



PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

MALAYSIA PAVILION WINS SILVER AWARD AT GULF SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2022

PUTRAJAYA, 10 November 2022 - Malaysia Pavilion for Expo 2020 Dubai adds another feather to its cap by winning a **Silver Award from the prestigious Gulf Sustainability Awards 2022**. The Gulf Sustainability Awards are organised by Awards International programmes which have been given the Outstanding Trust Mark from the Independent Awards Standards Council.

A high-profile annual event, the Gulf Sustainability Awards celebrate organisations implementing best practices in the Middle East in Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG). This year's event recognises the contributions of award recipients across several categories, including environmental sustainability, sustainability awareness, community development and water or waste management. Every category is assessed by a panel of independent experts across the region.

Malaysia's Net Zero Carbon Pavilion, which was designed as a Rainforest Canopy, gained the accolade under the 'Net Zero Initiative' category. Malaysia Pavilion was the only net zero carbon pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, which was participated by almost 200 countries and organisations. The world expo organised from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022 was the first held in the Middle East, Asia and South Africa region.

Malaysia's participation in Expo 2020 Dubai was spearheaded by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) with Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC) as the implementing agency.

Under the initiative, carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions ranging from the embodied carbon in the materials to construction and operations were offset.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (KeTSA), Malaysia Pavilion, through MOSTI, purchased 4,000 tonnes of CO₂ eq worth of carbon offsets under the National Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD Plus) programme.

Thus, Malaysia had the distinctive opportunity to link its pavilion to the implementation of sustainability practices under the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) system adopted in the Malaysia forests. In addition, MOSTI in collaboration with KETSA and KeTSA's agency, Yayasan Hijau Malaysia (YHM) on 23 October 2021, had planted 500 trees in Taman Eko Rimba Bukit Sungei Putih, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur, which is part of Bukit Nanas Forest Reserve under the Forestry Department of the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. This is also in support of the national initiative, the Greening Malaysia Programme through 100 Million Tree Planting Campaign.

The net zero initiative was placed under a technical sub-committee headed by MOSTI's Technology Transfer and R&D Commercialisation Division Undersecretary cum Head of Main Secretariat for Malaysia's participation at Expo 2020 Dubai, Dr. Nor Azlina Ariffin, with members from MOSTI, KeTSA, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia, Forest Research Institute Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, SIRIM Berhad, Department of Standards Malaysia, Malaysian Timber Industry Board, Malaysian Timber Council (MTC), Malaysia Pavilion architect Hijias Architects and Planners, and MGTC.

The sub-committee's tasks include identifying and deciding on approaches to implement the initiative, as well as ensuring the methods are internationally recognised.

Malaysia's Pavilion with the theme of 'Energising Sustainability', displayed the country's commitment to sustainability by installing a carbon neutral pavilion at the world event. In leading the way, Malaysia further advocated sustainability through its *#MyButterflyEffect* campaign which galvanised the public and expo visitors to join its cause. The pavilion was constructed with low carbon emission in mind by including green, sustainable and energy-saving features.

Before this, the Malaysia Pavilion was also named '**Sustainable Project of the Year (Built)**' by the Global Architecture and Design Awards 2022, a **Gold Award winner for 'Interpretation of Theme'** by the Bureau International des Exposition Awards, **Winner of the APPIES APAC Marketing Campaign Awards 2022 for 'Best in Business and Consumer Services'**, and, received **Honourable Mention for 'Best Sustainable Design'** by the EXHIBITOR Magazine World Expo Awards 2022.

According to the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham bin Baba, "This is unprecedented for us as never has Malaysia Pavilion won five (5)

international awards within just eight (8) months. This shows that we can do great things together for a common aim as one united Keluarga Malaysia.”

“Expo 2020 Dubai is to showcase our nation’s initiative towards a more sustainable future, and to inform the world that Malaysia is moving towards a greener direction. This latest victory is very apt and resonates well with our nation’s goal of achieving carbon neutrality, earliest by 2050.”

#END#

Prepared by:

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

10 NOVEMBER 2022