

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 11 MAC 2016 (JUMAAT)**

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Malaysia's national graphene plan eyes almost US\$5B and 9,000 jobs by 2020



Photo - The 360 new products to be commercialised by 2020 are being realised through the kick-off of the 10 projects conducted by these companies under National Graphene Action Plan 2020.

Government agency NanoMalaysia has announced that 360 new products will be commercialised under Malaysia's National Graphene Action Plan (NGAP) 2020, which will generate about 9,000 jobs and RM20 (US\$4.86) billion GNI impact by the year 2020.

During a ceremony held recently in Putrajaya, **YB Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau, the minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)** announced companies have signed memorandums of agreement (MoUs), which will help to build a local graphene ecosystem speed up downstream adoption.

This adoption of graphene, which is a thin layer of pure carbon just one atom thick [bonded together in a hexagonal honeycomb lattice, and 200-300 times stronger than steel], will involve downstream graphene-based application development for specialty and consumer products ranging from tyre, automotive component, water pipe and ultra-capacitor.

The plan should contribute RM10 (US\$2.43) billion towards Malaysia's GDP (gross domestic product) and about RM20 (US\$4.86) billions of GNI (gross national income) impact. In addition, about 9,000 jobs could be created including 2,000 - 3,000 high-value jobs, he said.

"The year 2016 is the Malaysia Commercialisation Year and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) is trusted to elevate the commercialisation of innovative products," said the minister. "NGAP 2020 is realising the plan by strategically applying open

innovation with inclusive innovation initiatives into the 10 projects."

"The 360 new products to be commercialised by 2020 are now being realised through the kick-off of the 10 projects [announced today] conducted by these companies under NGAP 2020," he said. "Therefore, it is important to optimise resources and collaborate with other agencies and ministries in this area to realise our vision and mission. I hope through this initiative it will uplift the economy of the country towards a high income nation through science, technology and innovation."

NanoMalaysia's chief executive officer, Dr Rezal Khairi Ahmad, said: "NanoMalaysia Berhad through the National Graphene Action Plan 2020, accelerates nanotechnology innovation and commercialisation with local and international collaborations through technology co-development and transfer, joint ventures and co-investments."

"These MoUs establish the framework for cooperation to properly be executed by local companies which will develop and produce graphene-based technology and applications. Given the potentially large number of parties involved in this action plan, the government through NanoMalaysia will play an active monitoring and coordination to ensure positive progress. In addition, the scope of targeted applications can also be extended to other industries where Graphene is expected to play a revolutionary role in the coming years," added Dr Rezal.

NanoMalaysia Berhad as an agency under the Ministry of Science, technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and as the lead agency to execute the National Graphene Action Plan 2020 (NGAP 2020) exchanged 10 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) today with 10 companies under the NGAP 2020 programme at Dewan Banquette, Pejabat Utama Perdana Menteri, Putrajaya.

