

Akademi



Organised by



In Partnership With:



Impact on The Grassroots

Localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

29th July 2025 (Tuesday) | 8.30am - 5.30pm
Akademi Sains Malaysia,
MATRADE Tower, Kuala Lumpur

This event **anchors on the importance of grassroots in the SDG localisation initiatives** – their various forms of active participation, local practices, and interventions. The presentations can **demonstrate that the grassroots play crucial roles and have the responsibility to work with the Malaysian government** for the country to achieve the 17 SDGs.



Outcomes We Are Looking Forward To

- Sharing inspiring **grassroots SDG success stories** to spark action
- Boosting awareness among SDG leaders for **stronger collaboration**
- **Uncovering key challenges** to tackle them head-on
- **Creating practical solutions** for SDG progress

CASE STUDY
PRESENTED BY:



**The Grassroots Impact Project
is presenting at the Roving Workshop.**



Programme Flow

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

10:00 AM – 10:20 AM



WELCOMING REMARKS

YB Isnaraissah Munirah,
Chair Person of
APPGM-SDG



OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Richard Marshall,
Representing the
Acting UN Resident Coordinator



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Puan Anita Ahmad,
Chief Executive Officer
of Yayasan MySDG



Joining
Online

Overview of Malaysia VNR

Mr. Asfaazam Kasbani,
Director at the National
SDG Centre, Ministry of
Economy, Malaysia

10:20 AM – 11:20 AM PANEL DISCUSSION 1: THE OVERVIEW OF VNR

MODERATOR



Dr. Teo Lee Ken has actively been engaging the field of research and social commitment, including leading efforts of social studies, policy advocacy, and grassroots engagements to localise the SDGs across Malaysia's parliamentary constituencies, ensuring Malaysia's VNR highlights real community perspectives and prioritises inclusivity.

teoleeken@gmail.com

People



Dr. Teo Sue Ann is Director at the Policy Advocacy Parliament of the APPGM-SDG. Over a decade of experience leading research, policy dialogue, and thematic issue analysis at the intersection of grassroots communities and the SDGs. Writer of Malaysia's VNR

teosueann@gmail.com

Planet



Afandi Nor Azmi is a respected policy researcher, author of Malaysia's VNR, and consultant specialising in climate resilience, environment, and sustainable development. He focuses on policy research, strategic planning, and technical studies.

afandi.norazmia
@outlook.my

Prosperity



Dr. Zouhair Rosli is Research Director at DM Analytics Sdn Bhd with over a decade of experience in economic policy analysis, social protection, and inclusive development, contributing significantly to Malaysia's SDG VNR and national socioeconomic strategies

zr@dm-analytics.com

Peace & Partnership



Dr. Khairil Ahmad is Director of the MySDG Centre for Social Inclusion at APPGM-SDG, with over 15 years of experience leads piloting training initiatives for policy innovation and advancing grassroots political literacy. Writer of Malaysia's VNR

khairil.izamin.ahmad
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11:30 AM – 12:45 PM PANEL DISCUSSION 2: DISCUSSION ON VNR FROM GRASSROOT IMPACT

MODERATOR



Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria is Head of Secretariat for the APPGM-SDG, with over 50 years of leadership in public advocacy, social inclusion, and civil society engagement advancing Malaysia's SDGs and VNR through multi-stakeholder partnerships and policy innovation.

denisonappgmsdg
@gmail.com

People



Datin Seri Prof. Dr. Suhaiza Hanim Mohamad Zailani is Director of the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies at Universiti Malaya, with over 15 years of leadership advancing sustainable development, poverty eradication, and rural inclusion in Malaysia's SDG policy

shmz@um.edu.my

Planet



Karthigayan Gunasegaran is a Senior Coordinator for WWF-Malaysia's Living Landscape with over a decade's experience in social innovation. He's a YSEALI alumnus who enjoys travel, culture, nature, and meaningful community work.

gkarthigayan
@wwf.org.my

Prosperity



Omna Sreeni-Ong is the Co-Chair of the Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance, a national network of civil society, NGOs, think tanks, academia, and social enterprises advancing the UN SDGs, with 25 years of gender equality expertise.

m.cso.sdg@gmail.com

Peace & Partnership



Jerald Joseph is a Chairperson of CSO Platform for Reform and Director of Pusat Komus, with over 30 years of leadership in human rights advocacy, anti-discrimination, and strengthening civil society partnerships

jjerald@gmail.com

4:15 PM – 5:15 PM PANEL DISCUSSION 3: SPECIAL PRESENTATION ON I-TEKAD BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA AND THE DISCUSSION ON ENHANCING THE GRASSROOTS CAPACITY FOR SDG ACCELERATION

MODERATOR



Zoel Ng is the Director of MySDG Academy, with 20 years of experience in youth and community development. She has collaborated with over 400 local and ASEAN organisations on SDG initiatives. Zoel is a PhD candidate specialising in sustainable competency in family businesses.

zoelng1023@gmail.com

Government Sector



TPr. Ts. Norliza binti Hashim is Chief Executive of Urbanice Malaysia, with more than three decades of leadership in spearheading government initiatives that build grassroots capacity and accelerate SDG implementation across Malaysian cities and communities

norliza@urbanicemalaysia.com

Private Sector



Ir. Kuhan Pathy is Founder of Pepper Labs, an award-winning social enterprise with over a decade of experience driving grassroots economic empowerment and digital innovation, advancing SDG solutions and capacity-building for underserved communities through impactful private sector partnerships

kuhan@pepperlabs.my

Academia's Perspective



Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli with over a decade of leadership in political development, gender, human security, and sustainable development research. She has contributed significantly to localising the SDGs in Malaysia through her academic work and her role in major national research projects.

rashilaramli.311@gmail.com

Special Presentation by:

Dr. Hamim Syahrumb bin Ahmad Mokhtar, Deputy Director of the Financial Inclusion Department, Bank Negara Malaysia, on the iTekad Program



KEY TAKE AWAY & WAY FORWARD + CLOSING REMARK

Dato' Sri Mustapa bin Mohamed,
Advisor of Society for the Promotion of Sustainable Development Goals (PPMPL)



8:30 AM - 9:00 AM



Registration & Morning Tea

9:45 AM- 10.00 AM



Photo Session

12.45 PM - 2.00 PM



Lunch Break & Prayer

5.15 PM - 5.30 PM



Wrap up & Feedback Form

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM Group Discussion and Presentation : Localising SDGs – What Next?

SCALING UP



[1] How can successful grassroots SDG initiatives be **systematically scaled across regions**?

[2] What are the **best practices** that we can replicate?

FINANCING



[1] How can we establish consistent and **accessible financing channels** for community-led SDG efforts?

[2] What **role** can public, private, and philanthropic sectors play in long-term funding?

IMPACT EVALUATION



[1] How can we better recognise and **integrate citizen-generated data** into national SDG reporting?

[2] What **tools or frameworks** can **validate** grassroots impact and influence policymaking?"

PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES



[1] How can **partnerships move beyond symbolic collaboration** to genuine co-creation with grassroots actors?

[2] What are the **best practices** that we can replicate?

About Partners in Accelerating SDGs

Partners in Accelerating SDGs (Malaysia) is a **dynamic multi-stakeholder platform that brings together government agencies, academia, civil society organisations, grassroots leaders, the private sector, and development partners** to collectively advance the localisation and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout Malaysia.

Established in 2023 under the guidance of key advisor Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed who initiated this collaborative effort, this network facilitates knowledge sharing, drives coordinated action, and advocates for evidence-based policy development. The platform serves as a catalyst for cross-sector partnerships, **enabling diverse organisations to leverage their unique strengths and expertise in pursuit of Malaysia's sustainable development aspirations.**

Operating through regular **bi-monthly meetings**, the network has generated significant outcomes including the SDG Conference among public and private universities, strategic collaborations between University of Malaya and the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia for SDGs (APPGM-SDG), and systematic sharing of successes, challenges, best practices, and resources among partners.

Active partners in this network include but are not limited to: Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (University of Malaya), Persatuan Sains Sosial Malaysia, CSO-SDG Alliance, All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia for SDGs (APPGM-SDG), UM Cares, Pepper Labs, Yayasan MySDG, Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations (FOMCA), Urbanice Malaysia, Pusat SDG Negara, Yayasan Hasanah, Lestari UKM, Pusat Jeffrey Sachs untuk Pembangunan Lestari, and MySDG Academy.

Join Us



CONTACT: mysdg.academy@gmail.com | zoelng@appgm-sdg.com