



PRESS RELEASE

MALAYSIA TARGETING TO BE THE HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE HUB IN SOUTH EAST ASIA TO CAPTURE THE MEDICAL TOURISM DOLLARS

KUALA LUMPUR, Friday 19 February 2016: Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia, announced the set-up of HealthcareBuild Environment Asia (HBE Asia), a multi-disciplinary platform for healthcare stakeholders in the region to come together to share insights and inspire change for the advancement of better delivery of healthcare through the use of the physical environment.

CIDB Acting CEO, Sr. Sariah Abd Karib, said, HBE Asia is dedicated to the needs of healthcare business ranging from financing, planning, design, building and energy management to insights into the future of hospitals and healthcare delivery. Receiving wide support from industry stakeholders, government, private sector and regulators, this inaugural HBE Asia will take place on 28 – 30 March 2016 at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC).

“Despite the current global economic downturn, the healthcare sector is proving to be a fairly resilient sector. In the case of healthcare facilities like hospitals and clinics there is a continuous need for new and upgraded facilities to respond to factors like changing demographics, ranging from the need and demands of a more affluent society and more health-conscious lifestyles to the basic needs of lower income patients, which also include the poor and the elderly. This range of needs and demands has led to the creation of a robust and sustainable industry.

“This is further supported by research conducted by KL Invest, The Economist and Frost & Sullivan in 2014 states that Asia is the fastest growing healthcare construction market in the world and 180 million beds will be needed in the coming decade,” she added.

2016 is the inaugural year for this exciting event. Key features include:

1. A total of 4,425 sqm conference and exhibition space over at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), of which 2,000sqm are exhibition space
2. Display gallery showcasing healthcare architectural designs and,
3. A one-day Creative Lab designed to create *10 qualities but affordable approaches valued under RM50 for the enhancement of healthcare delivery to remote villages in East Malaysia.*
4. A targeted 500pax conference participation and 2000 trade visitors.
5. Site visits of 2 healthcare facilities on the last day of the event

Since the setting up of the Medical and Health Works Branch in 1978, The Public Works Department or Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) under the Ministry of Works JKR has been able to provide more focused and efficient project delivery service to our client agency, the Health Ministry of Malaysia (Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia or KKM).

Moving forward, Datuk Ir Adanan Bin Mohamed Hussain, Director General of JKR stated it is now time to reframe and position healthcare as an engine of economic growth. As such, the Healthcare sector has been identified as one of Malaysia's National Key Economic Areas (NKEA), hence a focus on the development of this industry by both the private and public sectors. The industry is expected to register a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 14.5 per cent from 2011 to 2020. Many private hospital development projects have been listed under the NKEA as Entry Point Projects (EPPs), which receive government assistance to hasten the process of licensing and approvals. In recent years, the private healthcare industry has expanded beyond urban areas into underserved markets.

Under the 11th Malaysian Plan, focus on the largest economic engines will directly impact the healthcare infrastructure and which in turn, indirectly results in better quality care for the 'rakyat'. For example, the construction of new hospitals and retrofitting of aging hospitals will create an increase in hospital beds with the subsequent increase in the number of medical staffs resulting ultimately in the reduction of waiting times for patients, shortening the turnaround time on diagnostic lab results and improving the quality of patient care outcome.

Facilities for the care of the aging population in Malaysia are still very much in the early stages of development. Private aged care facilities in Malaysia are few and far between. An aging population in Malaysia is likely to create a strong demand in the market for aged care facilities, services and expertise by the general public, private and public sector. According to PEMANDU, the Aged Care market is expected to create 11,400 new jobs and USD300 million in incremental growth net income by the year

2020. The total development of the industry is expected to cost USD1.2 billion between 2010 and 2020.

Collectively, 40 healthcare projects announced under Healthcare NKEA are projected to create 26,966 jobs and generate an income of RM6.59 billion, as well as RM4.96 billion in new investments by 2020.

HBE Asia is the first of its kind in Malaysia and the first step in achieving CIDB's objective of expanding its footprint in the regions and States in Malaysia to drive its vision of stimulating the development, improvement and expansion of the healthcare construction industry.

For more information on HBE ASIA and the participation please contact Samantha at **03 6734 7887** or her mobile number **+60 12 5805322** and email to **info@hbe.asia** or visit **www.hbe.asia**

ABOUT CIDB

The Construction Industry Development Board was established under the Construction Industry Development Act (Act 520) to develop the Capacity and Capability of the Construction Industry Through Enhancement of Quality and Productivity by Placing Great Emphasis on Professionalism, Innovation and Knowledge in the Endeavour to Improve the Quality of Life.

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