"; NABERS Australia (Sydney) head of market development Magali Wardle on "Naber's Embodied Carbon Framework: How Measuring and Managing Drives World Class Performance on Buildings"; Progressture Solar co-founder and chief operating officer Ng Yew Weng on "The Future of Renewable Energy in Malaysia", as well as TSA Management Sdn Bhd regional director for South East Asia, Gandhi Suppiah, who spoke on "The Role of Zero Emission Transport for Sustainable Urban Centres Planning Management".

More speakers in the session included Frasers Property Australia (Melbourne) sustainability advisor Ruvini Silva, who shared her case study "Raising the Bar on Sustainability at the Burwood Brickworks Retail Centre Melbourne" and TR Hamzah Yeang Sdn Bhd executive director Datuk Ken Yeang, who shared on "Nature-based Green Architecture and Planning". Meanwhile, the conference also witnessed the launch of GreenRE's Sustainable Real Estate Book in conjunction with its 10-year anniversary.



Source link:

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Press: Bernama

Published date: 1/8/2023

GreenRE proposes GOVT improve access to data.



PETALING JAYA: The Green Real Estate (GreenRE) has proposed for the government to improve transparent access to data and set up common baselines for reporting as well as a nationwide greenhouse gas emission database.

Chairman Datuk Seri FD Iskandar said GreenRE, Malaysia's leading green building certification body, also proposed that equipment manufacturers and suppliers be compelled to disclose their emissions factors, particularly steel and concrete.

He also called for the enactment of the long pending Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act to drive demand-side energy reduction.

"GreenRE is ready to work together with the Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Ministry (NRECC) to drive these initiatives through our certification framework," he said in his welcoming address at the International Green Build Conference 2023 yesterday.

The one-day conference, jointly organised by GreenRE and Rehda Institute, focused on sustainable built environments, featuring international speakers and industry experts.

Themed "Realising Low Carbon Real Estate", the conference aims to strengthen business resilience and long-term sustainability while gaining insights into new green growth opportunities.

Iskandar said GreenRE has also committed to re-invest proceeds from its activities towards research and development in the sector.

Currently, he said GreenRE is involved in six research initiatives with local universities and is evaluating research proposals from several universities.

"With over 400 registered green projects in Malaysia encompassing more than 400 million sq ft of real estate, our reach has also expanded globally with two international projects," said Iskandar.

In conjunction with GreenRE's 10th year anniversary, it has also launched a coffee table book, featuring some exemplary projects highlighting innovative use of green technology and green construction.

Meanwhile, in her opening address at the conference, UOB Malaysia chief executive officer Ng Wei Wei said the bank has approved RM6bil in sustainable financing, to-date.

This, she said, was partly driven by its two financing frameworks developed to specifically assist real estate players in their transition to net-zero emission.

Nik Nazmi rallies support for proposed energy efficiency law.



Nik Nazmi says the EECA will support Malaysia's push to energy sustainability and climate action

PETALING JAYA: Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad is calling for unified efforts from all stakeholders, including the private sector, to support Malaysia's proposed Energy Efficiency & Conservation Act (EECA).

The bill for the EECA will be tabled in the next parliamentary session.

Nik Nazmi said the EECA aims to promote energy efficiency across industries, in line with the nation's net zero objective.

"The NRECC (ministry) has been active in engaging all stakeholders when it comes to the EECA and, indeed, our work across the board, including for instance through the Climate Advisory Panel for COP 28. But ultimately, the Act is necessary because it will support Malaysia's push to sustainability and climate action. And the ultimate bottom line here is Malaysia's survival and, indeed, humanity's survival," he said in his keynote address at the International Green Build Conference 2023 today.

However, the minister noted that the growing emphasis on Environmental, Social, and Governance principles has put companies under increasing pressure to align their operations with sustainable goals.

"We must also acknowledge that not only consumers but even big companies and builders, to say nothing of small-and-medium enterprises will find the process daunting," he remarked.

He said the EECA has been in the works for many years.

"It (the bill) will be tabled in the next parliament seating, this year, then we hope to get it done at least until second reading," he told reporters after delivering his keynote speech.

Nik Nazmi said the EECA is crucial for Malaysia's net zero objective as achieving it depends not only on renewable energy but also on energy efficiency.

"Other countries have already had some form of energy efficiency legislation, so we have been pushing hard to finally get it to go through Parliament," he said.

He added that once it comes into force, the EECA will be a hallmark legal and regulatory framework for promoting energy efficiency in the country.

"The Act is linked to commercial and industrial competitiveness, energy security benefits, and environmental advantages such as reduced carbon emissions.

"It will also encompass regulations for high-energy users, building energy efficiency through building energy intensity labelling, and setting energy performance standards for electrical and thermal appliances," Nik Nazmi said.

In preparation for the EECA, the government will provide Energy Audit Conditional Grants to building owners to carry out energy audits, he disclosed.

"The energy audit exercise is crucial to determine the potential energy-saving measures and to establish the baseline. It also provides information on the demand profile of buildings. And energy management practices are the low-hanging fruit of energy efficiency efforts that can provide substantial savings from no-cost and low-cost initiatives," he added.

Nik Nazmi: EECA to be tabled in Parliament this year.



THE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (EECA) will be tabled in the Parliament this year to become the regulatory framework to promote energy efficiency in the country, said Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad (*picture*).

“The act is linked to commercial and industrial competitiveness, energy security benefits and environmental benefits, such as reduced carbon emissions.

“It will also include regulating high-energy users, building energy efficiency through building energy intensity labelling, and electrical and thermal appliances’ energy performance standards,” he said at the International Green Build Conference 2023 in Petaling Jaya today.

He said the EECA is a significant component for the nation’s net-zero objective as it also promotes energy efficiency.

The increase in energy efficiency would lead to lesser energy utilised, which would then lessen the need to build new power plants, he said.

“Other countries have already had some form of energy efficiency legislation. So, for us, we’ve been pushing hard to get it finally, to go through Parliament,” he said.



Source link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ptill8n3XT6UyKZSNF0eS3vdoKKTjaqc?usp=sharing>

Press: Free Malaysia Today

Published date: 1/8/2023

More time needed to get sustainability legislation passed.



'Political leadership had become even more critical now in addressing climate change,' says Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad.

PETALING JAYA: The long-delayed Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (EECA) will only be tabled for debate in the Dewan Rakyat later this year.

Natural resources, environment and climate change minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad said the government has been pushing hard to get it through parliament.

"Other countries already have some form of energy efficiency legislation in place, but in Malaysia, it has been on the drawing board for several years now," he said at the sidelines of the third International Green Building Conference (GBC) here today.

He said that an important component of the EECA was to achieve net zero emission. "As such, it does not just mean renewable energy but also energy efficiency, which means reduced usage of energy," he added.

Nik Nazmi said the recent heat wave in many Asian countries as well as rising sea levels and regular floods showed that political leadership had become even more critical now in addressing climate change.

"We have to make some adjustments to government policies as well," he said.

For instance, he said, many hospitals, schools and clinics have installed solar panels on their own initiatives to reduce energy costs.

As a result, he said, the Treasury would allocate a smaller sum of money for their utilities bills.

"While it is commendable that the government can now save some money, the leadership in these health and educational facilities should also be rewarded for their effort by being given some of the savings to improve their infrastructure," he added.

Earlier, in his keynote address, Nik Nazmi urged businesses to start playing a bigger role in the fight against climate change by embracing environment, social and governance (ESG) principles.

He pointed out that adopting these sustainability-oriented guidelines are now imperative for trade and investment.

As such companies, along with the government, would have to work hard to accommodate these demands.

"Our efforts would be futile without the support of the (real estate) industry. We need strong commitment and close coordination between the government and industry stakeholders to catalyse (this) transformation," he said.

Nik Nazmi pointed out that energy efficiency and sustainability "cannot simply be legislated into existence".

He agreed that not only consumers, but big companies and builders as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) would also find the challenge daunting.

Nik Nazmi said efforts previously launched in Malaysia to address climate change have already brought positive results.

He said the Low Carbon Cities 2030 Challenge (LCC2030C), a collaboration between his ministry and the Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC) saw the participation of 32 local authorities last year.

"More significantly, their efforts have led to a reduction of 209,214 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent," he said.

The minister said the programme would last until 2030 to build on the momentum for climate action.

MALAY NEWS

DRIVE QR:





Source link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14BBRLHjlqS0mFVvXRvBMIIxQPNZegHDs?usp=sharing>

Press: Astro Awani

Published date: 1/8/2023

RANG Undang-Undang EECA dibentang di Parlimen pada Oktober – Nik Nazmi



Nik Nazmi (tengah) ketika menghadiri Persidangan Bangunan Hijau Antarabangsa 2023 hari ini.

PETALING JAYA: Kementerian Sumber Asli, Alam Sekitar dan Perubahan Iklim (NRECC) akan membentangkan Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Kecekapan dan Konservasi Tenaga (EECA) pada sidang Parlimen akan datang yang dijadual bermula 9 Okt ini.

Menterinya Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad berkata sebaik sahaja ia berkuat kuasa, EECA akan menjadi rangka kerja perundangan dan kawal selia yang menggalakkan kecekapan tenaga di negara ini.

"Ia akan dibentangkan dalam persidangan Parlimen tahun ini. Kami berharap sekurang-kurangnya ia diselesaikan hingga bacaan kedua," katanya kepada pemberita selepas menyampaikan ucapan tama dalam Persidangan Bangunan Hijau Antarabangsa 2023 di sini hari ini.

Nik Nazmi berkata draf RUU EECA telah diusahakan sejak beberapa tahun lepas dan pada Mac lepas dilaporkan ia berada di peringkat kajian dan akan dimuktamadkan sebelum dihantar ke Jabatan Peguam Negara serta dibentangkan kepada Kabinet.

"Ia komponen penting untuk objektif sifar-bersih (pelepasan sifar bersih) kita kerana sifar bersih bukan sahaja bermaksud tenaga boleh diperbaharui (RE), tetapi ia juga kecekapan tenaga (EE).

"Apabila anda lebih cekap anda akan menggunakan kurang tenaga dan kurang keperluan untuk membina loji kuasa yang baharu, yang merupakan bahagian penting dalam persamaan (keseimbangan antara jumlah gas rumah hijau (GHG) yang dihasilkan dan jumlah yang disingkirkan daripada udara)," katanya.

Beliau berkata RUU EECA merupakan pemangkin penting kerana negara lain telah mempunyai beberapa bentuk perundangan kecekapan tenaga.

"Kami telah berusaha keras untuk ia akhirnya dibentangkan di Parlimen," kata Nik Nazmi.

Menurutnya RUU itu dikaitkan dengan daya saing komersial dan perindustrian, manfaat kepada keselamatan tenaga dan alam sekitar seperti pengurangan pelepasan karbon.