

## A VISION FOR GREEN GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2030

<b>Leading Agency:</b>	Institute Darul Ridzuan
<b>Partner:</b>	Institute of Strategic and International Studies International Strategy (Dr Hezri Adnan)
<b>Year:</b>	2015

Perak has some of the elements of green growth in its economy and development goals of Perak. One of its on-going flagship initiatives is the promotion of sustainable tourism and cultural heritage to boost inclusive development in Perak. In 2007, the Royal Belum State Park has been identified as one Malaysian Mega Biodiversity Hubs. Along with Gunung Mulu National Park, and Pulau Tioman Marine Park, these eco-tourism hotspots will be upgraded to generate 1,486.9 million contributions to GNI by 2020. Efforts have begun with the Hulu Perak-Belum-Lenggong-Banding being currently proposed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as well as the Kinta Valley Geopark, set to be recognized as a UNESCO Geopark.

In addition, Perak is first among the states in the country to launch a Mining Blueprint in 2014. The 'Perak Mining Blueprint' aims to build a physical 'Tin Valley' in Perak which will be a centre of excellence for the sustainable mining of tin. Apart from the Perak Industrial Action Plan, which includes renewable energy and biotechnology, other green technology projects are already commencing in Perak such as the Nano Valley in Behrang. With various industrial parks are being proposed in Perak, it provides an opportunity to proliferate green industry and manufacturing plan through incentivising and procuring companies that adhere to and have strategies for resource efficiency and productivity.

Another sector where Perak has the potential to become leader in the green growth arena is the uptake of sustainable water management framework. As the second largest river basin in the Peninsular, Sg. Perak has ample of water resources. This offers an opportunity for the state to leverage on its rich water endowment through preserving its ecosystem. As such, Perak can potentially serve as the main water supplier for inter-state transfer. For Perak to achieve green growth and sustainability, a key determinant is by envisioning a sustainable future. The safeguard of Perak's future development can be created with present actions.

## Recommendations

At the heart of achieving green growth and sustainable development is the ability to synergize what may seem like opposing objectives of development. Achieving a future that sees the economy grow, with a harmonious society and maintaining a pristine environment will be extremely challenging, but key determinant is that by envisioning a sustainable future, it can in many ways be influenced and formed as future can be created with present actions. The challenges faced in Perak are underpinned by the fact that a resource based economy has not resulted in opportunities for high skilled jobs and the achievement of a high growth rate. The activation of reflective mental model and integrating long-term perspective must be enhanced to turning potential burdens into opportunities. Only then, Perak is galvanized in charting its way forward in transitioning from the silver state towards green state.

### 1. Align Perak's Vision And Policy Goals To Green Growth

The Perak Amanjaya as well as the various plans and programmes such as the State Structural Plans have demonstrated the attempts to mainstream sustainable development and greening aspects to the economy and development goals of Perak. However, many of the aspirations have yet to transpire into a coherent and integrated strategy for sustainable development. There are various options to align Perak's vision to Green Growth. The document can act as a way to operationalise the Perak Amanjaya vision on sustainability' through a green growth concept. It could also act as an addendum to update the Perak Amanjaya as a Green Growth and sustainable development vision. The key message is the need to streamline green growth across all sectors which requires it to be aligned to an overarching policy document. The Road to a Green Perak by 2030 acts as a starting point towards a blueprint in integrating green growth into the overall development goals of Perak.

### 2. Develop An Implementation Plan To Transition Towards Green Growth & Sustainability

After establishing a vision which articulates the overall vision, goals, targets and principles for Perak by 2030, defining how to get there is crucial. This document provides a short term, medium term and long term plans that can guide the transition towards the overall vision as highlighted above and **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.** Accompanied with targets and flagship projects, the implementation plan should ensure that it is time-bound and accompanied with institutional ownership and responsibility to ensure that the vision will put into practice.

### **3. Define Key Sectors That Will Guide Us Towards The Future We Want**

The pathways and sectors to achieve green growth must be put into context, depending on sector specific circumstances. The choice of sectors is dynamic and may change over time to respond to priority issues, but provide tangible plans for implementing the wider vision. Identified within this document are a few key sectors where Perak has the potential to become leaders in the green growth arena. To name a few, to proliferate green industry, with various industrial parks being proposed in Perak, it provides an opportunity to plan and implement the future of industry in Perak through incentivising and procuring companies that adhere to and have strategies for resource efficiency and productivity. In addition, the 'Perak Mining Blueprint' which is first of its kind among the states in the country already put in place a full plan to harness its first-mover advantage in implementing the concept of integrated development introduced as the 'Tin Valley' that will be a center of excellence for the sustainable mining and exploitation of tin. Efforts in promoting eco-tourism can be intensified as Hulu Perak-Belum-Lenggong-Banding is currently being proposed as a Unesco World Heritage Site as well as the Kinta Valley Geopark, set to be recognized as UNESCO Geopark.

### **4. Address Policy Implementation Challenges And Enforce Existing Policies, Law And Regulations Relevant To Green Growth**

Development that is envisaged under Amanjaya and other policies, plans and programmes involve a multi-dimensional aspiration that encompasses political, social, environmental, spiritual, psychological and cultural dimensions. Despite this, there has been minimal influence in translating these aspirations into implementation. The first priority is to not 're-invent the wheel' but implement the existing policies that are in line with the principles of green growth and translate words into action. This can be done through selecting and promoting a range of policy tools including voluntary approaches, information and awareness and tools, economic instruments, direct government expenditure and command-and-control mechanisms. A process to assess the implementation challenges and enforcement of various policies is required to specify the policy tools that will be most effective in implementing and enforcing the green growth concept.

### **5. Build Capabilities Towards Sustainable Development Solutions And Implementation**

Building and empowering a workforce that is capable, knowledgeable and skillful in areas relevant to sustainable development is needed to respond to the emerging challenges of sustainable development. This includes education at all levels – including

formal and informal education – as well as supporting research and development on scientific and the social sciences. Building capacities will not only ensure effective implementation but also has the potential to elevate Perak as a leader in developing sustainable development solutions. As a relatively new field, green growth has a vacuum of expertise, particularly in the developing world, and Perak, with its abundance in resources is well positioned to lead the way towards innovating and engineering the future we want. The aim would be to provide ‘green collar’ job opportunities that will also act as an incentive to keep the best minds in Perak.

#### **6. Transform Governance Towards A “Whole-Of-Government” Approach And Mainstreaming Sustainable Development**

There is a need for a stronger institutional framework that spans and coordinates across state government agencies and local authorities. An inclusive process that promotes open and transparent stakeholder participation is required to empower action by all stakeholders. Participation of local communities and the general public is crucial in moving towards a shared responsibility model based on the consensus. Mainstreaming the concept and philosophy of sustainable development and associated values and principles to affect behavioral change is crucial in instilling a common understanding and awareness at all segments of the population. There is a need for society that understands the need to maintain the necessary means of wealth creation to reproduce itself. It is guided by a consumption pattern that respects ecological limits. A process to mainstream the concept and philosophy of sustainable development from along with its clear communication is required to catalyze this cultural shift.

#### **7. Way Forward In Synergizing Development**

With diversity defining the state, this is a challenge Perak is well suited to face. Being a melting pot of cultures and situated in a mega-biodiverse area, balancing the diverse needs and wants of the people has been at the center of Perak’s development. The emerging challenge of the need to preserve the environment calls for extending this notion. This balancing act between development and environment defines the goal of this strategy as depicted in **Error! Reference source not found.** The strategy presents a framework that focuses on synergizing development. Building upon on global, national and state visions and goals, and identifying potential sectors that can result in a win-win situation, the outcome presents a formula for Perak to transition towards green growth and sustainable development by 2030.

## Tindakan

- Telah dibentangkan kepada YB. Dato' Dr. Muhammad Amin bin Zakaria, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pendidikan, Sains, Alam Sekitar dan Teknologi Hijau pada 'Satellite Event' bersempena dengan Pangkor Dialogue 2016.
- Telah dibentangkan di Seminar Penyelidikan Tahunan IDR Ketiga (ke-3) yang telah diadakan pada tahun 2016.
- Penyelidik dan pihak IDR telah menerbitkan 'Policy Note' daripada kajian ini dan ianya telah dilancarkan oleh YAB Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Abd Kadir, bekas Menteri Besar Perak di Seminar Penyelidikan Tahunan IDR Keempat (ke-4) tahun 2017.