

RECODA

NEWSLETTER

2022

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We received extensive coverage on all major local newspapers early this year on what SCORE is and how it started way back in 2008 as one of the five economic corridors in the country. The feature article also detailed its milestones over the last 14 years and how RECODA, being the lead agency to oversee SCORE's overall development, has evolved over the years with more responsibilities given to us by the government. We thought it will be a good idea to reproduce the feature article in this issue since you might have missed it. We are sure this will be a good reading for you to know more about SCORE, as the title suggests, being the mojo that will bring Sarawak forward. Happy reading!

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RECODA wins International Innovation Awards 2021

We emerged as winners of The International Innovation Awards® (IIA) 2021 under Service & Solution category with our innovation RECODA Project Management System (RPMS).

Premier Tan Sri Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg, who is also RECODA board chairman, symbolically received the award at his office in Kuching on January 18, 2022 from RECODA Chief Executive Officer, Datu Ismawi Ismuni.

Also present was Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas who is also the chairman for Highland Development Agency (HDA).

RECODA, a state statutory body, was announced as the winner on December 9 last year at a virtual ceremony held in Singapore.

The regional recognition award saw us contending against more than 160 other nominees, across 30 countries involving 24 industries.

IIA 2021 was organised by Enterprise Asia which has been spearheading this most coveted regional recognition award since 2006, in recognising the outstanding innovations and in the process encouraging organisations to continue to seek innovative solutions to solve problems.

Apart from winning the prestigious award, our innovation has also been qualified to be certified with InnoMark®, which is an international certification that recognises outstanding innovation through stringent 8-D criteria which are the development of idea, problem solution, execution, consolidation, distinction, patent, result and performance and time, value and effort.

With multibillion ringgit investment and hundreds of projects tasked at hand, we are leveraging on digital technology to better manage, monitor and implement its projects.

The journey for RPMS started in



Ismawi (right) handing over the award to Abang Johari (centre) while Uggah (left) looks on.

2019 with the conceptual stage while its development started on July last year.

RPMS is a cloud-based, integrated, innovative, and interactive Digital Project Information and Monitoring Dashboard System used for managing, supervising, and monitoring the current progress and health status of the ongoing projects.

RPMS makes it possible to track and monitor the current project progress status on site instantly, without having to physically being present on site, all within fingertips through mobile devices.

RPMS disseminates information such as schedule vs. actual progress, percentage, numbers of resources on-site, schedule performance index, projected completion date, contractor performance speed, project financial status, project variance, and many other vital information for progress reporting and project health status, which enables the stakeholders to make informed decisions.

Aside from being tasked with drawing investments and creating

job opportunities for Sarawakians, we are also the implementing agency for infrastructure and socio-economic development projects in the SCORE region, which covers 80% of the state's land area.

Since 2017, we have been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to implement development projects in the regions overseen by the three development agencies namely Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA), Highland Development Agency (HDA) and Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA) with a total allocation of RM4.5 billion.

A total of 263 projects are to be carried out including the construction of roads, bridges, water supply, socio-economic programmes as well as masterplans.

We will also be the implementing agency for the 88km's Northern Coastal Highway and the 160.5km's roads linking Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama.

Sarawak a rising tiger in renewable energy — Abang Johari



Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg has described the state as a rising tiger in the renewable energy arena and is opening its frontiers to help traditional industries become more sustainable.

With hydrogen being one of the sectors that it intended to develop, he said the State Government had specifically highlighted renewable energy as a cornerstone to its 10-year development plan, which is the Post Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030.

“PCDS 2030 is more than just our internal blueprint to shape our economy. It is a multi-faceted approach towards long term economic, social and environmental sustainability; built upon our aspirations for collaboration with policy makers and private sectors both within and beyond our humble

island,” he said in a Bernama report.

In his keynote address for the World Hydrogen 2022 Summit and Exhibition that he attended in Rotterdam, Holland on May 9, 2022 he said Sarawak is ready to embark further into hydrogen economy as it had abundant resources, sufficient infrastructure and expertise, as well as supply and value chains.

“With concerted effort, real initiatives, Sarawak is sending a clear message across the world (that) we want Sarawak to be a region for clean, green investment. We want global low carbon industries serviced by Sarawak supply chains,” he said.

Abang Johari said Sarawak is currently Malaysia’s largest provider of renewable energy for a population of almost three million for the State and part of Indonesia, where 70%

of the total generation mix is from hydropower resources, which in turn could be harnessed to produce low carbon hydrogen.

“This provides an ideal setting to enable hydrogen economy in Sarawak and research study was initiated as a pioneering step to explore, innovate and produce green hydrogen as a solution for commercial and public application,” he said.

He said in 2018, Sarawak Energy Berhad, the State power utility company, had successfully commissioned Southeast Asia’s first integrated hydrogen production plant with 130kg per day production capacity and refuelling station to cater up to five buses and 10 cars per day.

“With this pilot hydrogen facility, Sarawak is a step towards building a green energy future for the transportation sector for Sarawak and the Asia Pacific region. It has now served as a refuelling station for Sarawak’s first hydrogen fuel cell electric buses.

The State Government’s development and investment agency, SEDC Sarawak is also collaborating with Aerospace Malaysia Innovation Centre (AMIC) to develop biofuels, green hydrogen and fuel cell for aviation or Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).

Abang Johari said alternative aviation fuels such as SAF could be the key to sustainable air travel, contributing hugely to the industry’s emissions-reduction strategy and net-zero emissions goal.

“With recent advancements in hydrogen fuel cell for aviation, particularly recent developments in drones, I envision that soon hydrogen fuel cells could be fuelling up hydrogen powered helicopters,” he added.

Malaysia attracts new investments worth RM16.52b from the US – Azmin

Malaysia has managed to attract new investments worth RM16.52 billion from the United States (US) through the Trade and Investment Mission led by Senior Minister of International Trade and Industry, Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali said in a Bernama report on May 21, 2022.

“We hope that all these commitments to investments can be finalised in the third quarter of this year, creating employment opportunities for the locals,” he said during a press conference on the Trade and Investment Promotion Mission to the United States.

Companies that had committed to invest in Malaysia include Insulet, Ferrotec, Amazon Web Services Inc (AWS) and Cue Health, as well as additional investment projects by Texas Instruments and Boston Scientific.

The 10-day Trade and Investment Mission, which kicked off on May 9, had focused on innovative and high value-added new sectors, especially the semiconductor industry, digital economy and medical devices, in line with the National Investment Aspirations which focuses on high-quality investments and the latest technology.

Mohamed Azmin said the companies had also committed to creating a business ecosystem, ensuring technology transfers as well as involvement of local industries, especially small and medium enterprises in their supply chain.

“Their investments will also generate employment opportunities, provide skills training opportunities for local workers, establish collaborations with local universities and help to develop local vendors,” he said.



Currently, the US is Malaysia's third largest global trade partner and export destination, while Malaysia is the US' 17th largest trade partner.

“The total export potential to the US is at RM1.44 billion,” said Mohamed Azmin.

He added that despite the challenging global economy and economic uncertainties following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, total trade between the two countries increased by 21.4 per cent year-on-

year to RM217.10 billion (US\$52.37 billion) in 2021.

Malaysia's exports to the US rose by 30.4 per cent to RM142.20 billion (US\$34.31 billion), with main exports comprising electrical and electronic (E&E) products and rubber-based products.

Meanwhile, imports from the US rose by 7.4 per cent to RM74.87 billion (US\$18.06 billion), including E&E and steel products.

Press Metal's 1Q net profit jumps to RM421.02mil



Press Metal Aluminium Holdings Bhd, the largest aluminium smelter and a prominent aluminium extruder in Southeast Asia, reported that its net profit for the first quarter ended March 31, 2022 (Q1 2022), jumped to RM421.02 million from RM205.72 million in Q1 2021.

Its revenue for the quarter under review rose 86.6 per cent to RM3.92 billion from RM2.1 billion previously, Bernama reported the company as saying in a filing with Bursa Malaysia on May 30, 2022.

"The substantial increase in revenue was mainly due to the higher aluminium price and additional production output following the full commissioning of its Phase 3 smelting operations in October 2021," it added.

Going forward, with the re-

opening of economies and heightened manufacturing activities in the region, the company believes that Southeast Asia, being an export hub, should see an increasing demand for raw materials such as aluminium.

"Leveraging our position as the largest aluminium smelter in this region, we are well-positioned to seize this opportunity as customers prefer to avoid uncertainties stemming from logistic disruptions and trade tensions.

"Barring unforeseen circumstances, the board expects the group to achieve favourable results for financial year 2022," it added.

Hong Leong Investment Bank Research (HLIB Research) had earlier said the group was on track to more-than-double its profits year-on-year for its financial year ending Dec 31,

2022 (FY22).

This is due to elevated aluminium prices, full commissioning of its phase three Samalaju expansion and further contribution from its 25%-owned PT Bintan alumina refinery.

"The higher London Metal Exchange aluminium spot prices and the full commissioning of the group's phase three Samalaju project will result in full sales tonnage contribution in the first quarter," it said.

However, HLIB said aluminium spot prices have corrected 21% as China's lockdown has triggered a possible downward shift in the aluminium consumption curve.

Consequently, Press Metal's share price has corrected 25% in a span of two months.

Nevertheless, the research house reckons the fall in aluminium prices may be temporary amid a structural supply deficit in the near term.

"In our view, the robust demand for aluminium is here to stay, as we are just at the start of the adoption of electrical vehicles and solar panels on the back of the rising decarbonisation efforts globally."

On the other hand, HLIB expects the aluminium supply to continue facing disruption following the Ukraine-Russia conflict and power rationing in China.

"We believe the combination of robust demand and stunted supply will cushion further the downside to aluminium prices," it said.

That said, HLIB believes aluminium prices would stage a turnaround in anticipation of an increase in consumption from China.

"As such, the current Press Metal's 40% correction in share price from its year-to-date high of RM7.40 provides a good opportunity for investors to accumulate, given that its share price is highly correlated to aluminium prices."

Sarawak first in Malaysia enforcing carbon emissions regulations



Sarawak will become the first state in Malaysia to have legislation that would see industries, including oil and gas, operating in the state needing to comply with international requirements when the proposed Land Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022 is passed, said Datuk Sharifah Hasidah Sayeed Aman Ghazali, The Borneo Post reported on May 18, 2022.

The Deputy Minister in the Premier of Sarawak's Department (Law, MA63 and State-Federal Relations) said these international requirements include reducing carbon emission intensity under the United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

She pointed out that the proposed amendment Bill seeks to amend the Land Code to regulate and control the use of land, onshore and offshore, in the seabed which forms the continental shelf of Sarawak, for the storage, retention, capture, and sequestration of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases of any form or description.

"The carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from industries would have to be captured, compressed, transported, and stored underground or in other secure facilities.

"The amendments would empower the State Planning Authority (SPA) to approve sites, both on land and offshore Sarawak, in the Continental Shelf within the state's boundaries to be used for carbon storage. Once approved by SPA, the licence would be issued for the land to be used as a carbon storage site.

"The licence issued would stipulate all the terms and conditions for carbon storage and matters incidental thereto. These terms and

conditions will be set out in the Rules to be made under Section 213 after this Bill is passed," she said when tabling the Land Code (Amendment) Bill, 2022 during the State Legislative Assembly (DUN) Sitting in Kuching.

She said these rules will encompass mechanisms for trading of carbon credit generated from carbon storage, based on international protocols and standards.

"Carbon storage sites would include depleted oil and gas reservoirs, deep unused saline aquifers, and deep un-mineable coal seams.

"Studies have been carried out by Petros, Petronas, Shell, and other oil companies to develop carbon capture, storage technologies and solutions and to create products from the carbon dioxide kept in storage," she said.

With this law in place, she said foreign investors would find Sarawak a good investment destination that provides well-regulated facilities or sites for them to comply with international laws on carbon dioxide emission reduction, and the potential benefits of the commercial utilisation of the carbon dioxide captured and stored in accordance with local laws.

Sarawak to boost use of domestic gas

The Sarawak government through Petroleum Sarawak Bhd (Petros) wants to further increase use of domestic gas and the coverage area for natural gas distribution in the state, Bernama reported.

State Utilities and Telecommunications Minister Datuk Julaihi Narawi said two plans would be implemented to expand the coverage, namely construction of the Bintulu-Samalaju Gas Pipeline in Bintulu and Pan Sarawak Virtual Pipeline System in major towns in the state.

The construction of the 70km Bintulu-Samalaju Gas Pipeline from Bintulu to the Samalaju Industrial

Park is expected to drive downstream industrial growth by attracting local and foreign investments.

"This will in turn contribute to socio-economic development and create more job opportunities in Bintulu," he said when winding up the debate at the Sarawak State Assembly on May 24, 2022.

Julaihi said the Pan Sarawak Virtual Pipeline System was planned for big towns like Kuching, Bintulu and Miri to enable Sarawak people to enjoy the natural gas facility at a lower price as well as to promote growth of small and medium industries.



OM Holdings to buy out CMS' smelting stake

OM Holdings Ltd's subsidiary OM Materials (S) Pte Ltd has entered into a deal with Samalaju Industries Sdn Bhd, a unit of Cahya Mata Sarawak (CMS) Bhd, that will see the latter exit its investment in the ferrosilicon and manganese alloy smelting complex in Samalaju Industrial Park in Sarawak, The Star reported.

In separate filings with Bursa Malaysia, OM Holdings and CMS said they have inked a binding letter of offer for the latter to sell its entire equity interest in OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd and OM Materials (Samalaju) Sdn Bhd to OM Holdings for US\$120mil (RM520.72mil).

Accordingly, OM Holdings, a manganese and silicon metals group, would increase its stake in the target companies to 100% from the current

75% while construction group CMS would exit the companies.

"The acquisition is advantageous to the OMH Group and its strategy of investing further in ferroalloy smelting, building organically on the success of the OM Sarawak smelter facility," said OM Holdings in a statement in May 30, 2022.

Under the terms of the agreement, OM Materials will purchase 165.59 million shares and 43.69 million irredeemable convertible preference shares in OM Sarawak, representing 25% of the issued and paid up share capital and preference share capital in the company.

It will also purchase 32.08 million shares in OM Samalaju, representing 25% of the issued and paid up share capital of the company.

OM Holdings said it intends to fund the purchase through a combination of existing cash reserves, future operating cash flows, bank borrowings and equity raising in the second half of 2022.

"We appreciate the past contributions by our partner, Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd, to the Sarawak project.

"Together with our recent secondary listing in Bursa Malaysia, this transaction marks a key milestone in our journey and complements the wider OMH strategy of growing our Sarawak smelter and becoming the leading supplier of ferroalloys globally – building significant value for all shareholders," said OM Holdings executive chairman and CEO Low Ngee Tong.

Cahya Mata Sarawak to sell entire stakes in Sarawak alloy smelter and OM Samalaju for RM526.52 mil

Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd (CMS) is disposing of its entire 25% stakes in OM Material (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd and OM Materials (Samalaju) Sdn Bhd to OM Materials (S) Pte Ltd (OMS) for US\$120 million cash (RM526.62 million), The Edge reported.

A conditional share sale agreement (SSA) has been signed between CMS and OMS, according to CMS' filing with Bursa Malaysia on June 14, 2022.

OMS – a wholly-owned subsidiary of Australian Securities Exchange and Bursa Malaysia-listed OM Holdings Ltd (OMH) – owns the remaining 75% stakes in both OM Sarawak and OM Samalaju.

"Pursuant to the SSA, the disposal consideration includes a full and

final settlement and full discharge of all shareholders' loans, including interest, extended by SISB to [OM Sarawak and OM Samalaju] as of the closing date," CMS said, noting that the total loans would amount to US\$10.77 million (RM47.25 million) as at an assumed closing date of November 15, 2022.

Of the disposal proceeds, CMS said it has earmarked RM131.66 million for future acquisitions and investments, RM105.68 million for capital expenditure, RM263.31 million for working capital, and RM25.98 million for estimated expenses of the proposed disposal.

According to CMS, OM Sarawak operates a ferrosilicon and manganese alloy smelter in Sarawak

with an annual production capacity of about 200,000 to 210,000 tonnes of ferrosilicon and 250,000 to 300,000 tonnes of manganese alloy. It also has a design capacity to produce 250,000 tonnes of sinter ore per annum.

OM Samalaju is involved in project development and project management services, where it develops and manages selected capital projects for OM Sarawak.

Shares in CMS closed one sen or 0.93% lower at RM1.07 on Tuesday (June 14), giving the group a market capitalisation of RM1.15 billion.

Meanwhile, OMH shares finished nine sen or 3.56% down at RM2.44, giving it a market capitalisation of RM1.8 billion.

RECODA holds Socio-Economic Labs in Miri, Lawas and Sibul



Ismawi (right) together with EPU Sarawak's deputy director, Lester Matthew (centre) and the facilitator from UNIMAS having a light discussion.

We held a series of Socio-Economic Labs that kicked off in Miri by the Highland Development Agency (HDA) on March 3 and followed by the Northern Regional Development Agency (NRDA) in Lawas on March 22 and concluding with Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA) in Sibul on March 30.

Participants included elected representatives, government officers and community leaders from all three regions who identified the needs and expectations of local communities, as well as proposed programmes, projects, mechanisms and suitable business models for a comprehensive Socio-Economic Development Plan (2022-2026).

Each regional development agency under us will have its own socio-economic development plan for the next five years.

The NRDA, HDA and URDA Socio-Economic Labs were officiated respectively by Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, and Long Lama State Representative Dennis Ngau who represented Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Dato Sri

Alexander Nanta Linggi.

Our Socio-Economic Development Plans will be benchmarked against international best practices and that they will be aligned with PCDS 2030, 12th Malaysia Plan and United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, said RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni during the closing of URDA's Socio-Economic Lab.

"This will ensure that the Socio-Economic Development Plan is not only equitable but also sustainable, both socially and environmentally," he said in his concluding remarks.

"During this lab, I am happy to note that all the participants were enthusiastic and shared their wisdom and knowledge as well as expertise on the best approaches to implement the socio-economic programmes to uplift the livelihood of the people."

"The ultimate goal of our Socio-Economic Development Plan is of course to improve the welfare and livelihoods of the local communities in all our Development Agencies areas including URDA, which is one of the overarching objectives of the SCORE Development Agenda," he said.



RECODA Milestones: 2012

Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy or SCORE is one of five economic development corridors created by the Federal Government as part of its ambitious plan to stimulate growth, especially in traditionally rural areas of Sarawak. RECODA was established to oversee and manage SCORE as the implementing agency for infrastructure and socio-economic projects within the SCORE region, as well as tasked to attracting investors to the state and creating job opportunities.



Power Purchase Agreement signing ceremony between Sarawak Energy Bhd and OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd

2012

JANUARY

APRIL



Power Purchase Agreement signing ceremony between Sarawak Energy Bhd and Tokuyama Corporation



Ground breaking ceremony for Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn Bhd's manganese alloys and ferrosilicon smelting plant in Samalaju Industrial Park

MAY

SEPTEMBER



Construction of UiTM Campus in Mukah begins



Ground breaking of OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd's Ferroalloy Smelting Plant in Samalaju Industrial Park

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



The initial commissioning phase of Press Metal Bhd's aluminium smelting plant in Samalaju Park

To be continued in the next
READCODA Issue

SCORE, THE MOJO TO BRING

It has been 13 years since the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) got off to a running start. It is now well on its way to fulfilling its comprehensive master plan to reap the benefits of a globalised economy and raising the standard of living of Sarawakians.

SCORE, being one of the five economic corridors in the country envisions a high-income state where the per capita income of Sarawakians is raised along with the overall gross domestic product (GDP) of the state.

Officially launched by former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on February 11, 2008 in Bintulu, SCORE is the brainchild of former Chief Minister and the current Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, in line with the vision of the Politics of Development for Sarawak.

The SCORE blueprint outlines socio-economic, commercial and industrial sectors to be opened up in its vast region of development areas to benefit the local population and to achieve equitable distribution of wealth, particularly among rural residents.

The Corridor originally stretches from Tanjung Manis in Mukah to the Samalaju Industrial Park (SIP) in Bintulu, covering a total area of 70,000km² before being expanded to over 100,000km² on January 9, 2018, incorporating the

northern region that encompasses Limbang and Lawas.

Managing the economic corridor is the Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA), a statutory body, tasked with not only planning and implementing socio-economic and infrastructure development, but also attracting investments to the state and creating job opportunities for Sarawakians.

The key advantages of SCORE's development policy are the abundance of natural resources, including vast tracts of land for agriculture, huge reserves of coal and natural gas and the availability of competitively-priced clean, renewable hydro-electric power.

The idea is to allow investors, especially in the energy intensive industries, to take advantage of Sarawak's competitive electricity tariff.

Readily available hydropower is channelled to designated growth nodes scattered throughout the corridor such as SIP, Tanjung Manis, Mukah, Baram and Limbang and Lawas.

A total of 12 priority sectors have been identified by the government for development, encompassing a whole range of industries, from downstream oil-based production to world-class high-tech ventures such as state-of-the-art aluminium and ferroalloy smelters





SARAWAK FORWARD



Located 60km from Bintulu town, the Samalaju Industrial Park is the hub for energy-intensive industries



Former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and former Chief Minister Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud graced the launch of SCORE in Bintulu in 2008

as well as polycrystalline silicon production.

The identified industries are oil & gas industry, aluminium, steel, glass production, tourism, palm oil industry, timber-based industries, livestock, aquaculture, marine engineering, biotechnology and digital economy.

Through the high-impact industries in the corridor and its hinterland, the government seeks to boost investments to the tune of RM334 billion with 2.5 million jobs to be created by 2030.

Out of the RM334 billion of total planned investments, RM267 billion will come from the private investments while the remaining RM67 billion from government investments in the form of building infrastructures.

Initial Milestones

SCORE has seen a flurry of activities since its launch 13 years ago. In 2009, the aluminium smelting giant Press Metal began its operations in Balingian, Mukah, while construction began for SIP in 2009.

By February 2011, an earth-breaking ceremony was held for SIP's first venture, Japan-based Tokuyama's polycrystalline silicon factory. By April that year, another ground-breaking ceremony was held for Press Metal's smelting plant at SIP.

The same month, Sarawak Energy Bhd (SEB) signed four Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with four SCORE investors - OM Materials Sarawak, Asia

Minerals Ltd, Press Metal Bhd and Tokuyama Malaysia Sdn Bhd.

By June 2011, SEB and Sarawak Hidro Sdn Bhd signed a 30-year PPA for the full output of the Bakun hydroelectric facilities, as the hydro-power dam began generating electricity.

As more PPAs were inked with SCORE investors the following year, further ground-breaking ceremonies were held at SIP for Pertama Ferroalloys Sdn Bhd's manganese alloys and ferrosilicon smelting plant and OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd's ferro alloy smelting plant. By November 2012, Press Metal's aluminium smelting plant saw its initial commissioning.

Other major projects within the SCORE region include the launch of the Tanjung Manis Halal Hub in 2009, the start of operations of the Mukah coal-fired power plant within the same year,

the commissioning of the construction of the new Mukah Airport, which began in 2014 and completed middle of June this year as well as the official start of operations of the Samalaju Port.

Construction for the Balingian Coal Fired Power Plant began in 2015, while the Mukah Biomass Power Plant was launched the same year. The following year, the 944MW Murum Dam was officially launched.

In 2017, the Samalaju Industrial Port commenced Phase 1 operations while Sarawak Energy completed its acquisition of the 2,400MW Bakun dam from the Federal government.

The Samalaju Industrial Port, with specialised terminals to cater for the heavy industries in the region, is being developed to complement the Bintulu Port to fulfil the increasing import and export activities.

Three Regional Development Agencies

With most of the areas in Sarawak which are still under-developed, there is an urgent need to open up these rural and hinterland areas which have huge economic potentials.

Hence, the Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg established three development agencies - Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA), Highland Development Agency (HDA) and Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA), under the wings of RECODA in 2017.

Their collective objective is to implement infrastructure and amenities, as well as socio-economic projects and programmes in the central



Tanjung Manis Integrated Port



Slope cutting on Baleh Bridge/Pelagus Resort road



Road construction to link Long Selaan and Long Moh, Ulu Baram



Construction of Proposed Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah Lawas

region, the hinterland and the northern region to bridge the urban and rural divide, raising the standard of living of local communities.

By connecting the missing dots to these rural areas, it will bring investments into these areas, thus uplifting the livelihood of the people.

Notably, the board of each agency is chaired by a Deputy Chief Minister - URDA by the late Tan Sri James Masing, HDA by Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas and NRDA by Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan. Spearheaded by RECODA Board Chairman, who is the Premier of Sarawak, the inclusion of key leaders and representatives of federal and state agencies reflects the State Government's commitment in spurring the development in these areas.

The rollout of socio-economic and infrastructure projects for the three development agencies began in 2019, with a total allocation of RM4.5 billion in financing for a total 263 projects.

Each agency is allocated with RM1.5 billion to carry out development projects, comprising roads, bridges, water and electricity supplies, telecommunications, improvement and other smaller projects such as the repair of dilapidated school projects.

This is in line with the Sarawak Government's rural development agenda to improve connectivity through the upgrading of road infrastructure and public amenities, which serves as a foundation to reduce wealth disparities, as well as to support employment opportunities and livelihood of rural communities. These projects also serve as enablers for investments in the rural and hinterland areas of SCORE.

In terms of major investments made in SCORE region thus far, there has been a total private and public investments of RM71.1 billion as of October 2021.

SCORE receives a mix of foreign and domestic investors, with foreign direct investments (FDIs) comprising 36.7% of all investments, 58.2% domestic and 5.1% joint ventures as of 2020.

With strategic infrastructure development projects for SCORE on track to meet the needs of investors and with further socio-economic and infrastructure development in the pipeline, RECODA's roles have rightly expanded, especially in recent years.



The late Deputy Chief Minister and URDA Chariman Tan Sri James Masing at RECODA's exhibition booth at the launch of Belaga water front on October 10, 2022

This has resulted in a growing need to source and develop talents to fulfil those expanded roles.

A restructuring exercise, carried out in 2019 has led to a revamp of the organisation to ensure that the statutory body is able to function effectively and efficiently.

RECODA is also recognised as a full-fledged technical department now after receiving approval from the Federal Public Works Department (JKR) to implement projects. This has allowed RECODA to carry out much-needed socio-economic and infrastructure development projects.

Strategic Masterplans

In addition to development projects, strategic masterplans have also been drawn up to develop traditionally rural areas in order to spur growth potentials and attract renewable energy investments.

The areas in focus are overseen by the three development agencies - Bakun, Belaga and Kapit under URDA; Mulu and Bario under HDA; and Sundar, Trusan and Merapok under NRDA.

The Bakun masterplan focuses on attracting investors with its proposed lakefront township and island resort, while the Belaga masterplan focuses on town expansion and urban renewal,

taking advantage of a newly-completed waterfront. The Kapit masterplan, which takes into consideration its proximity to East Kalimantan and the relocation of Indonesia's capital to East Kalimantan, encompasses urban renewal and the expansion of a new township.

The masterplan for Mulu will take advantage of the road network linking Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama, Miri, which will vastly improve connectivity in the area. It will focus on enhancing Mulu as a world-class tourist destination. The masterplan for Bario will focus on development of the area's



Uggah (centre) witnessing the contract signing ceremony between RECODA and contractors

agricultural growth potential and a highland destination.

Meanwhile, the Sundar, Trusan and Merapok masterplans will leverage on the connectivity that will be provided by the proposed New Lawas Airport as well as the Northern Coastal Highway.

Northern Coastal Highway

In a recent development, a major initiative to ultimately connect the missing link of the Pan Borneo Highway from Miri, to Limbang and Lawas and then to our neighbouring state of Sabah has been backed by the Sarawak Government.

The proposed 88km Northern Coastal Highway (NCH) mega project will involve the construction of a four-lane dual carriageway of JKR R5 standard as well as linked bridges, interchanges and flyovers among others.

The highway will pass through Brunei via the Tedungan and Pandaruan



RECODA CEO, Datu Ismawi Ismuni explaining some of the projects to Abang Johari (left) while Awang Tengah (second from left) looks on

Custom, Immigration, Quarantine and Security (CIQS) Complex in Limbang and Mengkalap and Merapok CIQS in Lawas. The NCH is expected to enhance the bilateral ties between Sarawak and Brunei Darussalam in terms of trade, investment and peoples' mobility.

The NCH mega project, which is expected to kick start next year and take 48 months to complete, cannot come at a better time as the construction of the Pan Borneo Highway Sarawak, from Telok Melano to Pujut Link Road in Miri is currently on-going and is expected to be completed in 2023.

The proposed road alignment for the Northern Coastal Highway will incorporate future development needs such as the proposed New Lawas Airport, New Lawas Deep Water Port and the proposed Integrated Petroleum Chemical Complex in Lawas as well as other spur roads along the alignment which is crucial for the development in the region.

When the NCH is completed, it will provide Sarawakians with a complete connectivity from the southern tip of Telok Melano all the way up to the northern region of Sarawak, and then link us to Sabah.

The value assessment (VA) Lab for this project was held in September last year, where consultants, representatives and officers from various government agencies as well as other stakeholders provided input on the highway's alignments, spur roads and other project needs.

The revised alignments have since been approved by the State Planning Authority. Subsequently, few value engineering labs were also held where all the consultants and relevant agencies deliberated at length on ways to optimise the design and cost for this project.

Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama Road

Another signature project is the proposed roads linking Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama, Miri.

The project seeks to enhance road connectivity via the upgrading of Miri to Marudi road and the construction of a new road from Marudi up to Long Panai forking to Long Lama. The project will also provide the long-awaited road connectivity to Gunung Mulu National

Park. The estimated total length of the road network is 137km.

New Lawas Airport and Lawas Deep Water Port Complex

Other signature projects in the offing include the proposed New Lawas Airport. The existing Lawas STOLport is a Short Take Off and Landing (STOL) facility operated by Malaysia Airports Sdn Bhd. The Lawas STOLport began its operation in 1961 and was then upgraded in 1996.

The New Lawas Airport is needed due to the frequent flooding at the existing STOLport and also to boost the economy of the northern region. As such the New Lawas Airport project will be funded by the Sarawak Government with a feasibility study further recommending that the airport cater for mainly ATR 72 (Code 3C) operations.

RECODA has completed a technical study for the New Lawas Airport and the 1,500m runway, with the final report delivered to the Ministry of Transport on June 23 this year.

Also undergoing feasibility study is Lawas Deep Water Port Complex, which will support the development for the



RECODA CEO, Datu Ismawi Ismuni (centre) presenting a framed artist impression picture of NCH to Awang Tengah (second from left) while other dignitaries look on.

petrochemical industry in the region as well as to serve as a strategic port for the northern region. Economic, technical and environmental studies are currently being carried out to determine the technical feasibility of the project.

Baleh Access Road and Integrated Highland Agricultural Station (IHAS)

Projects that are close to completion include the access road to the Baleh Dam in the Kapit division, which is expected to be completed by the first quarter of next year after construction began in 2016. The 73km road network from Nanga Mijong to Putai in Kapit is almost completed with the construction progress reaching close to 90%.

The 1,285 MW dam in Sungai Dapu, in central Sarawak is scheduled for completion in 2026. With the access road built to reach the dam, surrounding areas will be opened up where remote villages in the area will be connected to Kapit town through roads.

The Sarawak Government through SEB is undertaking the construction of the dam, while the road is being funded by the Federal Government through RECODA and the Public Works Department (JKR) Sarawak as the implementing agency for the project.

An Integrated Highland Agriculture Station (IHAS) was completed in Baram, in the region overseen by the Highland Development Agency (HDA) under RECODA in February, 2020 after two years of construction. IHAS will serve an agriculture research & development centre that focuses on sub-temperate, high-value agriculture produce

With about 625ha of land designated by the Sarawak Government, the objective is for IHAS to be comparative to Kundasang in Sabah or Cameron Highland in Pahang. IHAS will also draw the experience of highland agriculture in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Sarawak Petrochemical Hub

The Sarawak Petrochemical Hub in Tanjung Kidurong is located 15km north-east of Bintulu town and approximately 36km from Samalaju Industrial Park.

The hub is surrounded by energy-related developments such as Petronas LNG Complex, Shell MDS and SEB power



(From left) RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni, Uggah, Abang Johari, Awang Tengah and the then State Secretary Tan Sri Morshidi Abdul Ghani at the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) 10th Anniversary Celebration dinner held in Kuching on November 17, 2018

plant, while also adjacent to the mega methanol plant that is being developed.

The Sarawak Government has acquired an area approximately 1,068 acres in Tanjung Kidurong for the purpose of developing Sarawak Petrochemical Hub.

Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), as the owner of the land, will develop and manage the hub as well as the centralised utility facilities and other common areas, to facilitate participation by potential investors. SEDC will undertake the infrastructure development of the hub and also participate in some projects such as the float glass manufacturing plant.

Potential projects for this sector include the production of ammonia, hydrogen, methanol derivatives and other high-value-added downstream products such as float glass and siloxane and its derivatives, while potential industries include a choline chloride plant, mono ethylene plant, and propylene plant.

The hub location is ideal as it has access to feedstock, being the landing point of offshore gas fields and its close proximity to existing gas pipelines.

Mass activity such as ammonia/urea, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and Gas-to-Liquid (G-t-L) downstream industries are already present in Bintulu,



The OCIM polysilicon production factory in Samalaju Industrial Park. There are nine major companies operating in the 8000ha industrial park



The 800ha site for Wenan Steel's plant at the Samalaju Industrial Park is undergoing earthworks

coupled with the heavy industries in nearby Samalaju.

Bintulu is also equipped with infrastructure such as a deep-sea port and inter-modal road links, while a new port is being developed in Samalaju.

Last July, a ground breaking ceremony was held for the proposed state-owned Sarawak Methanol Project, which is expected to come on-stream in 2023 and will receive 160 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD) of natural gas feedstock from Petronas.

China enters with Wenan Steel

Another recent development is the approval for Wenan Steel (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd's plans to proceed with the construction of an integrated steel plant in SIP, the first major Chinese venture into Sarawak.

This is a milestone in a facilitative journey since 2016, when the project was first conceived after the Sarawak government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Hubei, China with Hebei Xinwuan Steel Group and MCC Overseas Ltd to conduct preliminary feasibility studies for the development of a steel plant in Sarawak.

With a projected installed capacity of over 10 million tonnes per annum by the time all phases of construction have been completed, and employing over 4,000 workers at various stages, the RM13 billion plant will be the largest of its kind in Malaysia.

Taking up over 800ha in the 8,000ha SIP, Wenan represents not only the first major commitment by a China-based firm here in Sarawak but the largest of any firm.

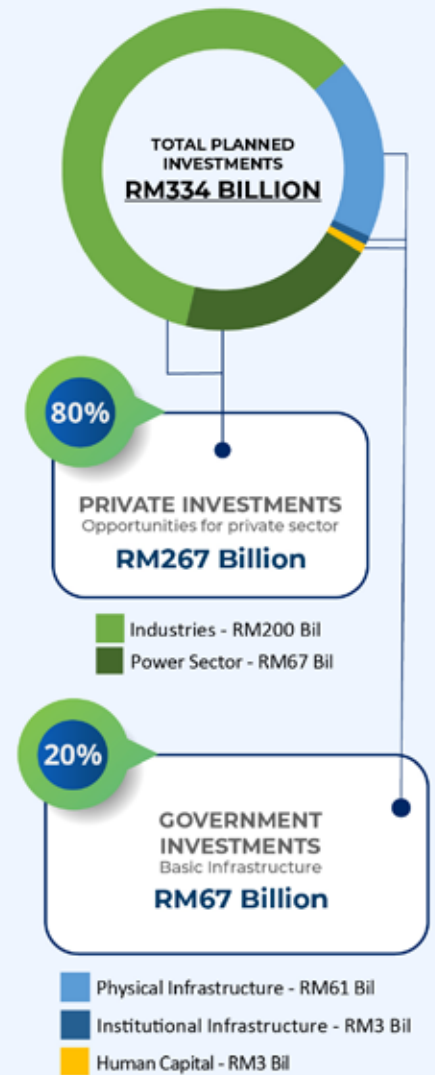
Moving Forward

The development of SCORE helps every Sarawakian to look forward, in a more substantive manner, towards a brighter and more prosperous future in the process of industrialisation to transform the economy from a medium to a high-income economy by 2030 and beyond.

SCORE aims to be inclusive to ensure that every Sarawakian is able to participate in the economic activities of the state and enjoy a high-income status. No one in the rural and urban areas of Sarawak, especially in SCORE shall be left behind in the economic and social development of the state.

Building upon the foundation of the past 13 years, there is no looking back as the momentum of progress is accelerated to achieve this ambitious vision of making Sarawak an economic destination of choice in this region.

GOALS FOR SCORE BY 2030



Based on the study by Arthur D. Little in 2008

Sarawak Civil Service Day 2022



Our management team joined in the virtual celebration of Sarawak Civil Service Day 2022 on January 24, 2022, which is capped with a closing speech by Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg, who focused on improving the quality of life of the rakyat following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Abang Johari also spoke on RECODA Project Management System, which recently won the International Innovation Award 2021 for the Services and Solutions category.

“I must also commend the efforts put in by the management of RECODA to streamline and monitor through digital solutions on project implementation and monitoring that should be the way forward in implementation of government policies,” he said.

Awang Tengah leads delegation to brief Putrajaya on state’s dev’t status



Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan on January 28, 2022, led a delegation comprising of elected representatives from the northern region of Sarawak to brief Federal Rural Development Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid on the latest infrastructure development in the state.

Awang Tengah, who is also Second Minister for Natural Resources and Urban Development and Minister for International Trade and Investment, gave an overview of the state’s initiatives to ensure sustainable economic growth post Covid-19.

HDA carries out work visits to Long Kevok, Long Atip



Baram MP and Highland Development Agency (HDA) Board Member YB Anyi Ngau led a working visit to Long Kevok, Baram on January 28, 2022, where he and HDA personnel were briefed on the ongoing project status of the single lane bridge crossing Sungai Layun and the 8km road project at nearby Long Atip.

The existing earth road will be upgraded to JKR R1 standard to serve the local communities comprising mostly of Kayan and Penan.

Prime Minister's Department official visit to Sarawak

RECODA hosted Senior Deputy Secretary-General of the Prime Minister's Department Dato Seri Jamil bin Rakon during his working visit to Bintulu from February 11 to 13, 2022 to look at a few development projects such as Samalaju Water Treatment Plant and a tour to Samalaju Industrial Park.



Consultant briefs Transport Ministry, RECODA on New Lawas Airport



The project for the proposed New Lawas Airport is expected to kick start in 2022. Representatives from project consultant Jurutera Minsar Sdn Bhd briefed the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Port Development Sarawak and RECODA on March 7, 2022, on the project's details and its Value Assessment Lab, which will assess the airport's scope and facilities with local authorities, stakeholders and relevant departments. The New Lawas Airport, with a 1,500m runway, will be located 14km from Lawas town.

NRDA 3rd Board Meeting

The Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA) met for its 3rd Board Meeting in Kuching on February 17, 2022.

The meeting, which was chaired by Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, went over policy matters affecting the implementation of infrastructure and socio-economic projects in the Limbang and Lawas area.





Work visit to Sungai Baji Agro Park, Sarikei to inspect food terminal project

Utility and Telecommunication Minister Datuk Haji Julaihi Haji Narawi led a working visit on April 2, 2022 to Sungai Baji Agro Park, Sarikei, where he was briefed on ongoing projects primarily aimed to benefit the local anchor and contract farmers.

The 127-hectare agro park, which is located 5km from Sarikei town, will feature greenhouses, food terminals, incubators and a training facility.

Kick-off meeting on access road project to Tunoh in Kapit



A kick-off meeting for the access road project to Tunoh in Kapit was held on April 18, 2022 and chaired by our Project Management Director, Mohd. Safri Ibrahim.

The meeting, attended by consultants among others, discussed and deliberated on the conceptual design for the construction of this 38km road of JKR R1 standard from Baleh Dam Access Road at Nanga Sepungil to Tunoh.

This proposed project will provide a vital road linkage to Tunoh which has been earmarked to be a new township in the near future.

Other than the road construction, the project also involves the construction of six reinforced concrete bridges over Sg. Merirai, Sg. Sebayak, Sg. Lubok, Sg. Telial, Sg. Entuloh and tributary of Sg. Entuloh, drainage works, geotechnical works, road furniture installation and pavement markings and relocation of existing utility services.

Construction hand over to New Bandar Lawas Bridge

RECODA handed over the proposed New Bandar Lawas Bridge project on May 26, 2022, for construction work to begin. A 640-metre balanced cantilever bridge will be constructed over Batang Lawas at the eastern side of Lawas town. Site clearance and earthworks are expected to begin soon, before piling works can be carried out for the reinforced concrete base. The infrastructure project, implemented by the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA) under RECODA is expected to be completed by 2025.



Final inspection of internal roads and drainages at Long Bedian

RECODA conducted its final inspection of the improvement of internal roads and drainages at Long Bedian, located in the Apoh Tutoh region of the Baram district on June 14, 2022. The project that began in 2020 was completed earlier this month, serving the local riverine Kayan communities.

Inspections were made on the width of the four internal roads, drainages and two concrete bridges. The infrastructure project was implemented by the Highland Development Agency (HDA) under RECODA.



Crop compensation for villagers of Long Selaan



It was all cheers for 38 villagers who received their crop compensation in a simple ceremony held on June 14, 2022 in Segah Selaan Homestay in Baram where the cheques were presented by Member of Parliament for Baram and Highland Development Agency (HDA) Board Member YB Anyi Ngau (second from left).

The compensation was given out due to the improvement work involving 16km of 18.9km logging road to Long Selaan which is expected to be completed by end of October this year.

Upgrades to Kampung Meritam's volcanic mud recreational facilities completed

Visitors from near and afar can now enjoy the newly completed recreational facilities for Kampung Meritam's Lumpur Bebuak, or volcanic mud, located 40km from Limbang town.

The central attraction are mudpots, which are pools of bubbling mud that form from hot springs and are said to be rejuvenative to the skin.

Upgrades to the facilities for the volcanic mud attraction have just been completed in June.

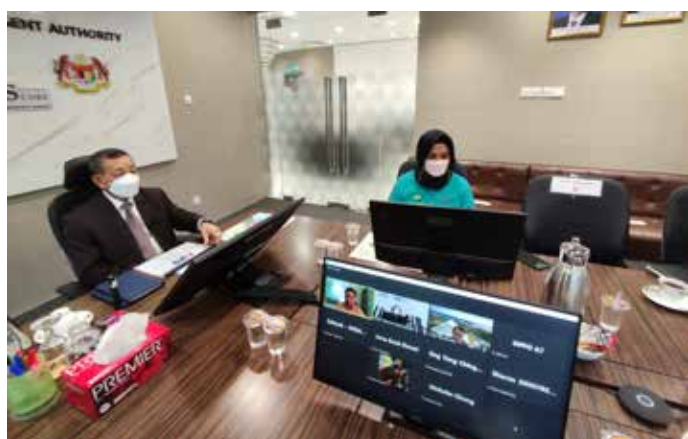


RECODA holds discussion with JPK, institutes on training programmes for SIP

We held a discussion on February 18, 2022 with the Department of Skills Development (JPK) Sarawak, represented by its director Sudirman Suratin, along with representatives from Sarawak Skills, Industrial Training Institute, Advanced Technology Training Center (ADTEC) Bintulu and TalentCorp Malaysia on establishing skills developments programmes for industry players at the Samalaju Industrial Park, Bintulu.



RECODA holds online meeting with India's ARS Steel



Despite being thousands of kilometres apart, we touched base on February 18, 2022 with ARS Steels, a major integrated steel manufacturer based in Tamil Nadu, India. Our CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni exchanged ideas with ARS Steels New Business Development Head Sumit Bhatia, who briefed us on the company's expertise in ferroalloy manufacturing such as high carbon silico manganese, which is an essential component for various grades of steels.

OM Sarawak to venture into silicon metal production



OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd (OM Sarawak) is expected to venture into the production of silicon metal in 2022. To facilitate the conversion to silicon metal to produce higher value-added products, the company is converting two of its ferrosilicon furnaces at its ferroalloy smelting plant in the Samalaju Industrial Park in Bintulu. The hot commissioning and testing work are expected to occur in December 2022, said OM Holdings Ltd in a statement on February 8, 2022.

Mustapa: Role of economic corridor authorities to be enhanced under 12MP

The role of economic corridor authorities will be enhanced as the government accelerates strategic regional development under the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP), said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed.

Priority will be given to high impact projects in five regional economic corridors as the government seeks to narrow the development gap among the regions in the country, he said in a webinar session on the 12th Malaysian Plan on January 17, 2022.



Premier: Renewable energy key to S'wak's goal of being regional powerhouse



Maintaining at least 60% renewable energy in Sarawak's capacity mix by 2030 is key to becoming a regional powerhouse, according to Premier Tan Sri Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg.

Under the Post Covid-19 Development Strategy 2030, the renewable energy sector must also achieve more than 15% income from foreign markets, he added.

Press Metal to increase capacity

Following Press Metal's full commissioning of its phase three smelter in Samalaju Industrial Park in Bintulu, Group CEO Tan Sri Paul Koon Poh Keong is looking to further enhance the aluminium producer's value-added capabilities and extrusion product portfolio. The move is to raise the group's profile in the global consumer product related sectors, he said.



RECODA goes on study trip to Malaysia - China Kuantan Industrial Park (MCKIP)



We were briefed on the operations of an industrial park during a study trip in early March to the Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park (MCKIP), located in the East Coast Economic Region (ECER) in Pahang.

ECER Pahang State Office General Manager Dato' Mohd Mazlan Sharudin gave us a tour of the 3,500-acre MCKIP, which is established based on the partnership between Malaysia Consortium and China Consortium.

Among MCKIP's biggest investors is Alliance Steel (M) Sdn Bhd, the largest steel manufacturer nationwide in terms of output capacity and range of products.

We were also recently given a briefing on industrial park facilities and property management during a study trip to Selangor-based Urbancubes Sdn Bhd.

The pioneer industrial park manager runs the Pulau Indah Industrial Park, Selangor Halal Hub, and the Selangor Bio Bay SBB Industrial Park.

RECODA signs Certificate of Strategic Collaboration with Politeknik Kuching

We signed a Certificate of Strategic Collaboration with Politeknik Kuching Sarawak, headed by Mr Hikmatullah bin Hajid Ahmad Khan on March 14, 2022. Representing RECODA during the signing ceremony was Sabrina Razali, Head of Human Resource.

The Strategic Collaboration aims to improve the quality of TVET graduates, aligning with the needs of the industry. We in turn will aid in capacity building, with their Lecturer Industry Attachment Programme.



Exploring collaboration opportunities with Skills Development Department



Following a series of socio-economic labs organised at our respective regional development agencies in March to plan for programmes to improve the livelihood of the people, we began exploring the possibility of collaborating with Department of Skills Development (DSD) to provide skills training.

This collaboration was mooted during the visit by the department to our office on April 7, 2022, led by its director, Sudirman Bin Suratin. We on our part have already lined up few upskilling programmes which will kickstart this year.

This latest collaboration with DSD will further enhance our effort to upskill our people, especially the youths, who are the driving force of the economy.

Skills Development Department briefs Samalaju Industrial Park investors on upskilling programmes

Following the intended collaboration with Department of Skills Development (DSD) to provide skills training where the idea was mooted during the latter's visit with us, we touched base with Samalaju Investors Industrial Association Bintulu (SIIAB) through its president, Steve Choi on April 11, 2022 on the available upskilling accreditation certificates for employees at the industrial park in Bintulu under the DSD's National Dual Training System.

We have already lined up a few upskilling programmes besides the DSD programmes which will kickstart this year. Also present were our Investment Promotion Director, Lester Matthew and DSD Director Sudirman Suratin.



Evaluating potential Employ@SCORE training providers

The on-going whole day exercise to evaluate potential training providers for a skills intervention programme to be carried out this year.

The programme, called Employ@SCORE, and funded by the federal government, will provide industry driven job development and create job opportunities for Sarawakians in the SCORE area. It will also assist industries to identify right-fit candidates to be equipped with relevant skills based on industry needs.

Other than RECODA, representatives from Human Resource Development (HRD) Corp and Skills Development Department (DSD) are also present at this whole day long evaluation meeting.



Community@SCORE in Mukah



Following our series of meetings with relevant government agencies in April 2022 from the central region up to the northern region of Sarawak to identify socio-economic programmes under the Community@SCORE, we wasted no time and visited Mukah on May 14, 2022 to look at the project sites shortlisted for this programme and also to brief the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Sabah and Sarawak Affairs) Dato Hanifah Hajar Taib who is also the Member of Parliament for Mukah.

A total of 11 socio-economic programmes will be carried out in this coastal town which among others include the upgrading of buildings and supply of machineries and equipment for traditional processing of saguk or roasted sago pearls and lematak or wet sago starch as well as sago biscuits or tebaloi.

We have been mandated by the Federal Government under the Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's Office to implement this programme this year to spur socio-economic development in the SCORE region. The purpose of this Community@SCORE is to increase the B40 group's income and productivity, apart from creating job opportunities, thus improving their living standards.

S'wak lands RM23.17bln investments in 2020 to 2021, says Deputy Premier



Sarawak managed to attract total investments worth RM23.17 billion for 117 projects despite the challenging global situation due to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, said Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan during his winding up speech at the State Legislative Assembly (DUN) on May 27, 2022.

The Deputy Premier of Sarawak said RM16.08 billion was approved in 2020 and RM7.09 billion in 2021, where

were expected to create more than 11,000 employment opportunities.

The major projects approved under the Industrial Coordination Act 1975 (ICA) in 2020 and 2021 were Basic Metal Products (2020) – RM13.8 billion (high grade steel); Electrical and Electronic Products (2021) – RM4.2 billion (chip capacitor); and Chemicals and Chemical Products (2021) – RM1.4 billion (Polycrystalline silicon and industrial gas).

Finalisation workshop for Socio-Economic Development Plan (2022-2026)



Relevant government agencies participated in a finalisation workshop on June 10, 2022 for RECODA's Socio-Economic Development Plan (2022-2026), to streamline the proposed programmes and projects that will uplift the livelihood of the people in the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) region.

Facilitated by UNIMAS, the workshop incorporated the five-year plan into the manufacturing, commercial agriculture, tourism and forestry sectors. The plan will also be aligned with the Sarawak Government's Post Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 and Putrajaya's effort to eradicate hardcore poverty by 2025.

"The goal is to have community-based products and services that have marketability to improve the welfare and livelihoods of the local communities in regions overseen by our Regional Development Agencies," said RECODA Investment Promotion Director Lester Matthew.

The SEDP will be implemented by the Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA), Highland Development Agency (HDA) and Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA). The plan is based on baseline data gathered from elected representatives, government officers and community leaders during a series of socio-economic labs that kicked off in Miri by the HDA on March 3 and followed by NRDA in Lawas on March 22 and URDA on March 28, 2022.



Briefing to Cahya Mata Sarawak and Lembaga Tabung Haji



RECODA Head of Corporate Reputation, Calvin Yeo gave an overview of SCORE development and Samalaju Industrial Park to senior management staff of Cahya Mata Sarawak and Lembaga Tabung Haji in a simple briefing at Samalaju Resort on June 16, 2022.

There are currently 9 heavy industries operating in the 8,000-ha park which is about 60km away from Bintulu town.

Another company, Wenan Steel from China, is currently carrying out site preparation work and is set to become a major steel manufacturer in the Southeast Asian region with the setting up of its RM13.8bil steel plant in the industrial park by 2024.

Briefing to OM Materials



RECODA gave an overview of SCORE and what are in store for potential investors who are keen to invest in this economic corridor in a briefing to the senior management of OM Materials at its smelter complex in Samalaju Industrial Park yesterday.

SCORE is one of the economic corridors in the country established in 2008 to drive the economic potentials in this region that leverages on its hydroelectric power and vast natural resources with RECODA, being the authority to attract investments and oversee its overall development.

IN PICTURES



1. RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni received a courtesy call on January, 13, 2022 from Sabah and Sarawak Affairs Division secretary at the Prime Minister's Department, Toisin Kantor.
2. RECODA received a courtesy call on January 13, 2022 from Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) Sarawak Branch manager Farrez Teh (third from right), who spoke on job opportunities in the manufacturing sector in the state.
3. RECODA paid a courtesy visit on January 20, 2022 to Mr Phillip Sangkan, Director of PERKESO Sarawak (third from right) to discuss on an upcoming talent supply programme.
4. Sudirman bin Suratin, Director of Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran Sarawak, Kementerian Sumber Manusia (third from right), paid a visit to us on January 20, 2022 to discuss on a potential collaboration on talent development for industrial needs.
5. RECODA received a courtesy call on January 25, 2022 by a delegation from LAKU Management Sdn Bhd, led by its Chairman Datuk Nelson Balang Rining who spoke on the management of water resources and water supply.
6. Sharing our transformational journey with Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) on February 4, 2022, our CEO enlightened the visitors, led by its Deputy General Manager, Puan Hajah Rakayah Hamdan on RECODA's journey in its restructuring exercise for better management.



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7. Our CEO presented a souvenir to Senior Vice President of United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Bhd, Chai Fong Yian who paid us a visit.
8. RECODA met up with MIDA Sarawak's new Director, Mr Jona Anak Kerani and discussed to work closely on future collaborations.
9. RECODA hosted an engagement session March 7, 2022 with Yayasan Petronas on an upcoming community programme that will benefit the B40 group within the SCORE area.
10. A delegation from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), led by its Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman, in an animated discussion with our CEO. UMP is looking for strategic collaborative partners to develop skills and entrepreneurship training programmes for B40 groups in Sarawak, particularly among the youths.
11. RECODA met up with Centre of Technical Excellence Sarawak (CENTEXS) Chief Executive Officer, Haji Syeed Mohd Hussien for a knowledge sharing session to introduce training programmes to match the needs of the industries, bridging gaps and creating job opportunities.
12. Our CEO exchanged ideas with His Excellency Michalis Rokas, the Ambassador and Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Malaysia on capacity building and potential investment partnerships between EU and Sarawak during the latter's visit to our office.
13. A Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) delegation, led by Industry and Community Network Division (BJIM) Director Tuan Syed Yusof Syed Kechik, shared their journey on empowering communities with academic programmes that aim to balance social class gaps.



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14. RECODA touched base with a potential investor from overseas April 14, 2022 via a virtual meeting, which was also attended by various relevant government agencies.

15. April 21, 2022 we received a visiting delegation from South Korean chemical company OCI Company Ltd. Led by Vice Chairman Mr. Lee Woo-Hyun, the delegation touched on a range of conversational topics, from jobs upskilling to the continuing expansion of the company's core businesses.

16. Khazanah Nasional Bhd, led by Senior Vice President Elaine Ong Yee Lynn, expressed interest in exploring the development and growth of sustainable energy in Sarawak and engaging stakeholders for potential collaborations.



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17. Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed dropped by RECODA May 25, 2022 during a working visit where he was briefed on the latest regarding the implementation of socio-economic and infrastructure projects throughout the SCORE region.

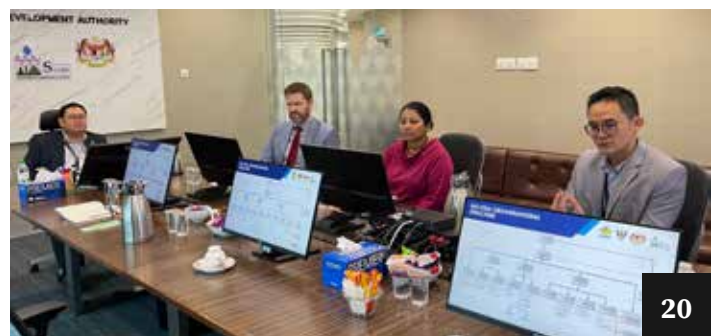
18. We updated a delegation from Putrajaya led by Deputy Secretary General (Management) in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Mohammad Ismail on the development projects and investment updates as well as socio-economic programmes implemented.



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19. We received a 25-member delegation from Korean Chamber of Commerce (Malaysia) led by Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Malaysia, His Excellency Lee Chi Beom to brief on investment potentials in SCORE.

20. We had an interactive session with the High Commission of Canada in Malaysia on June 28, 2022 where we introduced them to SCORE. The visitors led by its Senior Trade Commissioner Ryan Baerg, accompanied by Trade Commissioner Yamunah Kandasamy, briefed us on what this country in North America can offer to us in terms of their digital edge technologies.



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RECODA Sports & Recreation Club



RECODA 2021 Annual Dinner

RECODA ushered in the new year with an annual dinner, which was held on January 15, 2022. Our staff dressed up for the dinner's Retro Night theme for RECODA's first gathering since the pandemic.

Also making an appearance is the 'God of Fortune', who handed out red packets together with our CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni.



Aidilfitri-Gawai Dinner

It was a joyful and memorable night with all divisions holding performance shows during the Aidilfitri-Gawai Dinner on May 27, 2022.



Valentine's Day

Roses are red, violets are blue, RECODA ladies are great, and the flowers are just for you.



Mother's Day

The women of RECODA received flowers courtesy of RECODA Sports & Recreation Club for Mother's Day on May 08, 2022.

