

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP



Stage 3 : City Councils Roadmap

Implementing the 2030 Agenda in 24 Sarawak, Local Authorities



March 2025



URBANICE
MALAYSIA



Sarawak SDG Roadmap

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Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cities &
Community Well-being

This report is prepared for
**Ministry of Public Health, Housing
and Local Government**
Local Authority in Sarawak



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SDG Roadmap

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1.0

INTRODUCTION
SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

The implementation of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a global challenge that requires active participation at both national and local levels. For local governments and communities, aligning their strategies with the SDGs paves the way for sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development. Sarawak, with its vast biodiversity, rich cultural heritage, and growing economic sectors, is well-positioned to contribute to these global efforts through an SDG Roadmap. This chapter explores the rationale, process, and significance of the SDG Roadmap for Sarawak, providing a roadmap for localizing sustainable development in a region with distinct ecological, social, and economic dynamics.

1.1 The Need for a Voluntary Local Review (VLR) in Sarawak City Councils

Sarawak, renowned for its diverse ecosystems, rich cultural heritage, and growing ecotourism sector, plays a vital role in Malaysia's sustainable development. However, the region faces pressing challenges, including rapid urbanization, deforestation, climate change, and infrastructure expansion, which threaten its long-term sustainability. The Voluntary Local Review (VLR) serves as a valuable tool for Sarawak City Councils to evaluate its progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), identify key gaps, and implement targeted strategies to address its unique challenges while promoting sustainable growth and environmental conservation.

Sustainability Challenges



Urban Deforestation



Ageing Facilities and Infrastructure



Ineffective Waste Management



Urban Deforestation

Urban deforestation in Sarawak’s city councils, threatens sustainability by impacting climate resilience, biodiversity, and public well-being, aligning with several UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The loss of green spaces (SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities) increases urban heat, air pollution, and flooding risks, while biodiversity depletion (SDG 15: Life on Land) disrupts ecosystems. Deforestation also exacerbates climate change (SDG 13: Climate Action) by reducing carbon absorption. To support these SDGs, city planning must prioritize tree protection, urban reforestation, and green infrastructure while promoting community participation in environmental conservation.



Ageing Facilities And Infrastructure

Ageing infrastructure and facilities in Sarawak’s city councils, such as MBM and MBKS, pose significant challenges to urban sustainability, affecting essential services, public safety, and economic growth. Deteriorating roads, drainage systems, and public amenities lead to inefficiencies, higher maintenance costs, and increased risks of flooding and structural failures, impacting SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). Poorly maintained facilities also reduce the quality of life and hinder accessibility, contradicting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being). Addressing these issues requires strategic investments in modernization, smart infrastructure, and sustainable urban planning to enhance resilience and long-term sustainability.



Inefficient Waste Management

Sarawak city councils face inefficient waste management due to inadequate infrastructure, low recycling rates, and weak enforcement of waste policies, leading to environmental pollution and health risks. Poor waste disposal practices, especially in rural areas, contribute to land and water contamination, impacting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). Uncontrolled waste also threatens ecosystems, linking to SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land). To align with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), Sarawak must improve waste collection systems, promote recycling, and enforce sustainable waste management policies.



A Voluntary Local Review (VLR) provides a data-driven assessment of sustainability, aligning local initiatives with the SDGs to ensure meaningful progress. It fosters inclusive stakeholder engagement, enhancing collaboration and community participation. By identifying gaps and opportunities, VLRs strengthen policy implementation and governance, ensuring long-term resilience and sustainable urban development.

Key Benefits of VLR



1

Data-Driven Sustainability Assessment

The VLR provides a structured framework to evaluate local sustainability efforts based on reliable data, enabling evidence-based decision-making.

2

SDG Alignment

By aligning local development plans with the SDGs, the VLR ensures that Sarawak contributes to national and global sustainability goals while addressing local challenges.

3

Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement

A VLR fosters collaboration between local authorities, businesses, communities, and other stakeholders, ensuring that diverse perspectives are considered in the sustainability planning process.

4

Policy and Implementation Improvements

The VLR helps identify gaps in existing policies, and implementation, leading to more efficient and targeted interventions to address sustainability challenges.

5

Long-Term Governance Strengthening

Through the VLR, local governance frameworks can be strengthened to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of development initiatives.

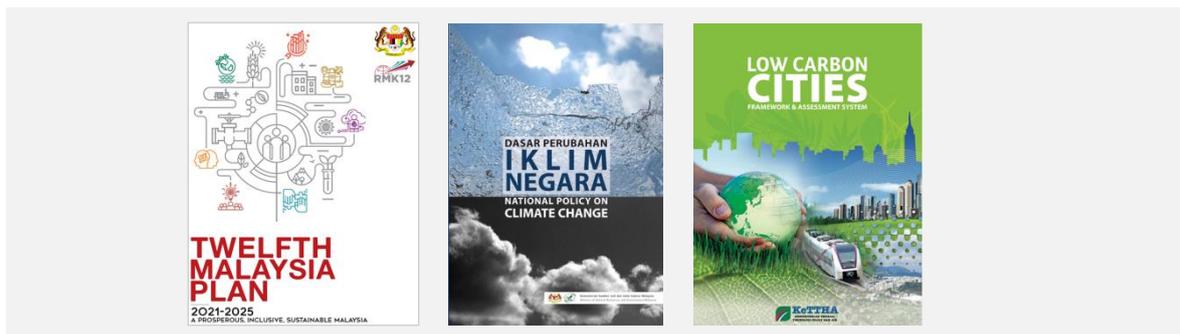
1.2 Alignment with Malaysia's National Targets & Global Commitments

Sarawak is not operating in isolation when it comes to sustainable development. Malaysia has committed to achieving the SDGs as part of its broader development agenda. National policies and frameworks provide a guiding blueprint for local initiatives, and the Roadmap allows Sarawak to align its efforts with these broader targets.

Vision

Sustainable Living Environment for All

Malaysia's National Sustainability Frameworks



Sarawak's Contribution to Malaysia's National SDG Agenda

Malaysia SDG Commitments	Voluntary National Review	Malaysia SDG Cities
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The Roadmap process helps Sarawak align with Malaysia's Voluntary National Review (VNR) by assessing local sustainability efforts and SDG progress. It provides insights into regional challenges, ensuring highland-specific issues are represented in national policies while highlighting achievements and gaps.

Global Commitments to Localizing the SDGs

The United Nations highlights the need to localize SDGs for effective community-driven development. By conducting a Roadmap, Sarawak aligns with this goal, addressing local challenges while contributing to global sustainability. Its outcomes will support Malaysia's SDG efforts and serve as a model for other highland and suburban regions, sharing insights and best practices worldwide.

1.3 Overview of the Roadmap Process and Methodology

The Roadmap process in Sarawak city councils follows a comprehensive, inclusive methodology designed to ensure that the review is grounded in local realities and incorporates the perspectives of all stakeholders.



1.4 Overview of the Roadmap Stages

The Sarawak SDG Roadmap consist of 3 stages which are Stage 1 is SDGs Implementation Assessment Report, Stage 2 is Voluntary Local Review (VLR) – Current SDG Status
 And Stage 3 is SDGs Roadmap – Strategies, Projects, and Programs



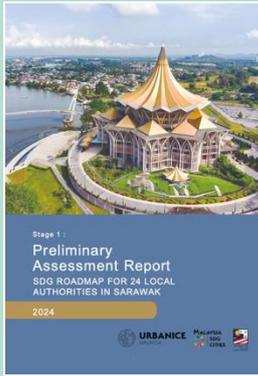
Stage 1: SDGs Implementation Assessment Report

The first stage involves a comprehensive assessment of the current Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) implementation in 2 city councils in Sarawak, namely Council of the City of Kuching South and Miri City Council. This includes:

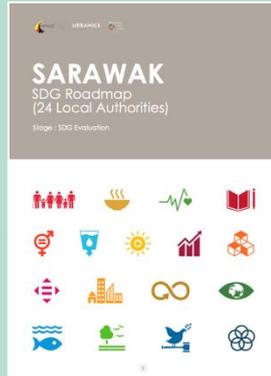
- Mapping existing policies, initiatives, and programs aligned with the SDGs.
- Identifying key stakeholders, including local government agencies, NGOs, businesses, and community groups.
- Collecting baseline data to measure progress against SDG indicators.
- Aligning local development plans with national and global SDG frameworks through Rapid Impact Assessment (RIA).
- Assessing institutional readiness and available resources to drive SDG progress.

This report forms the foundation for understanding Sarawak city councils' SDG status and identifying priority areas for improvement.

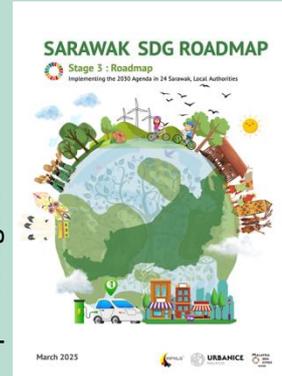
Report Stage 1



Report Stage 2



Report Stage 3



Voluntary Local Review (VLR)



SDGs Roadmap



Stage 2: Voluntary Local Review (VLR) – Current SDG Status

Building on the assessment report, this stage provides a detailed analysis of 2 city councils in Sarawak' SDG progress. Key components include:

- Presenting current data on all 17 SDGs, highlighting achievements and challenges.
- Engaging stakeholders through consultations, focus group discussions, and participatory workshops.
- Identifying gaps between the current status and existing initiatives by various agencies.
- Evaluating overall SDG progress and areas requiring further attention.

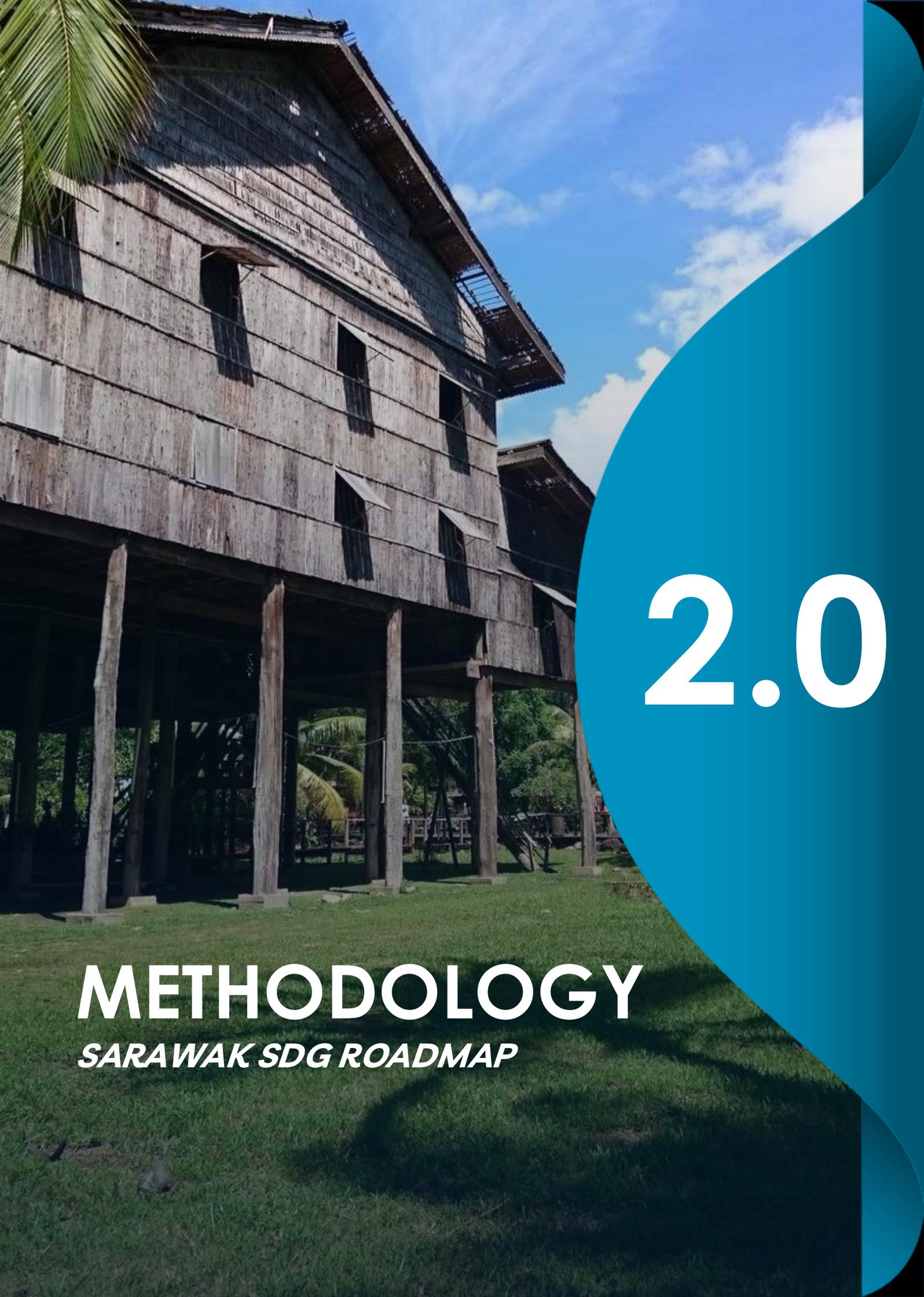
This VLR ensures a transparent, data-driven evaluation of SDG progress, promoting accountability and alignment with global sustainability efforts.

Stage 3: SDGs Roadmap – Strategies, Projects, and Programs

This stage focuses on developing a strategic roadmap to accelerate SDG implementation in Sarawak city councils. The roadmap includes:

- Defining priority SDG targets specific to local needs and challenges.
- Conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with Local Authorities to determine key implementation projects and programs.
- Formulating actionable strategies and policy recommendations.
- Identifying key projects and programs to fast-track SDG achievements.
- Establishing partnerships for resource mobilisation and capacity building.
- Setting measurable goals, timelines, and monitoring mechanisms to track progress.

The roadmap ensures a structured, result-oriented approach for achieving sustainable urban and rural development.



2.0

METHODOLOGY

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

2.1 Method of Localizing SDG Data

The Voluntary Local Review have taken few approaches in gathering data for reporting purpose. In gathering data, the type of data used is both primary data and secondary data. Below are the methods:

Primary data	Engagement with agencies and local stakeholders through Focus Group Discussion
Secondary data	Key documents for reference from agencies

Primary data Collection

The method used in primary data collection is Focus Group Discussion, an engagement made with government agencies and local stakeholders.

Data collected through Focus Group Discussion

- Analysis of Issues and Challenges in the City.
- Early measurement of SDG performance according to projects, programs, initiatives and development plans.
- Understanding/collect data on the city's achievements and efforts made by local government related for sustainable development.
- Local government's way forward

Main Data Provider

Local Government's internal departments and external Agencies from Governmental/ Private/ NGO.

Secondary data Collection

In the process of selecting data pertinent to , several key considerations are taken into account to ensure alignment with various frameworks and national targets, while also addressing local needs and competencies

Department of Statistics Malaysia

1. My Local Stats, 2022. Published in 2023.
2. My Local Stats, Sarawak, 2022. Published in 2023
3. Murninets, 2024.

City Council Main and Sectoral Development Planning Document

1. Sarawak Industrial Development Plan (SIDP)
2. Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030
3. Sarawak Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030
4. Sarawak Rural Transformation Programme (RTP)
5. Sustainable Development Goals Targets and Indicators

Development Indicators Existing and Used by City Council

1. Data from the Malaysian Urban Indicators Network
2. Low Carbon City Indicator
3. SMART City Indicator

The Engagement and Workshop Session

The workshop was a one-day event designed to engage stakeholders in the localisation of the SDGs for Sarawak.

The session began with a briefing on Malaysia SDG Cities and the localization of SDGs by Dr. Azmizam Abdul Rashid, Deputy CEO of URBANICE Malaysia. Participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the SDGs and their relevance to Sarawak. Dr. Azmizam emphasized the importance of SDGs in building climate resilience, addressing poverty, and fostering sustainable communities through partnerships.

Method of the First Focus Group Discussion

Following the introduction, participants were divided into three groups for focused discussions, each aligned with the Malaysia SDG Cities outcome framework. The groups were moderated by URBANICE Malaysia and focused on the following outcomes:

Each group engaged in discussions to share ideas, issues, and challenges related to their assigned SDGs. Participants also shared current initiatives being undertaken to address these challenges. This exercise was crucial for understanding the current profiling and situation of SDGs in Sarawak, and for fostering a deeper understanding of each SDG.

During the closing session, each group presented their discussion outcomes and proposed ways forward for each set of outcomes. This collaborative approach ensured that diverse perspectives were considered and that the workshop's objectives were met effectively. The outcomes from each group were tabulated and will be included in the analysis of each SDG's progress.

Group Outcome 1

Ensure Inclusive Growth and Development for All



Group Outcome 2

Enhance Access to Quality Services to Address



Group Outcome 3

Promote Environmental Sustainability to Mitigate Climate



2.2 Stakeholder Engagement in VLR & Roadmap Process

Engagement Purpose and Objectives

Engaging stakeholders is a fundamental aspect of localizing the SDGs in Sarawak. This process ensures that the SDGs are not only understood but also integrated into local policies and actions in a manner that reflects the unique context and needs of the community. The inclusion of diverse stakeholders promotes:

- **Localization of SDGs:** Stakeholder sessions facilitate the adaptation of global SDGs to the specific realities of Sarawak, making the goals more relevant and actionable at the local level.
- **Inclusivity and Leaving No One Behind:** Involving a wide range of stakeholders ensures that the voices of all community members are heard. This aligns with the core SDG principle of "leaving no one behind," fostering equity and social inclusion.
- **Visibility of the SDGs:** Continuous stakeholder engagement enhances awareness and visibility of the SDGs within the community, leading to broader public support and participation in achieving these goals.

The main objectives of stakeholder engagement for are:

Introducing the Localization of SDGs:

- Explaining how the global SDGs are being tailored to meet the specific needs and priorities of Sarawak.
- Raising awareness about the importance of SDGs and the role each stakeholder plays in achieving them.

Discussing Current Initiatives:

- Providing a platform for city players to share their ongoing initiatives related to the SDGs.
- Fostering collaboration among different sectors and stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of SDG-related projects.

Profiling for each SDGs:

- Gathering input from participants to create a comprehensive profile of each SDG, highlighting progress, challenges, and opportunities.
- Soliciting feedback on current and proposed initiatives to ensure they are aligned with community needs and priorities.

Engagement Limitation

The report includes findings from stakeholder engagement meetings, site visits and other data collection. Limitations include the feedback based on stakeholder perceptions and the need to update those perception.



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The First Engagement

- Discussions within PBTs internal departments provided insights into operational challenges and opportunities related to sustainability.
- Inputs from various departments highlighted the need for better coordination and alignment of sustainability efforts across different functions within PBTs.
- Identification of internal capacity-building needs to enhance sustainability initiatives and effectively implement SDGs.

Focus Group Discussion 1 (FGD 1):

The SDG Workshop was conducted for one day, bringing together department representatives from various internal departments of PBTs, council members, and technical agencies. The primary objective of the workshop was to assess the progress of Sarawak in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The strengths and challenges associated with each SDG were thoroughly examined, aiming to provide a comprehensive overview of the SDGs for Sarawak .

Internal Engagement with PBTs:

- Latest progress in the preparation of the Local Review Report (VLR) and SDG Roadmap of Sarawak.
- Documents and key reference materials in the preparation of VLR and Sarawak SDG Roadmap.
- PBTs data capacity and additional data requirements for each PBTs internal department.



JANUARY 2025



Focus Group Discussion 2 (FGD 2):

- **Identification of data gaps and issues and challenges:** To assess and validate existing issues and challenges in relation to each SDG for cities.
- **Draft SDG Roadmap:** Outlines the roadmap and proposed programs and projects for the cities
- **Stakeholder Mapping:** Determine the key stakeholders involved in the SDG implementation process and create a clear stakeholder mapping.
- **SDG Governance in Cities:** a governance structure in place for SDG management at the city level.

Module 1

Setting the Stage and Addressing Data Gaps

- Introduction to SDG Performance and Data Availability
- Reviewing SDGs and Data Gaps

Module 2

Analyzing 17 SDG Challenges and Stakeholder Mapping

- Introduction to Key Challenges
- Challenge Ranking and Stakeholder Identification
- Key Stakeholder Mapping

Module 3

Identifying Projects and Strengthening Governance

- Relevant programs and projects using a project template format.
- Discuss governance structures at the same time to ensure proper oversight of these projects.

Method of 1st Focus Group Discussion

Five local authority participants focused on setting priorities and identifying key challenges in the second Focus Group Discussion for Sarawak SDG Roadmap. In Module 1, participants reviewed the district's SDG performance, examining data gaps that hinder progress tracking. This initial review helped outline specific areas where more robust data collection is necessary.

Module 2, guided participants in prioritising SDG challenges relevant to Sarawak. Through ranking exercises and stakeholder identification, they pinpointed essential local stakeholders whose roles could impact or support solutions for each SDG priority. This collaborative mapping clarified which organisations and community members need to be engaged for effective implementation.

Finally, Module 3, "Identifying Projects and Strengthening Governance," focused on translating identified priorities into projects. Using a project template, participants outlined relevant initiatives and discussed governance structures to ensure strong oversight. This module linked the prioritised challenges from earlier discussions with actionable projects and governance measures essential for sustainable SDG progress in the district.

The Engagement and Workshop Session

The workshops were held in Kuching, Miri and Sibul designed to engage stakeholders in the localization of SDGs for Sarawak.

The session began with an opening address and a briefing on Malaysia SDG Cities and the localization of SDGs by Dr. Azmizam Abdul Rashid, Deputy CEO of URBANICE Malaysia. Participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the SDGs and their relevance to Sarawak. Dr. Azmizam emphasized the importance of SDGs in building climate resilience, addressing poverty, and fostering sustainable communities through partnerships.

Method of Discussion

Following the introduction, participants were divided into three groups for focused discussions, each aligned with the Malaysia SDG Cities outcome framework. The groups were moderated by URBANICE Malaysia and focused on the following outcomes:



Each group engaged in discussions to share ideas, issues, and challenges related to their assigned SDGs. Participants also shared current initiatives being undertaken to address these challenges. This exercise was crucial for understanding the current profiling and situation of SDGs in Sarawak, and for fostering a deeper understanding of each SDG.

During the closing session, each group presented their discussion outcomes and proposed ways forward for each set of outcomes. This collaborative approach ensured that diverse perspectives were considered and that the workshop's objectives were met effectively. The outcomes from each group were tabulated and will be included in the analysis of each SDG's progress.

Group Outcome 1

Ensure Inclusive Growth and Development for All



Group Outcome 2

Enhance Access to Quality Services to Address



Group Outcome 3

Promote Environmental Sustainability to Mitigate Climate+



Discussion Outcome

The table below presents a comprehensive analysis of critical issues, challenges, and recommendations across various sectors. This analysis is organized into three primary groups/outcomes: Ensuring Inclusive Growth and Development for All, Enhancing Access to Urban Services to Bridge Development Gaps, and Promoting Environmental Sustainability to Address Climate Change.

The outcome presented in table format that details out the current issues, highlights key challenges with facts and figures. The outcome of the engagement is designed to facilitate a clearer understanding of the issues at hand and to guide effective decision-making and policy formulation.

Table 2.1: Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes

Issues/Challenges	Details
Group 1: Ensuring Inclusive Growth and Development for All	
No poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Economic Disparities : Prices for goods and services increase due to economic interdependence and higher spending power from Brunei. ○ Socioeconomic Gaps : Local salaries often do not match the rising costs, exacerbating financial strain on residents. ○ Expensive domestic airfares within Sarawak: High travel costs make intra-regional mobility less affordable, limiting connectivity for local communities. ○ High number of unemployment in Limbang and Lawas ○ Homelessness in Miri ○ Existence of squatter settlements along Sungai Miri ○ Stray dogs: Stray dogs are often carriers of diseases such as rabies and other zoonotic infections, posing significant risks to human health.
Health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthcare Access : Limited access to healthcare facilities, especially in remote areas. ○ Drug Abuse in certain areas in Sarawak
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Location of schools are inaccessible

Sources : Sarawak Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes (Cont..)

Issues/Challenges	Details
Group 2: Enhancing Access to Urban Services to Bridge Development Gaps	
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teenage Pregnancy : High rates of teenage pregnancies among females, often linked to socio-economic challenges and PATI. ○ High number of single mothers
Economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Industries entering Limbang are limited due to geographical isolation ○ Agricultural Work : Failure to promote agricultural jobs effectively. Locals show low interest in agriculture despite available opportunities. ○ Digital Economy Exposure : Limited exposure to digital economy opportunities among youth, elderly, and adults. ○ Internet Connectivity : Poor internet connectivity affects business and educational opportunities. ○ Transportation : Poor road connectivity, exacerbating access issues.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No public transportation ○ Infrastructure : Inadequate infrastructure, including roads from Dalat to Sibuh and Dalat to Mukah. ○ Electricity and Roads : Need for urgent road development and improved electricity supply.

Sources : Sarawak Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes (Cont..)

Issues/Challenges	Details
Group 3: Promoting Environmental Sustainability to Address Climate Change	
Urban Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mobile Connectivity: Intermittent mobile phone service, even near urban areas. ○ Healthcare Facilities: Inadequate healthcare facilities and services. ○ Unstable electricity supply ○ Housing Costs : High housing costs. ○ Ineffective drainage ○ Lack of recreational facilities
Waste Management and Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste Management : Lack of proper waste disposal facilities, leading to pollution and waste management challenges. ○ River Pollution : Direct waste disposal into rivers due to inadequate waste collection services. ○ No recycling facilities in Limbang ○ Administrative Challenges: Issues with federal administration and district office coordination
City Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crime and Drug Issues: High crime rates and drug abuse among local youth. ○ Enforcement and Staffing: Inconsistent staffing and enforcement of regulations in areas like overloading and border control.

Sources : Sarawak Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Summary of Gaps

This summary shows the percentage of each gaps and challenges type within its respective group, providing a clear view of the distribution of issues.

Group 1: Ensuring Inclusive Growth and Development for All

Issue/Challenge	Number of Issues (15)	Percentage
Poverty	7	21%
Health and Well-being	3	9%
Education	1	3%

Group 2: Enhancing Access to Urban Services to Bridge Development Gaps

Issue/Challenge	Number of Issues (20)	Percentage
Gender	3	9%
Economic Growth	4	12%
Infrastructure	3	9%

Group 3: Promoting Environmental Sustainability to Address Climate Change

Issue/Challenge	Number of Issues (12)	Percentage
Urban Development	6	18%
Waste Management and Pollution	4	12%
City Management	2	6%

Overall, the main issues and gaps are predominantly highlighted in Group 3, which addresses urban development, waste management and pollution. The topics most frequently discussed is infrastructure development.

Sources : Sarawak Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

This summary shows the percentage of each gaps and challenges type within its respective group, providing a clear view of the distribution of issues.

Group 1: Ensuring Inclusive Growth and Development for All

Issue	Number of Issues
Poverty	7
Health and Well-being	3
Education	1

11

Total numbers of Issues of Outcome 1

Group 2: Enhancing Access to Urban Services to Bridge Development Gaps

Issue	Number of Issues
Gender	3
Economic Growth	4
Infrastructure	3

10

Total numbers of Issues of Outcome 2

Group 3: Promoting Environmental Sustainability to Address Climate Change

Issue	Number of Issues
Urban Development	6
Waste Management and Pollution	4
City Management	1

11

Total numbers of Issues of Outcome 3

Group 1 emphasizes poverty, education health and well-being. Group 2 addresses gender, economic growth and infrastructure. Group 3 prioritizes urban development, waste management and pollution and city management. Overall, **there is a clear need for socio-economic (outcome 1) and environmental improvements (outcome 3)** based on the discussion.

Sources : VLR Sarawak Focus Group Discussion 1 (FGD 1)



Module 1

Verification of Issues and Challenges

- Participants confirm existing issues and challenges related to SDGs.
- They identify additional concerns and link them to relevant SDGs.

Module 2

Verification of Existing Potential

- Key strengths and opportunities within the locality are identified.
- Participants link these potentials to the appropriate SDGs to maximize impact.

Module 3

Stakeholder Mapping

- Key stakeholders, both internal and external, are identified and categorized.
- Their roles in SDG implementation are defined to enhance collaboration and effectiveness.

Module 4

Reviewing Ongoing Initiatives and Conducting Gap Analysis

- Key stakeholders, both internal and external, are identified and categorized.
- Their roles in SDG implementation are defined to enhance collaboration and effectiveness.

Module 5

Developing the SDG Roadmap

- A structured roadmap is formulated, outlining phased implementation strategies.
- Existing initiatives are categorized alongside new proposals for future development.

Method of 2nd Focus Group Discussion

The Focus Group Discussion (FGD) is structured into five modules, each aimed at fostering a strategic and comprehensive approach to SDG implementation. It begins with identifying issues and challenges, where participants assess existing concerns, highlight additional problems, and align them with relevant SDGs for further analysis. This is followed by assessing local potential, where key strengths and opportunities within the locality are identified and mapped to corresponding SDGs to optimize their impact.

The next step involves stakeholder mapping, in which participants identify and categorize key stakeholders, both internal and external, based on their roles in SDG implementation. This process helps clarify responsibilities and encourages collaboration. The discussion then moves to reviewing ongoing initiatives, where current projects and programs related to SDGs are examined, along with identifying the primary implementing agencies and supporting organizations.

To ensure a thorough evaluation, the FGD includes a gap analysis, which assesses the disparities between identified challenges, existing opportunities, and ongoing initiatives. It also examines key barriers such as funding limitations, manpower shortages, and community engagement challenges. Lastly, the session focuses on developing the SDG roadmap, where a structured plan is formulated with phased implementation strategies. Existing initiatives are reviewed alongside new proposals to establish a clear and actionable pathway toward achieving the SDGs.

Each module incorporates interactive discussions, stakeholder engagement exercises, and mapping activities, ensuring a participatory and well-informed approach to sustainable urban development and SDG localization.



This summary shows the percentage of each gaps and challenges experienced by Sarawak City Councils, providing a clear view of the distribution of issues.



City Council: Council of the City of Kuching South

Issue	Number of Issues
Poverty & Socioeconomic Issues	2
Infrastructure & Urban Planning	4
Climate & Environment	6
Waste Management & Environment	4

16

Total numbers of Issues

In Kuching South, poverty and socioeconomic challenges are evident, particularly among low-income communities struggling with the high cost of living. The presence of squatters further highlights the issue of inadequate and affordable housing, which leads to overcrowding and poor living conditions.

Infrastructure and urban planning in Kuching South face significant challenges. Many areas are still dependent on aging infrastructure that has not been upgraded to smart and efficient systems. Poorly planned infrastructure results in low accessibility for the elderly, children, and people with disabilities. Traffic congestion is another major issue, causing delays, increased fuel consumption, and reduced productivity.

Waste management and environmental pollution are growing concerns in Kuching South. Illegal dumping continues to be a problem, while bulky and garden waste is not managed properly due to limited land availability and a lack of public support. The high levels of food waste and overconsumption of single-use plastics contribute to pollution. Rivers in the area suffer from littering and sedimentation, further damaging the natural ecosystem.

Climate and environmental issues are also becoming more severe. The urban heat island effect is noticeable due to rapid urbanization and the reduction of green spaces. Flooding is a recurring issue, mainly caused by poor drainage systems. Additionally, the loss of green areas and urban deforestation further worsen the environmental conditions, reducing biodiversity and increasing temperatures in the city.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.

This summary shows the percentage of each gaps and challenges experienced by Sarawak City Councils, providing a clear view of the distribution of issues.



City Council: Miri City Council

Issue	Number of Issues
Education & Workforce	2
Infrastructure & Connectivity	4
Community Engagement & Awareness	2
Waste Management & Environment	2

10

Total numbers of Issues

Miri faces challenges in education and workforce development. There is a shortage of higher education institutions, particularly public universities, which limits opportunities for local students and skilled workforce development.

Additionally, the administrative workforce is stretched thin due to Miri’s wide and diverse geographical spread, which includes both urban and rural areas.

Infrastructure and connectivity are also major concerns. Limited accessibility to remote areas like Bario restricts economic and social opportunities.

The city’s sustainable development facilities are not aligned with its status as a city, and there is no dedicated database or unit within the local council to manage sustainable development initiatives, particularly those related to infrastructure and projects beyond the council’s jurisdiction. A lack of community awareness further hinders the success of such initiatives.

Transportation infrastructure in Miri remains limited, affecting mobility and economic activities. Efforts to engage the community in sustainability and inclusivity are ongoing through programs like the City Parade, Mass Car-Free Day, Miri City Christmas Parade, and Borneo Jazz Festival. However, broader community participation and awareness are still lacking.

Environmental issues, particularly waste management and flooding, continue to affect the city. The efficiency of waste reduction efforts is insufficient, leading to pollution concerns. Flash floods frequently occur in certain areas of Miri due to inadequate drainage systems, further highlighting the need for better infrastructure planning and climate resilience measures.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.



3.0

LOCAL CONTEXT

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

3.1 Introduction

Sarawak, the largest of Malaysia's 13 states, has an area nearly equivalent to that of Peninsular Malaysia. Situated in the northwest of Borneo Island, it shares borders with Sabah to the northeast, Kalimantan (the Indonesian part of Borneo) to the south, and Brunei to the north. Sarawak is renowned for its lively urban environment, diverse cultural heritage, and dedication to sustainable development. It serves as a key economic hub, driving trade, tourism, and governance while seamlessly integrating modern infrastructure with green spaces.

In the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sarawak represents a critical area for advancing key targets, particularly those related to sustainable urban development, environmental conservation, and socio-economic growth. Sarawak's strategic development initiatives emphasize improving public infrastructure, advancing green city projects, and safeguarding its rich biodiversity, particularly within its riverine and forest ecosystems. However, challenges such as rapid urbanization, waste management, and climate resilience necessitate innovative solutions to achieve long-term sustainability.

This chapter presents a comprehensive profile of Sarawak, examining its geography, demographics, economic activities, land use patterns, environmental efforts, and infrastructure. It highlights the key challenges and opportunities for sustainable development in the region and provides insights into how the city can balance growth with environmental protection to foster long-term resilience and prosperity.

3.2 Overview of Sarawak

Geographic Location

Sarawak is characterized by dense rainforests, winding rivers, limestone caves, and mountain ranges, with the Rajang River being Malaysia's longest. Sarawak's geography also features vast peat swamps, highland regions, and national parks, contributing to its ecological diversity. The combination of urban centers, rural landscapes, and protected areas makes Sarawak a unique blend of development and natural conservation.

Sarawak's diverse geography encompasses coastal lowlands, river valleys, and highland interiors, creating a unique blend of natural landscapes and human settlements. The state is home to numerous national parks, such as Gunung Mulu National Park, known for its vast cave systems, and Bako National Park, famous for its coastal cliffs and wildlife. Extensive river networks, including the Rajang and Baram Rivers, serve as vital transportation routes for many rural communities. With its tropical rainforest climate, Sarawak experiences high humidity and significant rainfall throughout the year, supporting rich biodiversity and thriving ecosystems.



124,171 km²

Total area of Sarawak (1992-present)



2.5 million

Sarawak Total Population (DOSM, 2024)



RM 72,411 million

GDP per Capita

Source:
My Local Stats, Sarawak

Historical Setting

Sarawak's history is shaped by indigenous traditions, colonial rule, and political evolution. The region was originally inhabited by diverse indigenous communities, including the Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu, and Melanau, who lived in longhouses and relied on agriculture, trade, and river networks for their livelihoods.

In 1841, James Brooke, an English adventurer, was granted control of Sarawak by the Sultan of Brunei, establishing the White Rajah Dynasty. Under Brooke's rule, Sarawak expanded its territory, developed administrative systems, and engaged in trade, though it also faced resistance from local uprisings.

Following World War II, Sarawak was ceded to British rule in 1946, becoming a British colony. This period saw further infrastructure growth and the rise of nationalist movements advocating for self-governance. Sarawak gained independence from British rule on July 22, 1963, before officially joining Malaysia on September 16, 1963, alongside Malaya, Sabah, and Singapore.

Today, Sarawak retains a distinct identity within Malaysia, with special autonomy, unique cultural heritage, and its own immigration laws, as outlined in the Malaysia Agreement 1963 (MA63). Its historical journey continues to influence its governance, economy, and multicultural society.

The Origin of Sarawak

Sarawak's origins can be traced back to ancient civilizations and early human settlements, with archaeological evidence suggesting that humans have inhabited the region for over 40,000 years. Sites such as Niah Caves reveal prehistoric remains, including early human skulls and cave paintings, indicating that Sarawak was home to some of the earliest known communities in Southeast Asia.

Throughout history, Sarawak's location along major maritime trade routes made it a hub for commerce and cultural exchange. Early traders from China, India, and the Middle East arrived seeking natural resources such as camphor, rattan, and exotic woods. These interactions influenced local societies, contributing to the development of distinct languages, crafts, and traditions.



Figure 3.1: The White Rajah
(Google Web)

Administrative Boundary Urban And Rural Setting

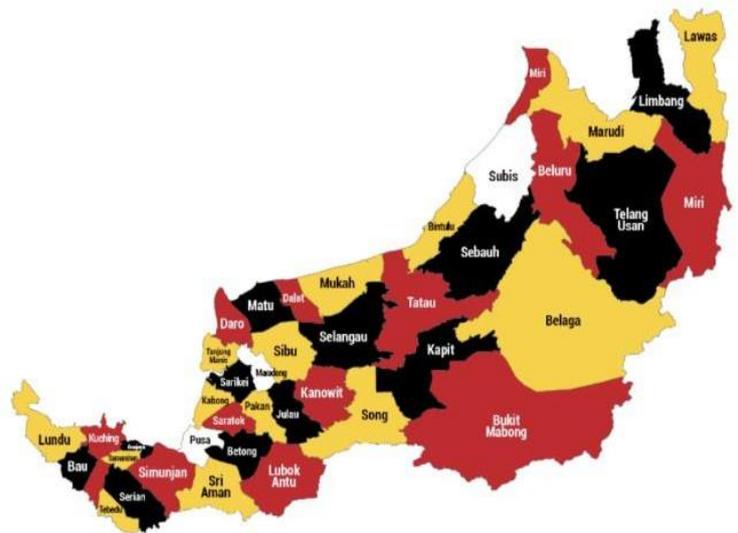
Sarawak is administratively divided into 12 divisions, each with distinct economic, geographical, and cultural characteristics. These divisions are Kuching, Samarahan, Serian, Sri Aman, Betong, Sarikei, Sibü, Mukah, Bintulu, Miri, Limbang, and Kapit. Each division is further subdivided into districts and sub-districts, managed by local authorities responsible for governance, development, and public services.

The capital city, Kuching, serves as the state's administrative and economic hub, housing key government institutions and commercial centers. Sarawak's urban areas are concentrated in major cities and towns, which drive economic growth and modernization. Kuching is the largest city, known for its cultural attractions and government institutions, while Miri is a thriving oil and gas hub with a strong tourism sector. Sibü, located along the Rajang River, is a key trade and commerce center, while Bintulu is an industrial powerhouse with a growing focus on energy and manufacturing. Other towns, such as Sarikei, Mukah, and Samarahan, serve as important regional economic centers, supporting agriculture, education, and fisheries.

Despite ongoing urbanization, a significant portion of Sarawak remains rural, with many communities living in traditional settlements. The Iban, Bidayuh, and Orang Ulu primarily reside in longhouses, which serve as communal living spaces. Coastal villages, particularly in Mukah and Limbang, rely on fisheries, while highland settlements in Kapit, Betong, and Serian depend on agriculture. These rural areas often face challenges in infrastructure and accessibility, but development initiatives aim to improve connectivity while preserving Sarawak's cultural and environmental heritage.

With its mix of urban growth and rural traditions, Sarawak continues to balance modernization with sustainability, ensuring that development benefits both its cities and remote communities.

Figure 3.2: Sarawak Map



Sarawak's development is supported by its growing transportation network and infrastructure. The Pan Borneo Highway improves road connections across the state, making travel between cities and rural areas easier. Major ports in Kuching, Bintulu, and Miri support trade, while airports in Kuching, Miri, and Sibü connect Sarawak to other parts of Malaysia and beyond. As the state continues to develop, efforts focus on better accessibility, sustainable growth, and economic progress while preserving Sarawak's natural and cultural heritage.

This spatial distribution is conducive to fostering inclusive growth (SDG 11) by ensuring that both urban and rural areas receive equitable attention and development initiatives. By strategically balancing the development between urban and suburban zones, the district must enhance the quality of life for all residents of Sarawak.

3.3 Social, Economic and Environmental Overview

Sarawak 24 Districts Roadmap

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda underscores the importance of inclusive and equitable progress to achieve a sustainable future for all. In line with this global vision, the 24 local authorities (PBTs) in Sarawak have embarked on a comprehensive roadmap to localize and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This roadmap serves as a guiding framework to align regional development priorities with SDG targets, addressing challenges unique to both urban and rural contexts.

The focus is on identifying critical projects, prioritizing actionable strategies, and accelerating the implementation timeline, ensuring that every region benefits equitably from the sustainable development agenda.

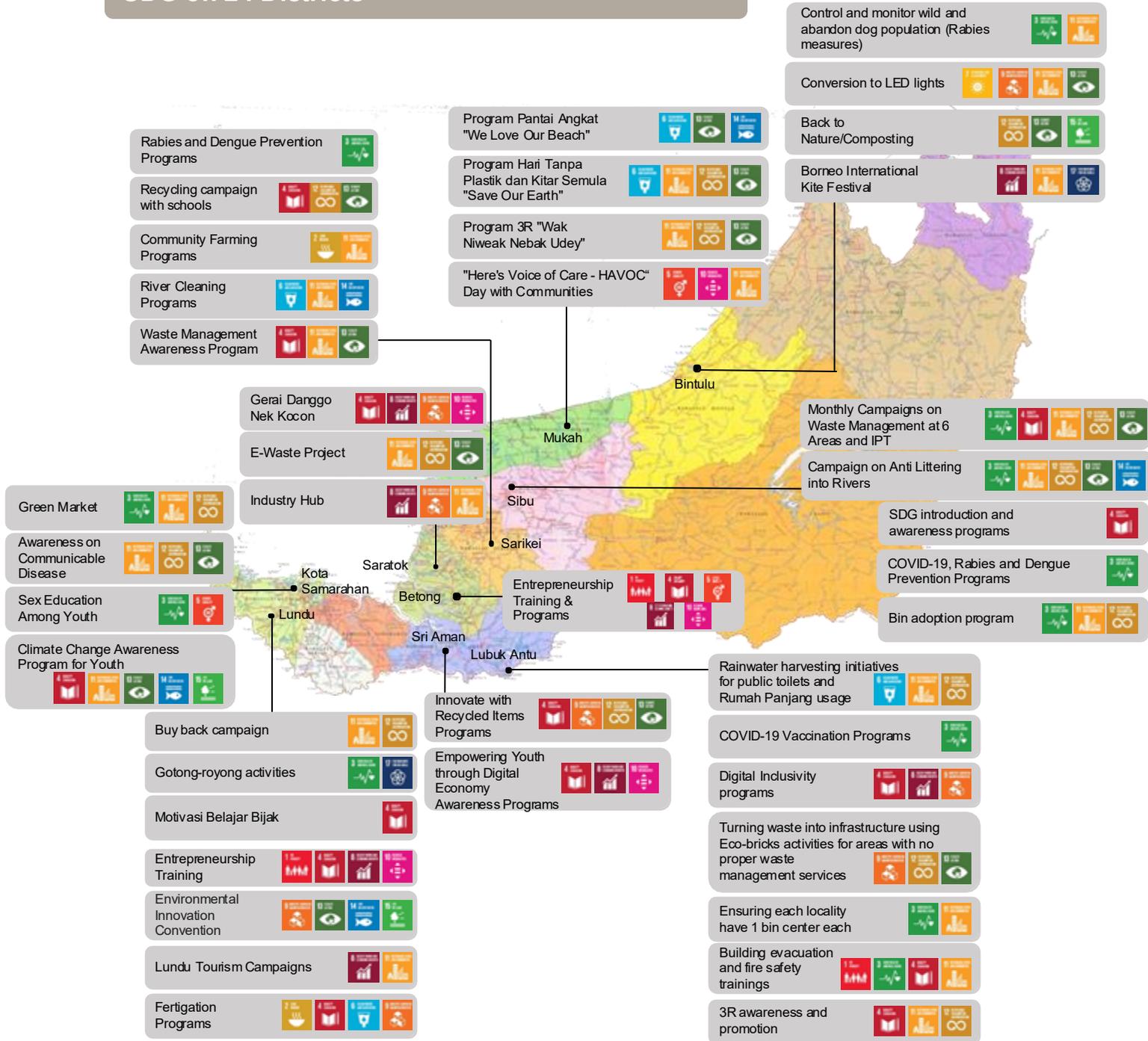
The document emphasizes stakeholder involvement across government agencies, the private sector, civil society, and local communities to drive collective action. Additionally, it outlines robust implementation mechanisms, funding strategies, and monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress and ensure accountability. As Sarawak's local authorities work towards 2030 and beyond, this roadmap aims to create a resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for all residents.





SDG ROADMAP 24 DISTRICTS IN SARAWAK | STAGE 2

SDG on 24 Districts



Source: FGD, SDG Project Mapping Exercise

Significant efforts are being made to promote tourism products, services, and infrastructure in Sarawak, alongside initiatives for entrepreneurship training and support to revive economic growth. Areas such as Bintulu, Lundu, and Saratok are actively advancing their cultural tourism campaigns.

However, there is a noticeable lack of programs and initiatives focused on gender equality and women's empowerment undertaken by local authorities in Sarawak.

Physical and Spatial Profile

Sarawak's 24 districts, governed by their respective local authorities (PBTs), exhibit diverse physical and spatial characteristics that influence development patterns, infrastructure, and economic opportunities. These districts range from highly urbanized centers to rural and remote areas, each presenting unique challenges and opportunities.

Urban Districts

Urban districts such as those under Council of the City of Kuching South, Majlis Bandaraya Miri, and Majlis Perbandaran Sibu are characterized by dense populations, advanced infrastructure, and significant economic activities. These areas are hubs for commerce, services, and industrial development, with well-established road networks and utilities that support growth and attract investments.

Semi-Urban Districts

Districts like Majlis Perbandaran Kota Samarahan, Majlis Perbandaran Padawan, and Majlis Daerah Serian serve as transitional zones between urban and rural areas. These districts combine elements of urbanisation, such as expanding residential areas and commercial hubs, with agriculture-based economies. Improved infrastructure is driving their potential for growth, particularly in education, healthcare, and industrial activities.

Rural Districts

Rural districts such as Majlis Daerah Dalat dan Mukah, Majlis Daerah Kapit, and Majlis Daerah Lubok Antu are defined by vast areas of natural landscapes, including forests, rivers, and agricultural land. These areas face challenges in connectivity due to inadequate road networks and limited public transportation. Infrastructure deficits hinder economic diversification and access to essential services, yet these districts hold potential for sustainable industries like eco-tourism, agro-business, and fisheries.

Coastal and Riverine Districts

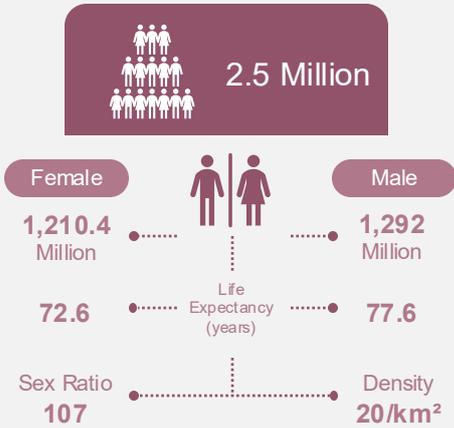
Districts like Majlis Daerah Matu dan Daro and Majlis Daerah Sarikei are heavily influenced by their coastal and riverine locations. These areas rely on fisheries, aquaculture, and agriculture as primary economic activities, but are also vulnerable to issues such as flooding and erosion. Investments in coastal infrastructure and flood mitigation are essential to ensure resilience and sustainable development.

Northern Districts

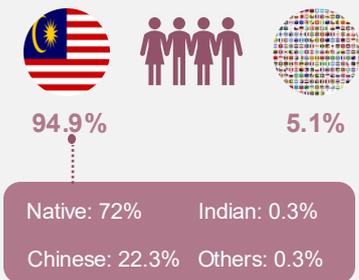
The northern regions, including Majlis Daerah Limbang and Majlis Daerah Lawas, are strategically located near international borders, offering opportunities for cross-border trade and tourism. However, these areas require enhanced road connectivity and border facilities to fully capitalize on their economic potential.

Socio-Economic Profile

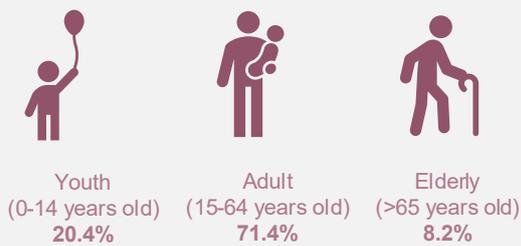
1 SARAWAK POPULATION



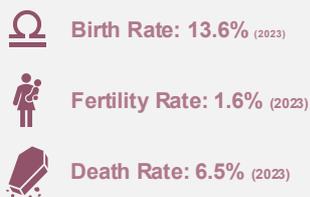
2 POPULATION COMPOSITION



3 AGE GROUP



4 IMPORTANT STATISTICS



SARAWAK LABOUR FORCE (2023)

	Male	Female	Total
Labour Force (000)	784.8	449.8	1,234.6
Employed Person (000)	758.0	434.5	1,192.5
Unemployed Person (000)	26.8	15.3	42.1
Outside Labour Force (000)	146.9	408.3	555.2

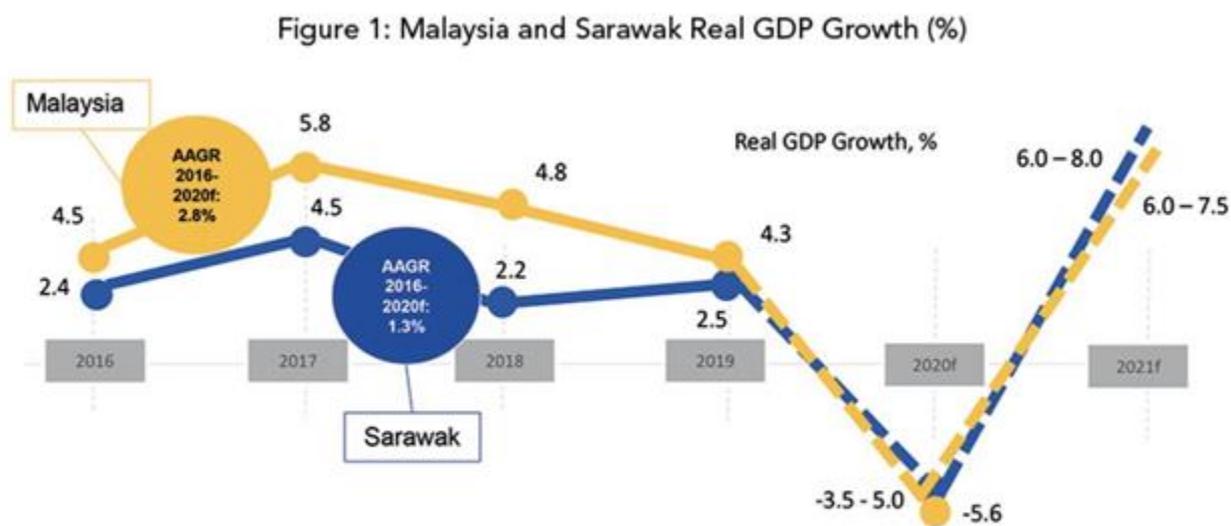
Source: Labour Force Survey Report Malaysia, 2023



Economic Profile

Sarawak economy grew by an average rate of 2.9% in 2016-2019. In 2020, Sarawak economy is estimated to contract between 3.5% to 5.0% due to COVID-19 Pandemic. Thus, the overall growth of Sarawak under the 11th Malaysia Plan (11 MP), 2016-2020 is expected to 1.3% to 1.6%, which is below the targeted growth of 6.0% per annum. The growth is also below the national average of 2.8% per annum.

Sarawak exports shrank by 24.2% in 2020, which brought down the average annual export growth to negative 1.4% under the 11 MP. The drop was largely due to low performance of the oil and gas sector and COVID-19 pandemic. The slowdown in the economy has triggered a less favorable employment market. Retrenchment of local workers from 723 in 2019 to more than 3,000 in 2020 and unemployment rate increased from 3.1% in 2019 to 4.3% in 2020.



Source: Bank Negara Malaysia, Department of Statistics Malaysia & Economic Planning Unit Sarawak

Environmental Profile

Sarawak has an equatorial climate and uniform temperature, rainfall and humid throughout the year. The climate is very much influenced by the Northeast monsoon season. Forest. Forested areas cover 62% of the Sarawak area. Sarawak has the longest river in Malaysia, the Rajang river, with approximately 565 km long. Sarawak has 46 river basins and 37 protected forest areas. The daily air quality of the state is between good and moderate level throughout the year. The state faced natural incidents namely floods, road, accidents, fire incidents and coastal erosion.



Environmental Conditions

Forested area in Sarawak is 7,747,777 km² make up of 62% of total Sarawak area. There are 3 types of forest reserved in Sarawak which are Forest Reserved Area, Peat Swamp and Mangrove Swamp where the areas are decreasing from 2014 to 2018.

7,747,777

Sarawak Forested area, 2018 (km²)
62% of total Sarawak area

1,234.1

Coastal length, 2019 (km)
14% of total Malaysia coastal length

Forest Area (hectare)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Forested Area	8,034,000	8,046,448	7,909,985	7,799,066	7,747,777
Forest Reserved Area	4,352,828	4,320,302	4,317,939	4,274,825	4,209,053
Peat Swamp	353,067	353,050	332,716	325,046	326,771
Mangrove Swamp	88,575	88,565	72,545	71,086	72,819
Non-Forested Area	4,363,311	4,350,863	4,487,326	4,598,245	4,697,223



Sarawak Mean Temperature at Meteorological stations

Sarawak highest mean temperature recorded is in Mulu station at 33.5°C in 2019, and the lowest recorded in Sri Aman station by 23.2°C in 2018. Overall stations showed an increase of reading at lowest and highest temperature records from year 2018 to 2019.

Meteorological stations	2018		2019		Meteorological stations	2018		2019	
	highest	Lowest	highest	Lowest		highest	Lowest	highest	Lowest
Bintulu	31.7°C	23.8°C	32.0°C	24.0°C	Miri	31.4°C	23.9°C	31.7°C	24.0°C
Kapit	-	-	33.4°C	24.2°C	Sibu	32.4°C	23.5°C	32.6°C	23.7°C
Kuching	32.3°C	23.8°C	32.5°C	24.1°C	Mulu	-	-	33.5°C	23.3°C
Limbang	-	-	33.3°C	23.7°C	Sri Aman	32.7°C	23.2°C	33.2°C	23.4°C

3.4 Social, Economic and Environmental Overview of City Councils

The social, economic, and environmental overview of Council of the City of Kuching South and Miri City Council highlights their role as key urban centers driving sustainable development in Sarawak. As major cities, both councils focus on fostering a high quality of life, ensuring social inclusivity, and enhancing urban infrastructure to support growing populations. Their efforts include improving public services, expanding green spaces, and promoting cultural heritage to strengthen community identity and well-being.

Economically, these city councils prioritize sustainable growth by encouraging investment, supporting local businesses, and diversifying economic sectors such as tourism, technology, and industrial development. With strategic planning and infrastructure expansion, they aim to create vibrant economic hubs that generate employment opportunities and attract domestic and international investors.

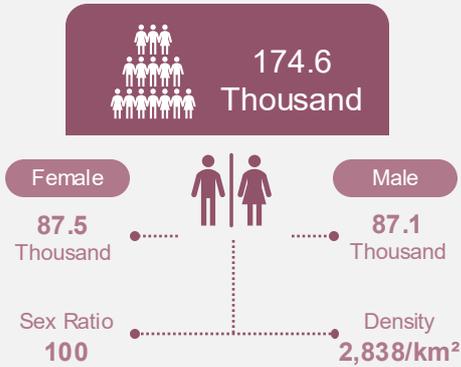
Environmental sustainability remains a critical focus, with both councils implementing policies to improve waste management, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance climate resilience. Green initiatives such as sustainable urban mobility, renewable energy adoption, and eco-friendly city planning play a crucial role in mitigating environmental impacts while supporting long-term urban sustainability.

Through multi-stakeholder collaboration, data-driven governance, and innovative policy frameworks, Council of the City of Kuching South and Miri City Council are committed to advancing sustainable urban development, ensuring a resilient and inclusive future for their communities.

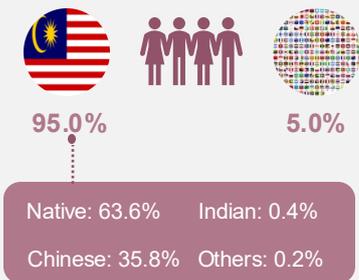


Socio-Economic Profile

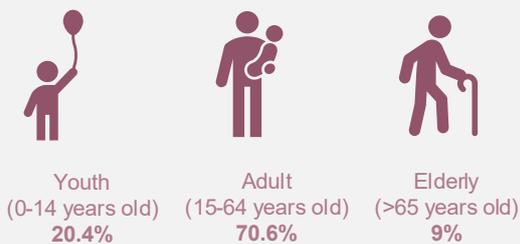
1 Kuching South POPULATION (2020)



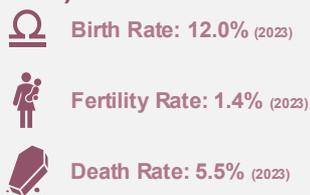
2 KUCHING POPULATION COMPOSITION (2023)



3 KUCHING AGE GROUP (2023)



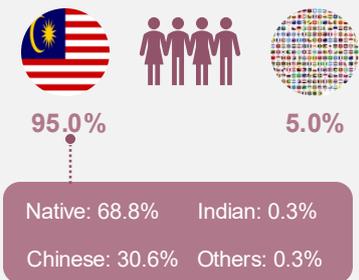
4 KUCHING IMPORTANT STATISTICS (2023)



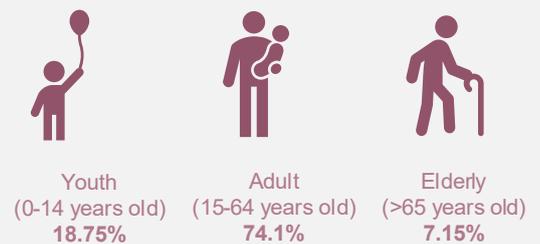
1 MIRI POPULATION (2023)



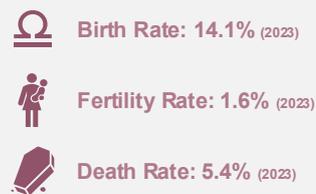
2 POPULATION COMPOSITION (2023)



3 AGE GROUP (2023)



4 IMPORTANT STATISTICS (2023)



Socio-Economic Profile

KUCHING LABOUR FORCE (2021-2023)

Year	Labour Force ('000)	Employed Person ('000)	Unemployed ('000)	Outside Labour Force ('000)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
2021	288.4	275.9	12.5	141.7	67.1	4.3
2022	297.4	287.5	10.0	134.7	68.8	3.4
2023	312.4	305.2	9.1	126.7	71.3	2.9

MIRI LABOUR FORCE (2021-2023)

Year	Labour Force ('000)	Employed Person ('000)	Unemployed ('000)	Outside Labour Force ('000)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
2021	128.7	123.9	4.9	55.8	69.8	3.8
2022	130.7	126.7	4.0	54.5	70.6	3.1
2023	135.8	132.2	3.1	54.2	71.4	2.3

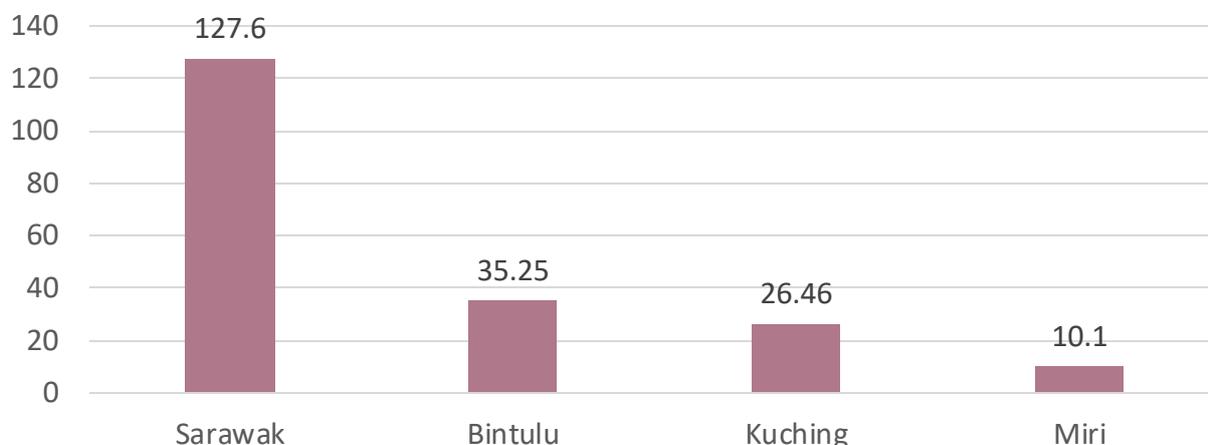
Source: DOSM, 2023

The data for Kuching includes overall figures without specifying Kuching South separately. Kuching has seen a steady increase in its labor force and employment, with the unemployment rate dropping from 4.3% in 2021 to 2.9% in 2023. Similarly, Miri has experienced growth in employment and labor force participation, with the unemployment rate decreasing from 3.8% in 2021 to 2.3% in 2023. Both cities show positive labor market trends, reflecting improvements in employment opportunities and workforce engagement over the three years.



Economic Profile

Figure 3.3: GDP of Sarawak, Kuching and Miri, (RM billion)



Source: DOSM, 2020

Table 3.1: Share of GDP to Districts and State, Kuching and Sarawak, 2020

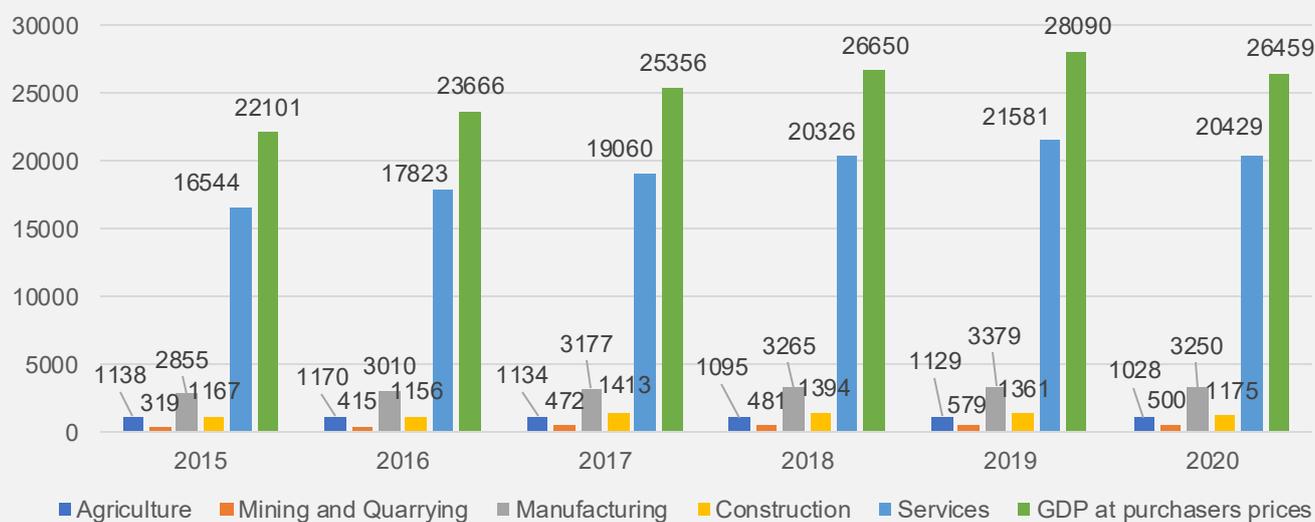
	Kuching		Miri	
	Share to District (%)	Share to State (%)	Share to District (%)	Share to State (%)
Agriculture	3.9	6.9	14.5	9.8
Mining & Quarrying	1.9	1.7	3.3	1.2
Construction	4.4	28.8	3.0	7.5
Manufacturing	12.3	9.7	13.5	4.1
Services	77.2	44.3	65.4	14.3
GDP	100.0	20.7	100.0	7.9

Figure 3.3 highlights the economic contributions of Sarawak, Bintulu, Kuching, and Miri. Sarawak's total GDP is RM127.6 billion, with Bintulu contributing the largest share among cities at RM35.25 billion, followed by Kuching at RM26.46 billion and Miri at RM10.1 billion. The sectoral breakdown shows that Kuching's economy is heavily driven by services, making up 77.2% of its district GDP and 44.3% of the state's service sector. Construction also plays a significant role in Kuching, contributing 28.8% to the state's total. Meanwhile, Miri's economy is also service-driven (65.4% of its district GDP), but agriculture has a larger presence than in Kuching, contributing 14.5% to the district and 9.8% to the state. Miri also has a slightly higher share in mining and quarrying (3.3% of its district GDP) compared to Kuching. These differences show that while both cities rely on services, Miri has a stronger agricultural base, whereas Kuching has a more diversified economy with a major role in construction and services.

Economic Profile

KUCHING

Figure 3.4: GDP by Administrative District and Kind of Economic Activity at Constant 2015 Prices, Sarawak 2015-2020, RM million (Kuching)



Source: DOSM, 2020

MIRI

Figure 3.5: GDP by Administrative District and Kind of Economic Activity at Constant 2015 Prices, Sarawak 2015-2020, RM million (Miri)



Source: DOSM, 2020

The GDP data from 2015 to 2020 shows the economic differences between Kuching and Miri. Kuching has a much higher GDP than Miri, making it the main economic and government center of Sarawak. The services sector is the biggest contributor to the economy in both cities, but Kuching has a larger share because of its many businesses, government offices, and trade activities. On the other hand, Miri has a strong mining and quarrying sector, mainly because of its oil and gas industry. This makes Miri different from Kuching, where mining is a very small part of the economy. Agriculture is also not a major sector in either city. Manufacturing and construction play a small but steady role in both places. Over the years, both cities have shown stable economic growth, with services being the main driver. However, Kuching has a more balanced economy, while Miri depends more on its natural resources.

Economic Profile

KUCHING

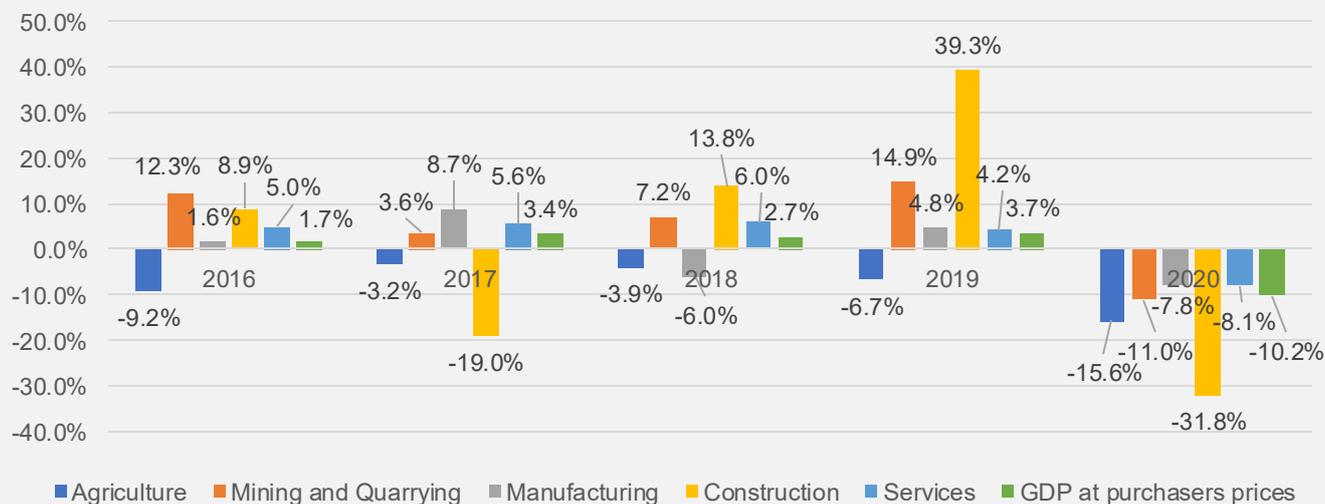
Figure 3.6: GDP by Administrative District and Kind of Economic Activity at Constant 2015 Prices, Sarawak 2016-2020- Annual percentage change



Source: DOSM, 2020

MIRI

Figure 3.7: GDP by Administrative District and Kind of Economic Activity at Constant 2015 Prices, Sarawak 2016-2020- Annual percentage change



Source: DOSM, 2020

The annual GDP changes from 2016 to 2020 show how the economies of Kuching and Miri grew and faced challenges. Kuching had steady growth between 2016 and 2019, with big increases in construction (30.2% in 2016 and 22.2% in 2017) and mining (20.5% in 2019). The services sector, which is the biggest part of Kuching's economy, grew at a slower but stable rate. However, in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused a major drop in all sectors, leading to a 5.8% decrease in Kuching's overall GDP. The most affected areas were services, construction, and manufacturing. Miri's economy, on the other hand, was more unstable, with big ups and downs. The construction sector had a huge jump of 39.3% in 2019 but fell sharply by -31.8% in 2020. The mining sector, which is important to Miri's economy, struggled for several years, especially in 2017 (-19.0%) and 2020 (-21.1%), showing problems in the oil and gas industry. Overall, Miri's GDP dropped by -10.2% in 2020, almost twice as much as Kuching's, showing that Miri was more affected by the economic crisis. While both cities suffered losses, Kuching's more balanced economy helped it handle the crisis better, while Miri, which depends more on oil and gas, was hit harder.

Environmental Profile

Miri

Miri, located in the northern region of Sarawak, serves as a hub for the oil and gas industry and is a gateway to various national parks. Environmental challenges in Miri include river pollution and air quality concerns. The Miri River has been identified as one of the most polluted rivers in Sarawak, primarily due to urbanization, industrial activities, and agricultural runoff.

Additionally, studies have indicated the presence of heavy metals in the river, posing potential risks to human health and the environment. In response to these environmental challenges, the Miri City Council has implemented several initiatives. The council aims to enhance the urban environment by developing more parks and green spaces and exercising environmental control measures to preserve the natural surroundings. Additionally, the council is committed to promoting harmonious relationships between the community and the environment through interactive activities.

52,865 hectares

Gunung Mulu National Park

6,949 hectares

Lambir Hills National Park

3,138 hectares

Niah National Park



Average Temperature and Precipitation

Region	Average Temperature (°C)	Average High Temperature (°C)	Average Low Temperature (°C)	Average Annual Precipitation (mm)
Kuching South	26.5	29.5 - 31.7	24.6 – 25.7	4,200
Miri	26.5	29.4 - 31.7	24.6 – 25.7	2,366

Source: MET Malaysia

Kuching South

Kuching Selatan experiences a tropical rainforest climate, with an average annual temperature of approximately 26.5°C. The city receives substantial rainfall, averaging around 4,200 mm annually. Notable forested area in the vicinity include Sama Jaya Nature Reserve.

MIRI

Miri also exhibits a tropical rainforest climate, with an average annual temperature of approximately 26.5°C. The city receives an average annual precipitation of about 2,366 mm. Significant forested areas near Miri include Lambir Hills National Park (6,949 hectares), Gunung Mulu National Park (52,865 hectares), and Niah National Park (3,138 hectares).



General Conclusion

	Kuching South City Council (MBKS)	Miri City Council (MBM)
Economic and Social Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kuching South is a major commercial and administrative hub, with a strong emphasis on the services sector and retail economy. • It has a diverse economy, benefiting from trade, tourism, and the presence of government institutions. • The city has a relatively low unemployment rate, indicating a stable labor market. • The economic recovery post-pandemic has been steady, with increased investments in commercial properties and infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miri's economy is heavily reliant on the oil & gas industry, making it a key contributor to Sarawak's energy sector. • The service sector (including tourism and retail) is expanding but remains secondary to petroleum-based economic activities. • The city faced a significant economic downturn during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a slower recovery compared to Kuching. • Miri has a lower unemployment rate (around 2.3%), but economic diversification efforts are needed to ensure long-term resilience.
Environmental and Urban Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of the City of Kuching South has actively promoted sustainable urban initiatives, including waste management programs, flood mitigation measures, and eco-friendly city planning. • The council emphasizes public green spaces, with well-maintained parks and recreational areas. • Flooding remains a concern, particularly in low-lying areas, requiring continued drainage and climate resilience efforts. • The city experiences a tropical rainforest climate, with heavy rainfall averaging 3,800 mm annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental challenges include river pollution (Miri River), air quality concerns, and waste management issues. • The council has implemented park development and environmental protection measures, but industrial activities continue to pose risks. • Miri is located near UNESCO World Heritage Sites namely Mulu Cave and Niah Cave as well Lambir Hills National Parks highlighting its eco-tourism potential. • The city has a tropical rainforest climate, with an annual rainfall of



Council of the City of Kuching South

Administrative Boundaries

Items	Details	Total areas (km ²)
Zones	Padungan Pending Kenyalang Park Tabuan Jaya Bintawa Batu Lintang	
Districts	Kuching	1,498.4
Economic Region	RECODA	

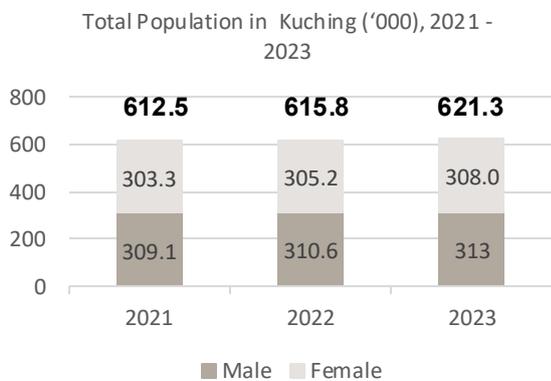
Source: My Local Stats, Kuching, Sarawak, 2023

Spatial Profile

61.53
(km²)
Built-up Area

Source :DOSM (2024)

Socio Economic Profile



Source: My Local Stats, Kuching, Sarawak, 2023



Economic Profile

Number of Establishments, 2022

Services 28,731

Construction 2,889

Manufacturing 1,336

Source: My Local Stats, Kuching, Sarawak, 2023

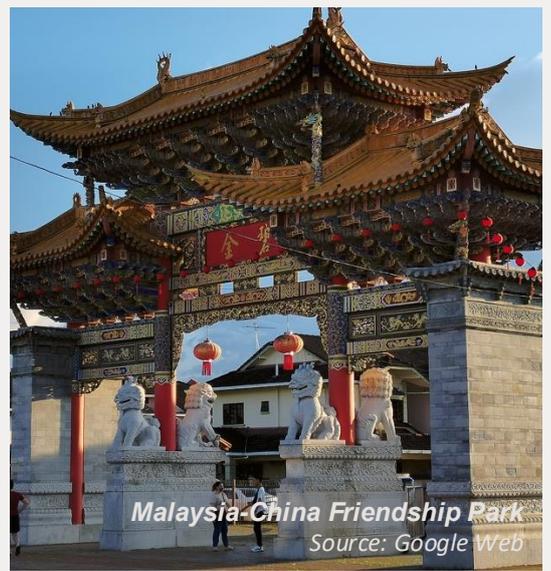
Environmental Profile

Min: 15.9
Max: 58.5

Average Air
Pollutant
Index, 2022

Source: Sarawak Environmental Statistics, 2023

Kuching South City Council Administrative Map



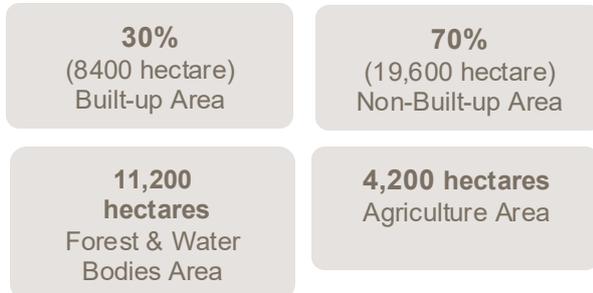
Majlis Bandaraya Miri

Administrative Boundaries

Items	Details	Total areas (km ²)
Districts	Miri and Bario Sub District	5,205.43
City	Miri	997.43
Bario Sub District	Miri	4,228
Economic Region	RECODA	

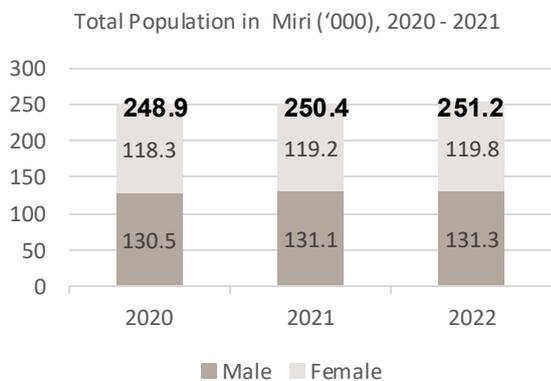
Source: Official Website of Miri City Council, 2025

Spatial Profile



Source :DOSM (2024)

Socio Economic Profile

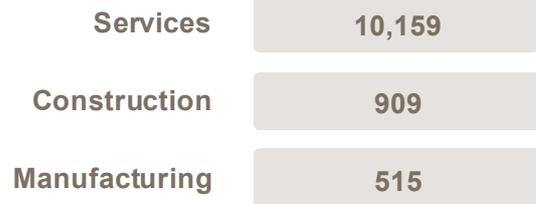


Source: My Local Stats, Miri, Sarawak, 2022



Economic Profile

Number of Establishments, 2022



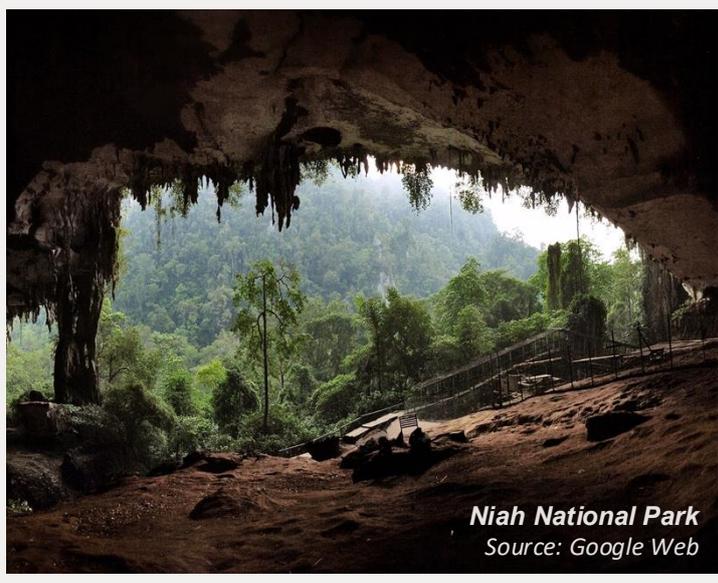
Source: My Local Stats, Miri, Sarawak, 2022

Environmental Profile



Source: Sarawak Environmental Statistics, 2023

Miri City Council Administrative Map



Cities across Sarawak face a series of complex and interrelated socioeconomic and infrastructural challenges that hinder sustainable urban development. Economic disparities are becoming increasingly pronounced, particularly in border cities such as Limbang and Lawas, where Brunei's stronger purchasing power drives up the cost of living, while urban wages remain comparatively stagnant. The high cost of domestic air travel further restricts intercity mobility and economic integration.

Urban poverty is visibly escalating, especially in Miri, where rising homelessness and the proliferation of squatter settlements signal growing socioeconomic distress. Unemployment remains a significant concern in several urban centres, contributing to persistent financial instability among vulnerable populations.

Public health issues are also prominent in Sarawak's cities. Access to quality healthcare services remains uneven, particularly in suburban and peri-urban areas. Urban environments are increasingly affected by the presence of stray dogs, posing zoonotic risks, while localised drug abuse continues to strain public health and safety systems.

Education-related barriers in remote urban fringes continue to affect learning outcomes, with broader social implications such as high teenage pregnancy rates and a growing number of single mothers in urban communities.

Infrastructure deficits remain a major constraint on urban development. Many cities experience poor road connectivity, limited access to reliable public transport, unstable internet infrastructure, and frequent disruptions in electricity supply. These shortcomings not only reduce the quality of life but also inhibit economic growth and urban productivity. In addition, elevated housing costs, inadequate drainage systems, and the lack of accessible recreational facilities contribute to urban discomfort and social fragmentation.

Environmental management in urban areas remains insufficient. Ineffective waste collection and disposal have led to rising levels of river pollution and general environmental degradation. Cities like Limbang lack basic recycling infrastructure, highlighting a broader systemic gap in sustainable waste management practices.

Finally, urban governance is challenged by administrative inefficiencies, high crime rates, and weak regulatory enforcement, all of which undermine effective city planning and service delivery.

These multifaceted challenges underscore the urgent need for a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach focused on enhancing urban infrastructure, healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, and economic resilience across Sarawak's urban centres.



3.5 Current Governance Structure of Sarawak

Governance is crucial for ensuring sustainable development, urban resilience, and environmental protection in Sarawak. Sarawak is a dynamic state with a diverse urban landscape, economic activities centered around trade, tourism, and services, and ongoing infrastructure expansion. Effective governance is essential for balancing modernization with heritage conservation and environmental sustainability.

The Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government (MPHLG) Sarawak oversees public health services, affordable housing, local governance, and infrastructure development to ensure sustainable growth and well-being across the state. It supervises healthcare initiatives through the Sarawak State Health Department, develops housing projects via the Housing Development Corporation (HDC), and regulates 27 local authorities to maintain municipal services and urban management.

Sarawak Local Authorities

In Sarawak, the Local Authorities are responsible for providing efficient and continuous municipal services, planning, implementing, and maintaining development projects within their jurisdiction. They ensure that all properties, including oil palm plantations, are properly assessed and subject to valuation tax and levies. Additionally, they review and enforce existing laws under their authority, oversee the planning, management, and provision of public library facilities, and implement community development programs while assessing their impact to enhance local well-being.



Ministry of Housing and Local Government

Sustainable Living Environment for All

Sarawak Local Authorities under the MPHLG operate in compliance with various legislations which include and not limited to the following:

1. City of Kuching North Ordinance, 1988 – DBKU only
2. The Local Authorities Ordinance, 1996
3. Protection of Public Health Ordinance, 1999
4. Entertainment Ordinance, 2000
5. Building Ordinance, 1994
6. Public Parks and Green Ordinance, 1993

Covering a jurisdiction area of 124,450 km² and serving a population of 2.5 million, MPHLG envisions Sarawak as a vibrant, premier destination. Their mission is to elevate living standards by cultivating a nurturing environment, promoting active citizen participation, and providing unparalleled services. To realise this vision and mission, these Local Authorities employ a strategic framework encompassing five main pillars which are cleanliness, aesthetics, safety, innovation, and sustainability.

The Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government has the following functions:

- Formulating and monitoring legislation.
- Providing services to target groups.
- Planning and overseeing development.
- Enforcement and community engagement.

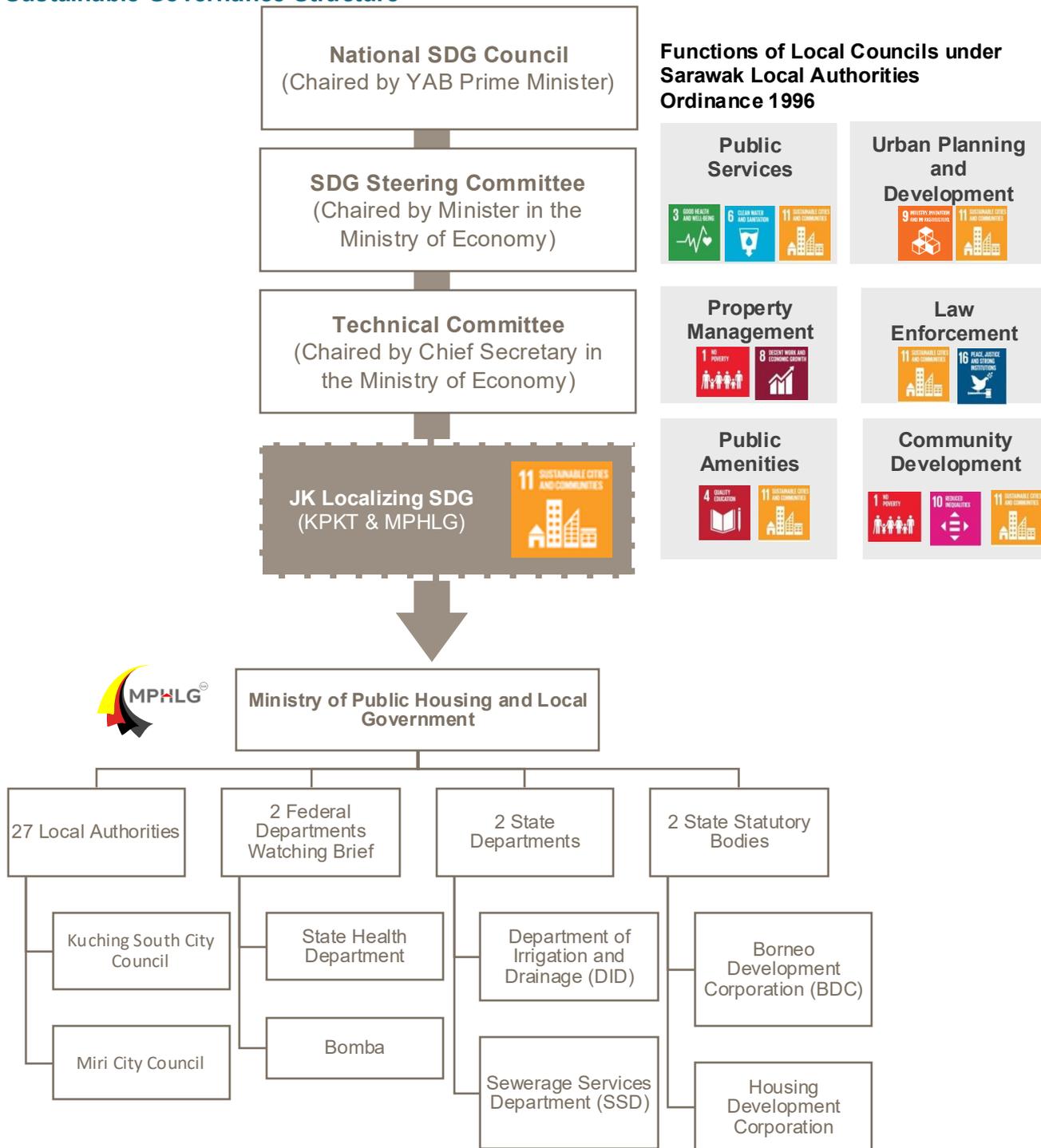
The Local Authorities core functions include:

- Continuously providing efficient and effective municipal services.
- Planning, implementing, and maintaining Local Authority development projects.
- Ensuring that all properties within the Local Authority's jurisdiction are assessed and subject to assessment tax and levies (including oil palm plantations).
- Reviewing and enforcing existing laws under the jurisdiction of the Local Authority.
- Planning, managing, and providing public library facilities.
- Planning, implementing, and evaluating the impact of community development programs.

24 Local Authorities for Sarawak SDG Roadmap



Sarawak Sustainable Governance Structure



Local Administration

Sarawak Local Authorities Ordinance 1996 sets out the establishment, administration, and duties of local councils in Sarawak, Malaysia.

Development Planning System

The development planning system is primarily governed by the Sarawak Land Code and the Town and Country Planning Ordinance, 1952, which provide the legal framework for land use, development, and planning in the state.

Governance and Funding for SDG Implementation

Effective SDG implementation in Sarawak requires adequate financial resources, technical support, and policy guidance from multiple levels of government and external partners. Several mechanisms support funding and decision-making for sustainable development in the district as follow:

- **State and Federal Support**

Local Authorities relies on funding from the Sarawak State Government and Federal Government allocations to implement SDG-related projects. State policies, such as the Sarawak Sustainable Development Strategy, provide the framework for aligning local plans with state and national goals. These policies help guide sustainable urban development, environmental conservation, and economic growth while addressing challenges such as climate resilience and land use management.

- **Federal Grants and Development Funds**

The district receives financial support from agencies such as the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) and Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MPHLG). These grants are allocated for various initiatives, including environmental conservation, green infrastructure, waste management, and renewable energy projects. Special funding programs also support local capacity-building efforts to enhance technical expertise and governance structures.

- **Decision-Making and Policy Coordination**

Key decision-makers involved in implementing the SDGs include the Mayors, Councillors and various technical agencies. These entities work closely with federal and state agencies to ensure integrated and sustainable urban planning, land management, and environmental protection. Coordination among these entities is essential for balancing economic growth with environmental preservation.

- **External Partnerships and Donor Support**

Few notable partnerships are collaboration between Local Authorities with several international agencies:

- Majlis Daerah Kapit: Collaboration with Japan, Thailand and Vietnam on low carbon initiatives
- Majlis Bandaraya Miri: Collaboration with nine sister cities towards developing research centre to attract investment and boost tourism
- Majlis Daerah Marudi: Sisterhood with Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan: Friendship cities with China, Korea and Japan.

Sarawak's governance for SDG implementation is currently structured through a combination of state and federal support, coordinated policy efforts, and external collaborations. With strong decision-making mechanisms and international partnerships, the district is making progress toward sustainable urban development, environmental conservation, and resource management. Continued funding, policy alignment, and community engagement will be key to achieving the region's long-term sustainability goals.

3.6 Current Governance Structure of Council of the City of Kuching South

The Council of the City of Kuching South is a corporate entity established under the Local Authorities Ordinance, 1996. Like all local authorities, Council of the City of Kuching South serves as the governing body responsible for providing essential public services within its jurisdiction, covering an area of 61.53 square kilometres.

The Council operates under a structured leadership, comprising a Mayor, a Deputy Mayor, and 30 Councillors.

Council of the City of Kuching South conducts its operations through a committee-based system, where Standing Committees convene monthly to deliberate on matters under their respective areas of responsibility. Decisions made by these committees are presented as recommendations to the Full Council for approval, typically during the Council's monthly meetings.

The City Secretary serves as the Chief Administrative Officer, overseeing the daily functions of the Council's divisions. These divisions include Administration, Treasury, Building & Landscaping, Engineering, Rating & Valuation, Public Health, and Licensing. Each division is responsible for managing its allocated budget as per the annual estimates approved by the Council.



Council of the City of Kuching South

Enhancing The Quality of Life of The People of Kuching South



Currently, MBKS’s governance structure consists of 7 departments, as illustrated below:

Figure 3.8: Organisational Chart of Council of the City of Kuching South



Source: Kuching South City Council Official Website, 2025

3.7 Current Governance Structure of Miri City Council

Miri City Council (MCC) traces its origins to the Miri Municipal Board, established in 1933 under the Municipal Order No. M-7, 1933. The Board functioned until 1941, when it was disrupted by the Japanese Occupation. It was reconstituted as the Miri Urban District Council in 1956, becoming financially self-sustaining.

In 1961, the Council was upgraded to the Miri District Council, expanding its jurisdiction. By 1981, it was further elevated to a Municipality under a restructuring of Sarawak’s local authorities. On May 20, 2005, Miri was officially recognized as a city, with MCC taking on greater responsibilities for urban management. In 2015, Bario Sub-District was added to its jurisdiction.



Miri City Council

Green, Smart and The Most Liveable International Resort City

Today, Miri City Council (MCC) operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Health, Housing, and Local Government. Its jurisdiction spans approximately 5,205.43 square kilometers, including the Bario Sub-District, which was placed under MCC’s administration on July 30, 2015, after previously being under Marudi District Council.

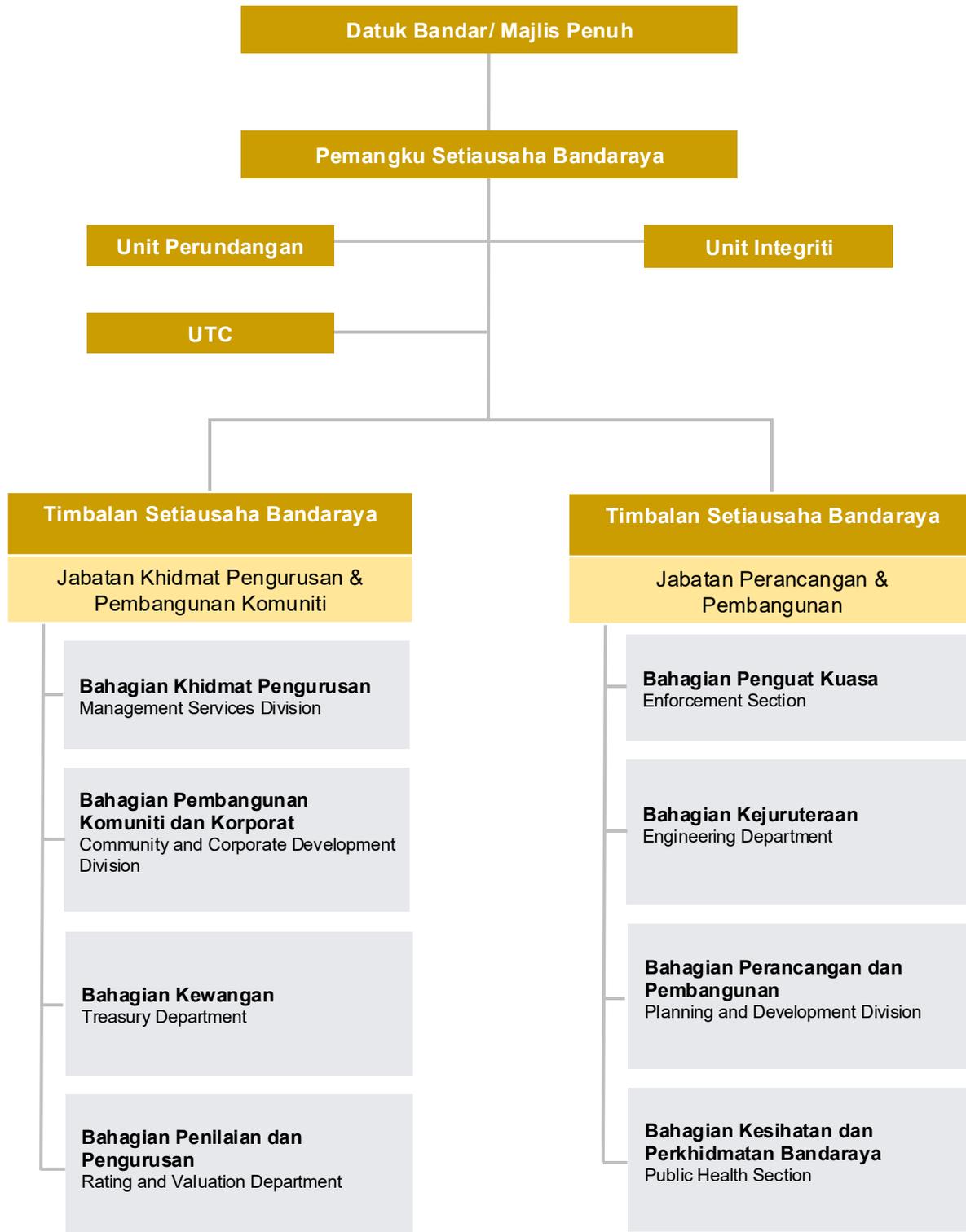
Miri City Council plays a crucial role in urban management, providing essential public services such as waste collection, street lighting, road and drainage maintenance, assessment rate collection, and overall urban conservancy. The Council also actively manages local events and affairs, fostering economic growth and community engagement.

MCC's commitment to urban excellence is reflected in its achievements, including a national award for excellence in landscape beautification. Miri City continues to attract visitors from around the world, contributing significantly to its local economy and positioning itself as a vibrant and sustainable city in Sarawak.



Currently, MBM’s governance structure consists of 8 departments, as illustrated below:

Figure 3.9: Organisational Chart of Miri City Council



Source: Miri City Council Official Website, 2025



4.0

Alignment with SDGs

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

4.1 Policy Alignment with SDGs

According to the New Urban Agenda, policies are one of the instrument enablers in realizing SDGs. Hence it is important to understand the policies and strategies that are used at the local level. Local government in Malaysia heavily rely on 2 policies and strategies documents which are the local plan and the strategic plan. These two documents address and deliver different functions.

Local Plan According to Act 172

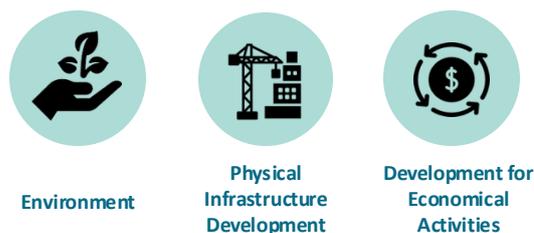
A local plan is a physical development plan which is being prepared as a statutory document under the Town and Country Planning Act (Act 172). The act shall consist of a map and a written statement supported with implementation guidelines.

With policy writing at the local level and according to the local plan manual (2022), the written statement in the local plan shall consist:

1. Development direction and physical development framework including development in the regional context.
2. Detailed development proposal and its justification for:
 - i. Land Use and physical development
 - ii. Settlement and city boundary
 - iii. Urban design and building facade
 - iv. Population and labour force
 - v. Housing
 - vi. Public facilities
 - vii. Recreational and landscape facilities
 - viii. Industry (including mining)
 - ix. Commercial and services
 - x. Agricultural activities
 - xi. Tourism activity
 - xii. Traffic and transportation system
 - xiii. Infrastructure and utility (water supply, electric, gas, communication infrastructure, irrigation and drainage system, sewerage and solid waste management)
 - xiv. Natural resources and environment management including environmentally sensitive areas.
3. Suggestion on certain areas with specific physical development plan.

In other words, the local plan sets the development direction first and foremost from development goals and physical development framework together with written strategies addressing a few components as depicted in **Figure 4.1**.

Figure 4.1: Key component in Local Plan



Strategic Plan

The strategic plan is an operational plan which is being prepared by the local government to guide its operations. This plan outlines the direction the local authority intends to take in terms of development, governance, service delivery, and resource management over a specific period, usually spanning several years.

By nature, a strategic plan will be strategically used by the local authority in:

- i. Enhancing Accountability
- ii. Administration
- iii. Fulfilling and improving basic services to the public as outlined in Acts 171, 172 and 133.
- iv. Allocating resources
- v. Facilitating Stakeholder Engagement

Sarawak Land Code Chapter 81 (1958)

The Sarawak Land Code serves as the principal legal instrument governing all land matters in the state of Sarawak, Malaysia. Initially enacted in 1958 as Chapter 81 of the Laws of Sarawak, it has been amended multiple times to accommodate evolving land policies, development priorities, and the protection of indigenous rights.

Main Features of the Sarawak Land Code

Land Classifications

The Code outlines several categories of land in Sarawak, including:

- State Land: Land not lawfully held or occupied by any party.
- Native Customary Land (NCL): Land held under Native Customary Rights (NCR), recognized by the law.
- Reserved Land: Designated for public use or conservation.
- Alienated Land: Land officially leased or granted to individuals or entities for agricultural, residential, or commercial purposes.

Native Customary Rights (NCR)

- NCR is legally recognized under Section 5 of the Land Code.
- Customary rights may be established through traditional practices such as:
 - Temuda (cultivated land)
 - Settlement
 - Burial sites, among others
- However, for full legal protection, NCR land must be surveyed and officially gazetted.
- Amendments in 2018 and 2022 introduced recognition of Native Territorial Domains (NTDs), enhancing legal protection for indigenous territories.

Land Ownership and Transfer

Land in Sarawak is primarily held on a leasehold basis, commonly for 60 or 99 years. All land transactions—including sales, transfers, and leases—must be formally registered with the Land and Survey Department.

Land Development and Use

- Land use can be changed subject to government approval.
- The Code also provides for land alienation and acquisition for public development projects.

Administration and Enforcement

- The Sarawak Land and Survey Department is responsible for implementing the Code.
- It oversees land surveys, registration, enforcement, and administration of land matters across the state.

Key component in Sarawak Land Code



Environment

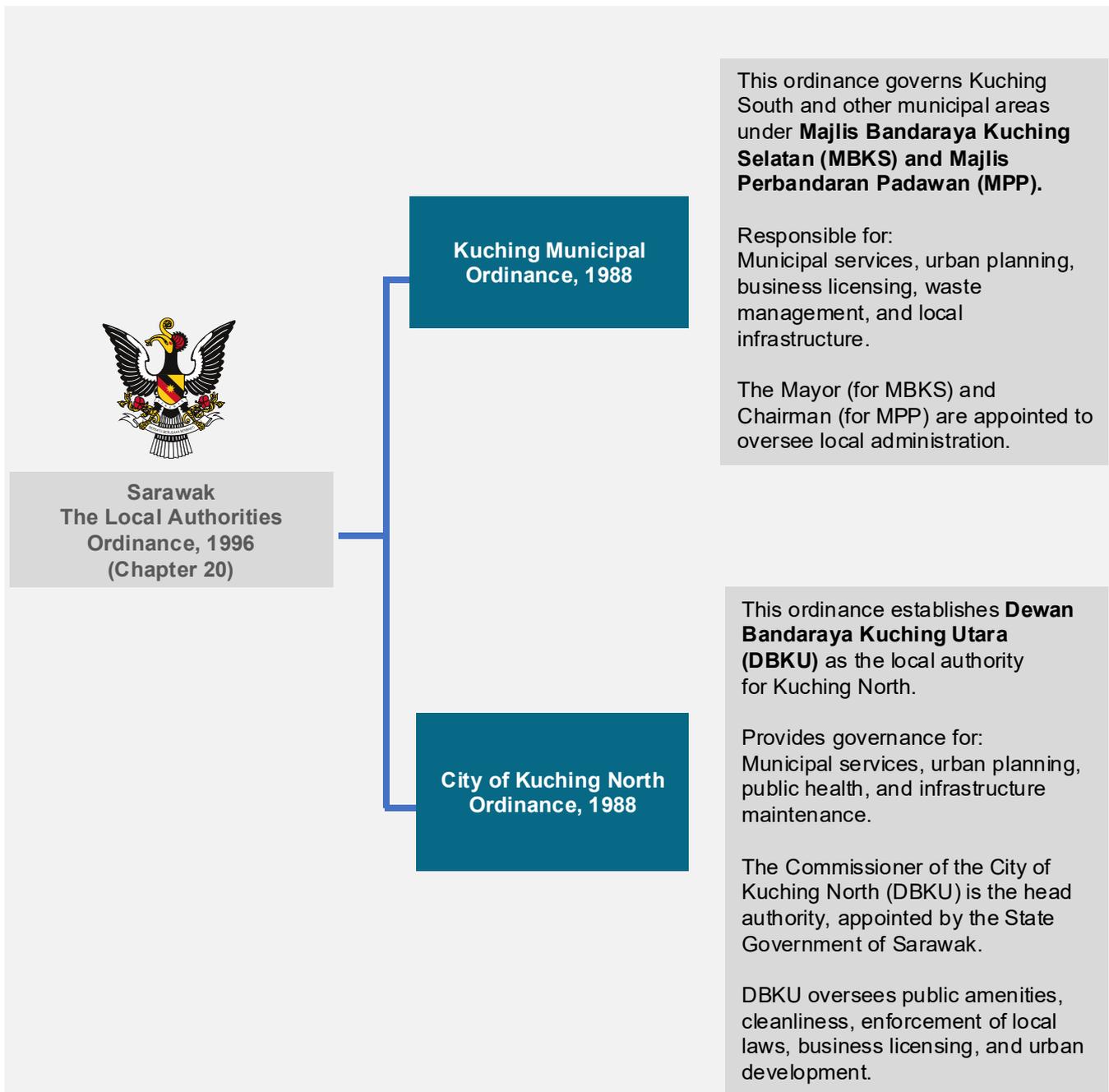


Land Development



Natural Resources Development

Functions and Roles of the Acts in Sarawak



The Local Authorities Ordinance, 1996 (Chapter 20) establishes the legal framework for the formation, administration, and responsibilities of local authorities in Sarawak. It defines their roles in urban planning, public health, waste management, licensing, and community development. The ordinance grants local councils the authority to enforce regulations, collect taxes, and implement policies to improve public services and infrastructure. It also promotes accountable and efficient governance, ensuring sustainable development while addressing the needs of both urban and rural communities in Sarawak.

The Local Authorities Ordinance, 1996 (Part IX, Sections 97-139) defines the key functions and responsibilities of local authorities in Sarawak, ensuring governance, development, and service delivery align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These responsibilities encompass various aspects, including urban planning, public health, environmental management, and economic development, all of which contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth.

One of the primary areas of focus is urban development and infrastructure, where local authorities regulate land use, public transportation, housing, and urban resilience strategies to create well-planned and sustainable cities. Proper planning ensures efficient resource management and improved quality of life for residents.

Another crucial function is public health and sanitation, which involves ensuring access to clean water, proper waste management, and disease prevention efforts. These initiatives help promote the well-being of communities and maintain a healthy living environment.

In supporting economic growth and business regulation, local authorities oversee business licensing, market regulations, and provide support for small enterprises. These efforts foster economic sustainability, encourage entrepreneurship, and promote responsible consumption and production.

Environmental sustainability and climate action are also key responsibilities, as local authorities enforce environmental regulations, implement climate adaptation measures, and work towards biodiversity conservation. These efforts are essential in mitigating climate change impacts and preserving natural resources for future generations.

Lastly, good governance and community engagement play a vital role in ensuring transparency, public participation, and collaboration with stakeholders. By fostering accountable governance and effective policy implementation, local authorities can create inclusive, well-governed communities. By integrating these responsibilities with global SDG targets, Sarawak's local authorities play a crucial role in promoting long-term sustainability, economic resilience, and an enhanced quality of life for its residents.

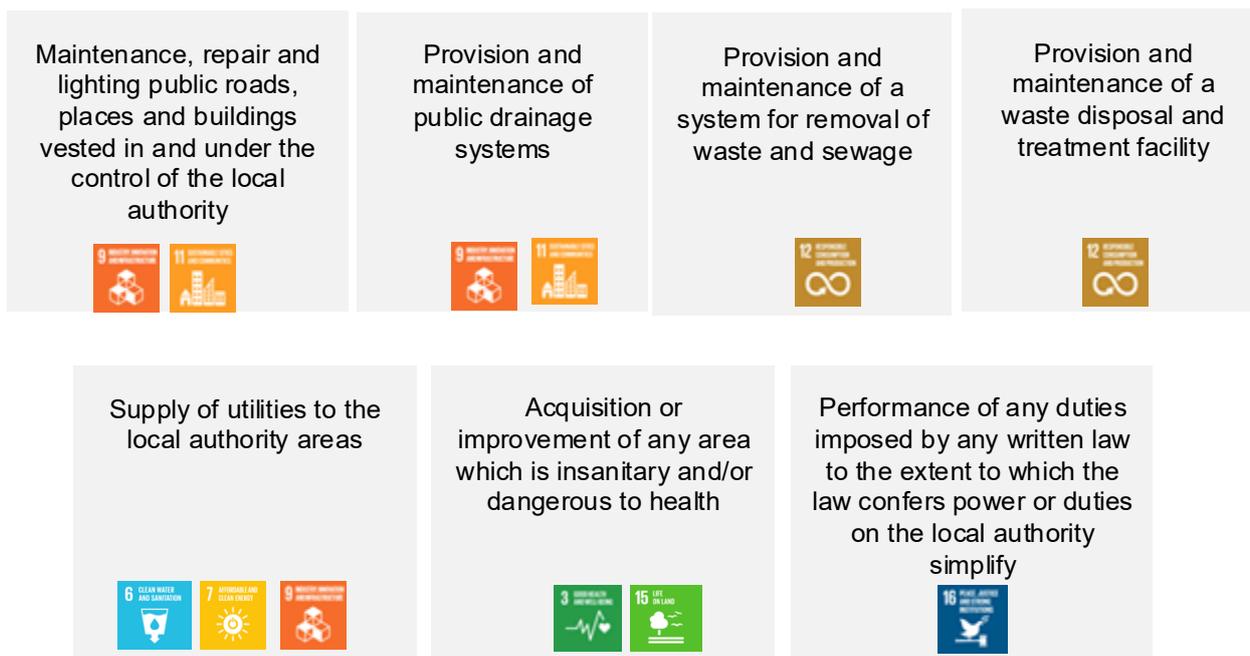


Figure 4.2: Sarawak Policies

Sarawak Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030

7 Strategic Thrusts to accelerate economic growth



Economic Structure

Transforming Sarawak into a competitive economy by increasing productivity level, developing more high value downstream activities and creating new industries.



Ease of doing Business

Improving ease of doing business and making Sarawak an investment destination of choice.



Targeted Spending

Spending on areas that yield the most economic, social and environmental impacts.



Optimise Assets & Human Capital

Optimising use of assets and government funding and developing human capital to support socio-economic development.



Digital and Execution

Accelerating digital adoption and data utilization to generate outcomes.



Social inclusivity

Driving economic and social benefits for all Sarawakians, focusing on impoverishes segment of the population.



Environmental Sustainability

Balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability.

7 Enablers of Post COVID-19 Development Strategy

1. Digital Transformation,
2. Innovation
3. Education and Human Capital
4. Infrastructure
5. Utilities
6. Transport
7. Renewable Energy

Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030

The Sarawak Digital Economy Blueprint 2030 is a comprehensive plan aimed at transforming Sarawak's economy through digitalization. The blueprint aims to position **Sarawak as a leading Digital Economy and Society by 2030**. It is built on five pillars: Economic Growth Priorities, Digital Business Development, Public Sector & Services, Frontier Technologies Adoption and Foundation for Digital Economy.

Digital Economy an Enabler of PCDS 2030

Based on PCDS 2030, Digital Economy is an enabler of PCDS as by digitalizing the economic sector, it will lower the cost, increase efficiency and productivity, brings new business model and access to global market, provide improved, efficient and secure online service delivery, promote inclusivity, and finally, encourage environmentally sustainable innovation.

Targeted Outcomes

Through this policy, there are few outcomes outlined which are:

1. Create between **39,000 to 48,750 new semi and high-skilled digital jobs** in the economic sectors.
2. Achieve **50% growth in investment partnerships**.
3. Achieve **96% high-speed connectivity** throughout Sarawak.
4. Achieve **20% Digital Economy contribution** to Sarawak's GDP by 2030 (RM56.4 billion).
5. Achieve **RM4,000 average** contribution from digital economy to **household income**.
6. Create **500 high-tech start-ups**.
7. Achieve **100% online service delivery and improved ease of doing business**.

Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA)



The Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA) is a statutory body established under the RECODA Ordinance 2006 to lead and manage the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) development plan. As the primary agency overseeing the corridor's growth, RECODA plays a vital role in driving economic progress, particularly in infrastructure development and socio-economic programs. Through its strategic initiatives, the authority aims to enhance connectivity, foster industrialisation, and create investment opportunities that align with both national and global development frameworks.

RECODA's development strategy is built upon **3** **PILLA**

<h2>Economic Development</h2> <p>1</p> <p>Attracts investments in key industries such as renewable energy, manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism.</p>	<h2>Infrastructure Development</h2> <p>2</p> <p>Enhances connectivity through road networks, bridges, ports, and utilities.</p>	<h2>Social Development & Human Capital</h2> <p>3</p> <p>Implements programs to improve livelihoods and reduce wealth disparities in rural areas.</p>
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Roles of RECODA and Its Relation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

<h3>Attracting Investments and Promoting Industrial Growth</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages foreign direct investment (FDI) and domestic investments. Develops industrial parks and economic zones. Promotes sustainable industries like renewable energy, agro-industries, and manufacturing. 	<h3>Developing Sustainable Infrastructure and Connectivity</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds transportation networks (roads, bridges, ports, and airports) to enhance accessibility. Expands digital infrastructure to bridge the urban-rural digital divide. Strengthens public utilities such as electricity and telecommunications. 	<h3>Expanding Renewable Energy and Green Initiatives</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops hydropower, solar, and other renewable energy sources. Supports energy efficiency and green technology adoption. Reduces dependency on fossil fuels to lower carbon emissions.
<h3>Improving Water Supply and Sanitation</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements clean water projects for rural and urban communities. Enhances wastewater management and sanitation facilities. Ensures sustainable water resource management.. 	<h3>Strengthening Human Capital and Workforce Development</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides skills training and education programs for the local workforce. Encourages entrepreneurship and SME development. Reduces youth unemployment through job placement programs. 	<h3>Enhancing Social and Economic Well-being</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements poverty alleviation programs. Reduces wealth disparities between rural and urban areas. Improves healthcare access in underserved communities.



5.0

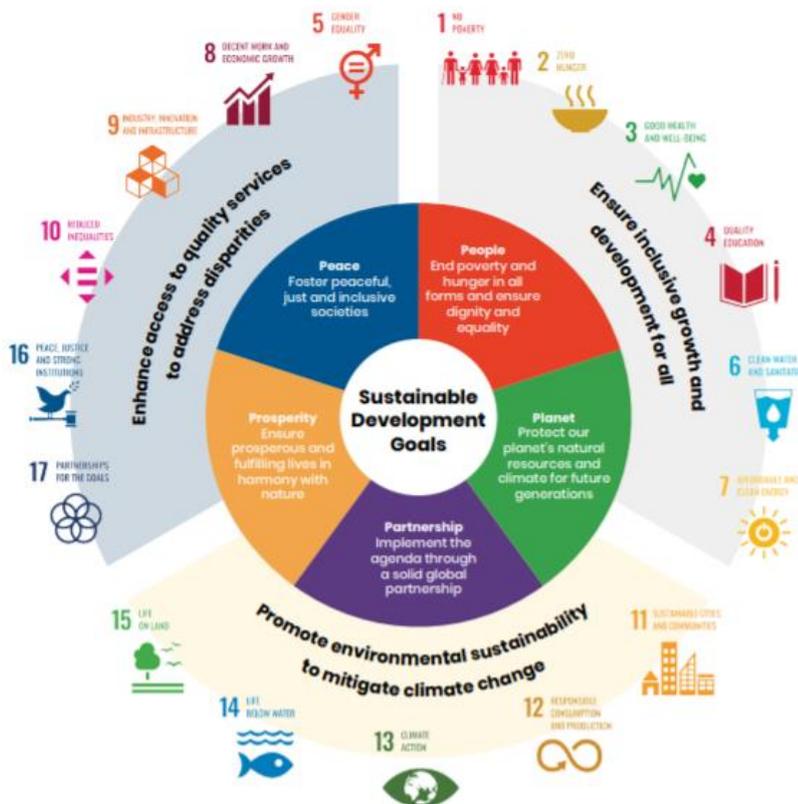
PROGRESS ON SDGS

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

5.1 Unveiling 3 Essential Outcomes

Assessing the local adaptation of the 17 SDGs in Malaysia focuses on three main outcomes: promoting inclusive growth and development for all, improving access to quality services to reduce disparities, and advancing environmental sustainability to combat climate change. These outcomes

are tailored to align with the specific objectives of each SDG, ensuring that strategies are customized to address local needs and challenges effectively. This approach ensures that the overarching goals of the SDGs are met in a way that is both relevant and impactful within the Malaysian context.



Outcome 1
Ensure Inclusive Growth and Development for All
 Aims to foster equitable development by tackling critical issues such as poverty, hunger, health, and education, while improving access to essential services like water, sanitation, and energy. It seeks to create opportunities that enable all individuals to thrive and benefit from sustainable progress.
SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7

Outcome 2
Enhance Access to Quality Services to Address Disparities
 Focuses on expanding access to high-quality services and reducing social and economic disparities. It underscores the importance of achieving gender equality, providing decent work, building resilient infrastructure, and strengthening institutions to ensure that essential services are accessible to everyone.
SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 16, SDG 17

Outcome 3
Promote Environmental & Sustainability to Mitigate Climate Change
 Aim to advancing environmental sustainability through the development of sustainable cities, responsible consumption, and climate action. It aims to protect marine and terrestrial ecosystems, enhance resilience to climate impacts, and ensure long-term environmental health and stability.
SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15

The outcomes outlined here are designed to align with the specific objectives of each SDG, ensuring that strategies are tailored to address local needs and challenges effectively. This approach ensures that the overarching goals of the SDGs are achieved in a meaningful and impactful manner within the Malaysian context.

Outcome 1

Ensure Inclusive Growth and Development for All

Aims to foster equitable development by tackling critical issues such as poverty, hunger, health, and education, while improving access to essential services like water, sanitation, and energy. It seeks to create opportunities that enable all individuals to thrive and benefit from sustainable progress.

SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7



Outcome 2

Enhance Access to Quality Services to Address Disparities

Focuses on expanding access to high-quality services and reducing social and economic disparities. It underscores the importance of achieving gender equality, providing decent work, building resilient infrastructure, and strengthening institutions to ensure that essential services are accessible to everyone.

SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 16, SDG 17



Outcome 3

Promote Environmental & Sustainability to Mitigate Climate Change

Aim to advancing environmental sustainability through the development of sustainable cities, responsible consumption, and climate action. It aims to protect marine and terrestrial ecosystems, enhance resilience to climate impacts, and ensure long-term environmental health and stability.

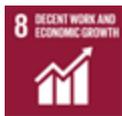
SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15



Prioritised SDG for Sarawak City Councils

Based on the assessment, five SDGs—SDG 8, 9, 11, 12, and 13—have been prioritised for Sarawak City Councils further analysis of their progress is conducted in this chapter.





Decent Work and Economic Growth

Objective:

To promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.



Overview of SDG 8 for Sarawak City Council

Majlis Bandaraya Miri (MBM) and Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan (MBKS) are actively implementing SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through economic diversification, urban development, and workforce enhancement. These cities play a crucial role in Sarawak's Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030), which aims to transform the state into a high-income economy by promoting innovation, digital transformation, and sustainability.

Miri, known as Sarawak's oil and gas hub, is expanding into sectors such as tourism, creative industries, and green energy to diversify employment opportunities. Kuching Selatan, as part of Sarawak's capital city, is fostering growth in trade, logistics, digital economy, and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) while enhancing sustainable urban infrastructure.

Majlis Bandaraya Miri and Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan's pursuit of **SDG 8** is closely linked with various SDGs, ensuring that economic development remains **inclusive, resilient, and sustainable**. By fostering urban innovation, improving workforce skills, and implementing green economy initiatives, these cities are driving Sarawak's long-term prosperity while balancing social and environmental needs.

Relationship of SDG 8 with other SDGs



SDG 2 (Zero Hunger): Urban farming, hydroponics, and local food markets in MBM and MBKS enhance food security while creating job opportunities, especially for low-income communities.



SDG 14 (Life Below Water): Miri's coastal tourism, marine conservation, and sustainable fisheries provide employment while protecting marine biodiversity. MBM also enforces rules against illegal fishing to ensure long-term sustainability.



SDG 15 (Life on Land): Eco-tourism in Miri's national parks and sustainable forestry in Kuching Selatan create green jobs and promote conservation-based economic growth. Urban greening projects improve air quality and local livelihoods.



SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being): Decent work leads to better health. Workplace safety policies, healthcare access, and stress management programs in MBM and MBKS contribute to a healthier and more productive workforce.



KUCHING SOUTH CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA KUCHING SELATAN - MBKS)

Kuching South City Council focuses on trade, logistics, and digital economy to enhance employment and business growth. Efforts include SME support, smart city initiatives, and sustainable urban infrastructure to create a resilient economy. MBKS also emphasizes financial inclusion, gender equality in employment, and skills training, ensuring inclusive and sustainable economic development for the city's growing workforce.



MIRI CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA MIRI - MBM)

Miri City Council drives economic diversification by expanding beyond its traditional oil and gas sector into tourism, creative industries, and renewable energy. Initiatives such as eco-tourism development, digital entrepreneurship programs, and green energy investments create new job opportunities while promoting sustainability. MBM also supports small businesses and workforce upskilling, aligning with Sarawak's PCDS 2030 vision for a high-income economy.

Relationship of SDG 8 with other SDGs (Cont..)



SDG 4 (Quality Education): TVET programs, digital skills training, and entrepreneurship workshops in both cities help prepare workers for high-demand sectors, reducing youth unemployment and increasing economic mobility.



SDG 1 (No Poverty): Job placement programs, business grants, and microfinance initiatives support vulnerable communities in MBM and MBKS, driving inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction.



SDG 5 (Gender Equality): Women's economic participation is encouraged through business grants, skills development programs, and workplace equity policies, helping to reduce gender disparities in employment.



SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities): MBM and MBKS work to close economic gaps by supporting informal workers, providing financial literacy training, and strengthening social welfare programs for marginalized groups.



SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities): Economic growth is tied to urban renewal, smart city projects, and green mobility initiatives, all of which create jobs and improve living conditions in both cities.



SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation): Investments in wastewater treatment, flood mitigation, and sustainable water supply projects generate employment while ensuring access to clean water for businesses and residents.



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy): Miri's solar and biofuel projects create green jobs, while Kuching Selatan's energy-efficient building incentives support employment in construction and urban planning.

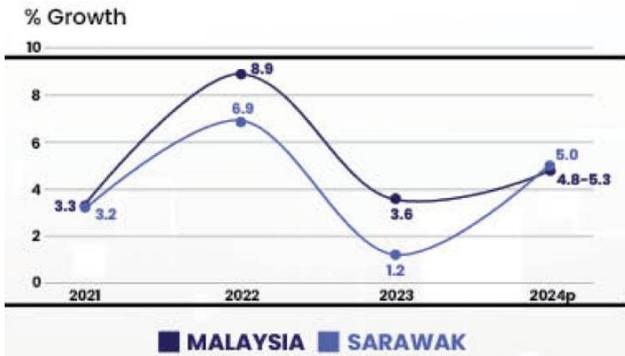


SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions): Transparent governance, fair labor policies, and business-friendly regulations in MBM and MBKS attract investors and ensure long-term economic stability.



Sarawak's progress towards SDG 8 is reflected in its positive economic indicators. The state's GDP grew from RM140.7 billion in 2022 to RM142.4 billion in 2023, with a forecasted 5.0% growth in 2024. The labour force increased to 1.23 million in 2023, while unemployment declined to 3.4%, showing resilience in job creation. The services sector remains a key driver, expanding its share to 38.3%, while manufacturing and mining continue to contribute significantly. These trends highlight Sarawak's steady economic expansion, aligning with SDG 8's objectives of inclusive and sustainable growth.

Figures 5.1 : Malaysia and Sarawak Economy



Figures 5.2 : Sarawak GDP Distribution by Economic Activities % Share



Sarawak Employment



Table 5.1: Sarawak Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Sector	2022		2023		2024f	
	RM Billion	% Change	RM Billion	% Change	RM Billion	% Change
REAL GDP (at constant 2015 prices)						
Agriculture	14,727.1	1.8	15,028.9	2.0	15,443.8	2.8
Mining & Quarrying	29,911.2	7.3	29,605.3	-1.0	30,260.6	2.2
Manufacturing	39,229.0	5.8	37,695.9	-3.9	39,564.7	5.0
Construction	4,671.3	4.0	5,059.1	8.3	5,499.5	8.7
Services	51,732.7	9.3	54,543.2	5.4	58,219.9	6.7
Plus : Import Duties	427.6	20.4	419.4	-1.9	435.4	3.8
GDP at Purchasers' Prices	140,698.8	6.9	142,351.8	1.2	149,424.0	5.0
GDP / CAPITA (RM)	81,342		72,411		80,788	

Source : DOSM, Economic Planning Unit Sarawak



Kuching Selatan is a dense urban hub with a strong commercial and logistics sector. Its economy is led by services and trade (50%), with contributions from manufacturing and construction. The city focuses on logistics, trade, and the digital economy to drive growth, attracting investment in smart city initiatives and green construction. With a labor force of 341,800 and an employment rate of 96.7%, it maintains economic stability. The median income is RM6,400, while average monthly expenditures reach RM5,900, reflecting a balanced cost of living within its growing urban landscape.

Kuching City Economic Growth

<p>Land Use and Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuching Selatan has denser urban development, supporting commercial activities and logistics. <p>Economic Pattern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuching Selatan's economy is led by services & trade (50%), with notable contributions from manufacturing and construction. Kuching Selatan is focusing on logistics, trade, and digital economy to enhance growth. <p>Investment Potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart city initiatives, digital economy, and green construction. 	<p>Mean Income</p> <p>RM7,800</p>	<p>Median Income</p> <p>RM6,400</p>	<p>Mean Expenditure</p> <p>RM5,900</p>
	<p>Labor Force</p> <p>341.8K</p>	<p>Employed</p> <p>330.5K</p>	<p>Unemployment Rate</p> <p>3.3%</p>
	<p><i>Source: DOSM (2022)</i></p>		

Kuching Selatan's Economic Growth
 Kuching Selatan's economy aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8, which promotes sustainable economic growth and decent work. The city's economy is driven by services and trade (50%), along with manufacturing and construction. With a low unemployment rate of 3.3% and a labor force of 341,800, economic stability is evident. However, as Kuching Selatan shifts toward logistics, trade, and the digital economy, ensuring inclusive job opportunities and sustainable growth is crucial, particularly for workers in traditional sectors who may struggle to transition into emerging industries.

Economic Challenges and Inequality
 Despite economic growth, income inequality and cost of living pressures remain significant. The mean income of RM7,800 is notably higher than the median RM6,400, indicating a gap between high earners and the general workforce. Meanwhile, a mean expenditure of RM5,900 suggests limited savings capacity, which raises concerns about financial security for lower-income groups. The shift toward a digital economy and automation may also risk job displacement, particularly for low-skilled workers. Rising living costs in the city could further widen socioeconomic disparities if wages do not keep pace with inflation.

Ongoing Initiatives to Bridge Economic Gaps
 To address these challenges, Kuching Selatan is investing in smart city initiatives, digital transformation, and green construction to create sustainable economic opportunities. Efforts to expand logistics and trade aim to boost job creation, while SME support programs and digital upskilling help businesses and workers adapt to economic shifts. Sustainable urban planning and green projects also ensure economic growth aligns with environmental goals.

Pathway to Sustainable and Inclusive Growth
 To bridge economic gaps, strengthening labor protections, wage policies, and access to digital education is essential. Encouraging inclusive financing for small businesses and green industry incentives will promote equitable growth. By integrating innovation, social equity, and sustainability, Kuching Selatan can achieve SDG 8's vision of sustained and inclusive economic progress.



Miri's economy is shaped by its strong reliance on oil and gas (35%), followed by services, manufacturing, and tourism. To ensure sustainable growth, the city is diversifying into green energy and eco-tourism. Investment opportunities lie in renewable energy, industrial automation, and tourism development. With a mean income of RM8,000 and median income of RM6,800, economic disparity exists, though spending remains moderate at RM5,800. A low unemployment rate of 3.0% reflects economic stability, but further efforts in economic diversification are needed to ensure long-term resilience beyond fossil fuel dependency.

Land Use and Economic

- Miri has more land allocated to oil, gas, and tourism, influencing its sectoral distribution

Economic Pattern

- Miri's economy is heavily dependent on oil & gas (35%), followed by services, manufacturing, and tourism.
- Miri is expanding into green energy and tourism to reduce reliance on oil & gas.

Investment Potential

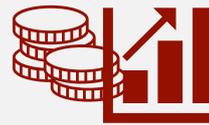
- Renewable energy, eco-tourism, and industrial automation

Mean Income



RM8,000

Median Income



RM6,800

Mean Expenditure



RM5,800

Labor Force



164.3K

Employed



159.3K

Unemployment Rate



3.0%

Miri's Economic Growth

Miri's economy is strongly influenced by oil and gas (35%), with additional contributions from services, manufacturing, and tourism. The city's economic structure reflects its historical dependence on fossil fuels, but a shift towards green energy and tourism is underway to ensure long-term sustainability. With a labour force of 164,300 and a low unemployment rate of 3.0%, Miri demonstrates economic resilience. However, balancing this transition requires strategic workforce development to equip workers with skills suited for emerging sectors like renewable energy and eco-tourism, reducing overreliance on the volatile oil and gas industry.

Economic Challenges and Inequality

Despite strong economic indicators, income disparity and expenditure patterns raise concerns. The mean income of RM8,000 is significantly higher than the median RM6,800, suggesting earnings are skewed towards higher-income groups. Meanwhile, the mean expenditure of RM5,800 indicates that many households may have limited disposable income, potentially constraining long-term financial security. Additionally, as Miri diversifies, traditional sector workers may face job displacement unless they are provided with upskilling programs and

alternative employment opportunities. The rising cost of living and urban expansion further exacerbate financial pressures on lower-income groups.

Ongoing Initiatives to Bridge Economic Gaps

To address these issues, Miri is investing in renewable energy, industrial automation, and eco-tourism. Government and private sector initiatives aim to expand green energy projects, reduce dependency on fossil fuels, and create new employment opportunities. Workforce retraining programs are being introduced to support labor market adaptability, while small business incentives encourage entrepreneurship in sustainable industries. Additionally, infrastructure investments in tourism aim to boost economic diversification.

Pathway to Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

For sustainable economic progress, Miri must strengthen inclusive workforce policies, wage protections, and digital literacy programs. Expanding green financing and SME support will ensure equitable participation in the evolving economy. By integrating innovation, sustainability, and workforce adaptability, Miri can achieve SDG 8's vision of resilient and inclusive economic growth.

Key Findings of SDG 8 for Sarawak City Council

Both Kuching Selatan and Miri demonstrate strong economic performance with low unemployment rates (3.3% and 3.0%, respectively) and growing service sectors. However, their economic structures and challenges differ, shaping their SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) roadmaps differently. By addressing economic disparities, job security, and sectoral transitions, both cities can advance SDG 8 while ensuring inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Kuching Selatan Progress

Kuching Selatan's economy is service and trade-driven (50%), with additional contributions from manufacturing and construction. Its shift toward logistics, trade, and the digital economy aligns with sustainable and high-value economic transformation. However, income disparity remains an issue, as seen in the mean income (RM7,800) exceeding the median (RM6,400), indicating a wage gap. Additionally, digitalization and automation pose risks of job displacement for low-skilled workers.

Proposed Way Forward

- Smart city and digital economy initiatives to drive sustainable job creation.
- Upskilling programs for traditional sector workers to integrate them into the evolving economy.
- Green construction projects to create long-term employment while promoting sustainable urban growth.

Miri Progress

Miri remains heavily dependent on oil and gas (35%), though efforts to diversify into green energy and tourism are underway. While Miri boasts a higher mean income (RM8,000) and median income (RM6,800) than Kuching Selatan, its economic reliance on fossil fuels makes long-term stability uncertain. The transition to renewable energy and eco-tourism presents challenges, especially for workers in traditional industries who require retraining.

Proposed Way Forward

- Renewable energy investments to reduce reliance on oil and gas.
- Eco-tourism development to create new employment opportunities.
- Industrial automation and workforce retraining to future-proof Miri's labor force.



Roles of City Councils in Sarawak for SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

City councils in Sarawak play a crucial role in fostering sustainable economic growth and promoting decent work in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8. However, local councils do not have direct control over economic policies such as labor laws, investment incentives, or industrial regulations, which are managed by federal and state agencies like the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Human Resources, and Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC). Despite these limitations, city councils serve as key facilitators in creating an environment that supports business growth, employment, and sustainable urban economic development.

Challenges in Economic Development Governance

City councils primarily manage urban infrastructure, land use, and licensing, but economic development is influenced by multiple stakeholders beyond their jurisdiction. The reliance on traditional industries such as oil and gas (Miri), trade and logistics (Kuching Selatan), and agriculture (other regions) poses challenges in economic diversification. Moreover, income disparity, job displacement due to automation, and the digital divide further widen economic gaps. City councils alone cannot implement macroeconomic strategies but can work collaboratively with relevant agencies to ensure inclusive growth.

Key Strategies for City Councils to Support SDG 8

Facilitating Business Growth & Investment

1. Streamline business licensing and approval processes.
2. Promote investment in sustainable industries such as renewable energy, eco-tourism, and green construction.

Enhancing Workforce Development

1. Collaborate with state agencies, universities, and industry leaders to provide upskilling programs.
2. Support digital literacy and vocational training for workers in traditional sectors.

Encouraging Sustainable Urban Economy

1. Implement smart city initiatives to boost innovation and entrepreneurship.
2. Support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with grants, advisory services, and business-friendly policies.

To ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth, city councils in Sarawak must intensify multi-level collaboration with government agencies, private sector players, and academic institutions. One key approach is policy alignment and

inter-governmental cooperation, where city councils work closely with state economic planners and federal ministries to address employment challenges, ensuring that local economic policies are integrated into broader national development frameworks. Strengthening coordination between local councils, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Human Resources, and regional development agencies can help bridge gaps in workforce development and job creation.

Additionally, fostering public-private partnerships (PPPs) is crucial for accelerating economic diversification. By partnering with industry leaders, city councils can attract investments in high-growth sectors, including digital economy, green energy, and sustainable tourism. Establishing economic incentives such as tax breaks, grants, and streamlined business regulations can encourage entrepreneurial activity and SME development, ultimately leading to more job opportunities and economic resilience.

Another critical focus is workforce upskilling and industry transition support, particularly for workers in traditional industries like oil and gas, manufacturing, and agriculture. City councils can facilitate skill-building programs in collaboration with universities, vocational training centers, and private sector stakeholders to prepare the local workforce for digital transformation and sustainable industries. Expanding training initiatives in automation, green technology, and digital services will enable a smoother transition into emerging sectors, reducing unemployment risks and economic inequality.

Lastly, city councils should adopt localized economic development strategies tailored to the strengths of each city. For instance, Kuching can strengthen its position as a digital innovation hub, while Miri can focus on eco-tourism and green energy. By leveraging local expertise and natural resources, city councils can drive sustainable economic growth while ensuring that no community is left behind in the development process.



Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Objective:

To build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Interrelation of Goal 9 with other SDGs



Overview of SDG 9 for Sarawak City Council

Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9) focuses on resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization, and innovation. Both Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Majlis Bandaraya Miri (MBM) have made strides in enhancing urban infrastructure and digital transformation. According to MURNInets 2024, MBM scored 88.32% and MBKS 81.77%, reflecting strong commitments to modernization and urban resilience.

MBKS has prioritized infrastructure upgrades, including road networks, drainage systems, and intelligent traffic management to reduce congestion. Investments in public transportation aim to enhance connectivity, while smart urban initiatives improve efficiency. MBM, under the Sarawak Digital Economy framework, has integrated IoT-based solutions for urban services, such as smart street lighting, security surveillance, and waste management.

To drive innovation, MBM launched the Miri Smart City Program, enhancing governance, service delivery, and disaster response through digital solutions. MBKS has digitized municipal services to streamline processes and improve public service efficiency. These efforts position Kuching and Miri as leading examples of sustainable urban development in Sarawak, aligning with SDG 9's goals of infrastructure resilience, technological advancement, and industrial growth.



SDG 2 (Zero Hunger): Infrastructure upgrades in MBM and MBKS support urban farming, supply chain efficiency, and food innovation hubs, improving food security and agricultural productivity.



SDG 14 (Life Below Water): Coastal infrastructure and sustainable aquaculture projects in MBM protect marine ecosystems, while MBKS enhances water treatment facilities to prevent industrial pollution.



SDG 15 (Life on Land): Smart infrastructure and green innovations in MBM and MBKS support reforestation, urban biodiversity, and sustainable land use, mitigating deforestation and urban heat.



SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being): Efficient transport and healthcare infrastructure in MBM and MBKS improve emergency response times, access to medical services, and air quality, enhancing public health.



KUCHING SOUTH CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA KUCHING SELATAN - MBKS)

Kuching South City Council (MBKS) is actively improving digital infrastructure and expanding smart city initiatives to support economic growth. However, high-speed internet access remains uneven, affecting businesses and education. Efforts to support SMEs through digitalization programs and innovation hubs have shown progress, but funding constraints slow adoption. Infrastructure upgrades, including road expansion and public transport modernization, are underway, yet traffic congestion persists due to increasing vehicle ownership.



MIRI CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA MIRI - MBM)

Miri City Council (MBM) is pushing for economic diversification beyond oil and gas, with investments in renewable energy and industrial innovation. However, green financing and private sector involvement remain limited. Public transport improvements, including electric bus pilots, are promising but face challenges in long-term funding and ridership uptake. Smart infrastructure, such as energy-efficient buildings and digital service integration, is growing, but the city needs stronger inter-agency coordination to maximize impact and sustainability.

Relationship of SDG 9 with other SDGs (Cont..)



SDG 4 (Quality Education): Innovation hubs and digital learning infrastructure in MBM and MBKS expand access to technical and vocational education, equipping youth with future-ready skills.



SDG 1 (No Poverty): Industrial diversification and smart infrastructure in MBM and MBKS create job opportunities, boosting economic growth and improving living conditions for low-income communities.



SDG 5 (Gender Equality): Inclusive infrastructure planning in MBM and MBKS ensures safer urban spaces, better mobility for women, and increased participation in STEM industries through innovation programs.



SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities): Improved transport and digital infrastructure in MBM and MBKS bridge urban-rural divides, enhancing access to economic and social opportunities.



SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation): Sustainable water infrastructure in MBM and MBKS improves wastewater management and water quality, ensuring reliable clean water access.



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy): Green energy infrastructure and industrial innovation in MBM and MBKS accelerate clean energy adoption, reducing carbon emissions and operational costs.



SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities): Smart infrastructure and resilient urban planning in MBM and MBKS enhance mobility, reduce congestion, and support climate adaptation efforts.



SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals): MBM and MBKS collaborate with industries, research institutions, and international organizations to drive innovation, infrastructure investment, and sustainable economic growth.



Sarawak prioritizes infrastructure and industrial growth for economic transformation, with notable progress in roads, industrial parks, and manufacturing. However, rural connectivity gaps and SME financing challenges persist. R&D and digital infrastructure are expanding but need more funding and collaboration. Green technology integration must improve. Strengthening rural infrastructure, SME support, and digital connectivity is key to achieving a resilient and sustainable industrial landscape under SDG 9.

Infrastructure Development

Sarawak has made steady progress in enhancing its road networks, transportation hubs, and industrial infrastructure. The government continues to invest in major highways, bridges, and industrial parks to improve connectivity and economic opportunities.

Key Developments:

- Expansion of major road networks linking rural and urban areas, improving logistics and accessibility.
- Increased investment in industrial parks, fostering economic growth and manufacturing hubs.
- Sustainability initiatives incorporated into infrastructure projects, including energy-efficient buildings and public transport upgrades.

Challenges in Infrastructure Development:

- Remaining gaps in rural connectivity – Some remote areas still lack access to well-developed roads.
- Funding constraints for large-scale projects – Infrastructure growth depends on consistent financial allocations.
- Need for more green infrastructure – Adoption of eco-friendly materials and technologies is increasing but remains limited.

Industrialization & Economic Growth

The industrial sector in Sarawak is experiencing steady growth, with positive trends in employment, exports, and SME expansion. However, access to financing for small businesses remains a challenge.

Key Developments:

- Manufacturing sector expansion – Increased production and higher demand for industrial exports.
- Strong SME growth – More businesses registered, contributing to employment.
- Rising foreign investments – More international companies investing in industrial projects.

Challenges in Infrastructure Development:

- Urban-rural disparities – Industries are concentrated in major cities, leaving rural areas with fewer job opportunities.
- Access to financing for SMEs – Small businesses still face challenges in obtaining loans.
- Need for more skilled workforce – The industrial sector requires more trained professionals and technical workers.

Table 5.2 : Infrastructure Data in Sarawak (2022-2023)

Category	2022	2023	Change (%)
Total Length of Paved Roads (km)	32,150	33,280	+3.5%
Number of New Bridges Completed	15	18	+20%
Industrial Parks Developed	5	6	+20%
Public Infrastructure Investment (RM Million)	4,500	5,200	+15.6%
Highway Construction Projects (Ongoing)	12	14	+16.7%
Port Expansion Projects (Completed)	2	3	+50%
Renewable Energy in Infrastructure (%)	30%	35%	+5%

Source : DOSM, Sarawak YB2023 - Table 09 Industry and Manufacturing

Table 5.3 : Infrastructure Data in Sarawak (2022-2023)

Category	2022	2023	Change (%)
Industrial Output (RM Billion)	62.4	68.9	+10.4%
Number of SMEs Registered	4,800	5,200	+8.3%
Manufacturing Sector Employment (Total Jobs)	130,000	135,500	+4.2%
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Industrial Sector (RM Million)	6,200	7,000	+12.9%
Total Number of Factories	850	910	+7%
Export Value of Industrial Goods (RM Billion)	45.8	50.3	+9.8%

Source : DOSM, Sarawak YB2023 - Table 09 Industry and Manufacturing



Kuching Selatan has seen significant progress in infrastructure, industry, and digital connectivity, supporting the goals of SDG 9. However, more localized data is needed to better assess its specific progress. Future investments should prioritize sustainability, smart infrastructure, and equitable digital access to ensure inclusive and resilient urban development.

Infrastructure and Transport Development

The increasing number of registered vehicles highlights the need for expanded road networks and improved public transportation. While public transport infrastructure remains limited, investments in road expansion and vehicle registration indicate ongoing efforts toward improving mobility.

Digital Connectivity and Innovation

The data indicate significant progress in digital connectivity, with household internet subscriptions rising from 39.7% in 2014 to 96.3% in 2019. This reflects increased digital accessibility, which is crucial for fostering innovation and economic transformation in Kuching.

Industrial Development

While the number of manufacturing establishments remains steady, there has been a sharp decline in approved investments from RM 2.29 billion in 2018 to RM 415.98 million in 2020. The decrease in foreign investments highlights the need for policies that attract international investors and strengthen industrial resilience.

Table 5.4 : Infrastructure and Transport Development in Kuching

Category	2018	2019	2020
Number of homestay clusters	10	10	10
Number of accommodation premises	80	173	141
Number of Desa Lestari villages	1	-	1
Cumulative number of registered motor vehicles (Sarawak)	621,003	630,813	n.a
Motorcars	305,964	308,249	n.a
Motorcycles	258,683	264,624	n.a
Public transport vehicles	1,953	1,981	n.a
Commercial vehicles	29,641	30,614	n.a
Other vehicles	24,762	25,345	n.a

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Table 5.5 : Digital Connectivity and Innovation in Kuching

Category	2014	2016	2019
Internet subscription at home (%)	39.7	77.4	96.3
Mobile phone ownership (%)	98.3	98.1	99.0
Pay TV channel subscription (%)	52.6	60.4	68.2

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Table 5.6 : Industrial Development

Category	2018	2019	2020
Value of approved manufacturing investments (RM '000)	2,297,530	1,238,369	415,977
Domestic investment (RM '000)	58,751	72,030	411,191
Foreign investment (RM '000)	2,238,779	1,166,339	4,786

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Infrastructure and Transport Development

The increase in CCTV installations in urban areas reflects efforts to enhance security and urban management, contributing to Target 9.1 (developing quality, reliable, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure).

Table 5.7 : Infrastructure and Transport Development in Kuching

Category	2018	2019	2020
CCTV in Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara	24	29	29
CCTV in Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan	109	177	167
CCTV in Majlis Daerah Padawan	-	3	3

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Kuching Selatan's development aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9, which emphasizes building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and fostering innovation. As a key urban area within Kuching, the city plays a crucial role in driving Sarawak's industrial and digital transformation. However, most available data represents Kuching as a whole, and the specific progress in Kuching Selatan may differ.

Infrastructure and Connectivity

Kuching has seen significant improvements in transportation infrastructure, particularly in road networks and public amenities. The number of accommodation premises has fluctuated, reflecting dynamic tourism and urban development trends. Additionally, surveillance infrastructure has expanded, with the local authorities increasing the number of closed-circuit television (CCTV) installations in public areas to enhance security and urban management.

Industrial Growth and Investment

The manufacturing sector in Kuching has experienced fluctuating investment trends, with both domestic and foreign investments contributing to economic expansion. However, there has been a sharp decline in approved manufacturing investments in recent years, particularly in foreign investments, which could impact the pace of industrialization. The One District One Industry (Satu Daerah Satu Industri) initiative aims to support small-scale industries, but data on its effectiveness remains unavailable for Kuching Selatan.

Digital Transformation and Innovation

Kuching has made steady progress in digital connectivity, with an increasing percentage of households subscribing to internet services. The number of community internet centers remains constant, ensuring access to digital resources. However, the absence of dedicated rural internet centers suggests that connectivity gaps persist outside the city's urban core. Pay TV subscriptions have also increased, indicating growing digital consumption trends.

Challenges

Despite these advancements, Kuching Selatan faces challenges in achieving fully inclusive and sustainable industrialization. The decline in foreign manufacturing investments, limited public transport infrastructure, and uneven digital access could hinder long-term progress.

Pathway to Sustainable Industrial Growth

To fully align with SDG 9, Kuching Selatan must refine its industrial and infrastructure policies to address these challenges. Targeted initiatives by State Government and several key agencies such as Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC), Ministry of Utilities and Telecommunications which include green industry incentives, enhanced public transport systems, and improved digital access can drive inclusive and sustainable growth. Strengthening research and development efforts, along with fostering innovation-driven enterprises, will be critical in positioning Kuching Selatan as a resilient and future-ready urban center.

Further refinement of data, especially specific to Kuching Selatan, is essential to provide a clearer assessment of its progress toward SDG 9. More granular analysis will help policymakers design better strategies to address infrastructure gaps, industrial challenges, and digital transformation needs in the city.



SDG 9 is pivotal to MBM's vision for sustainable development. By prioritizing infrastructure, industrial growth, and technological innovation, MBM can enhance economic competitiveness and improve the quality of life for its residents. Continued collaboration between the government, private sector, and the community will be essential in achieving these goals.

Infrastructure Development

Miri's road infrastructure is crucial for economic activities, particularly due to its role as a transit hub between Brunei and other parts of Sarawak. However, increasing vehicle ownership without substantial public transport improvements may lead to higher congestion and carbon emissions. Addressing this requires investment in alternative transportation, such as bus rapid transit (BRT) or enhanced cycling lanes.

Key Developments:

- **Motor Vehicle Growth:** The number of registered motor vehicles in Sarawak increased from 621,003 in 2018 to 630,813 in 2019. This trend suggests growing transportation demand and infrastructure needs, which likely impact Miri's urban planning and traffic congestion.
- **Public Transport:** Public transport vehicles in Sarawak grew marginally from 1,953 in 2018 to 1,981 in 2019, indicating slow progress in expanding sustainable mobility options in Miri.
- **Road Connectivity:** Ongoing investments in road networks aim to enhance connectivity between Miri and surrounding regions, improving economic opportunities and access to services.

Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity

Miri benefits from stable internet infrastructure, supporting e-commerce, digital education, and remote work opportunities. However, rural areas outside the city may still experience digital gaps. Expanding 5G networks and improving broadband coverage in peri-urban zones will be key in bridging this divide.

Key Developments:

- **Community Internet Centres:** The number of Pusat Internet Komuniti (Community Internet Centres) in Miri remains steady, ensuring digital access for underserved communities.
- **Household Internet Subscription:** The percentage of households in Sarawak with internet subscriptions increased significantly from 39.7% in 2014 to 96.3% in 2019, reflecting improved digital accessibility and affordability.

Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity

The decline in foreign investment in Sarawak's manufacturing sector, including Miri, raises concerns about industrial growth. To counteract this, policies promoting green and high-tech industries can attract sustainable investments. Miri's proximity to Brunei and its role as an oil and gas hub provide opportunities for economic diversification into renewable energy and advanced manufacturing.

Table 5.8 : Infrastructure Development in Miri

Category	2018	2019
Cumulative registered motor vehicles (Sarawak)	621,003	630,813
Public transport vehicles (Sarawak)	1,953	1,981

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Table 5.9 : Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity in Miri

Category	2014	2016	2019
Internet subscription at home (%)	39.7	77.4	96.3
Mobile phone ownership (%)	98.3	98.1	99.0
Pay TV subscription (%)	52.6	60.4	68.2

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Table 5.10 : Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity

Category	2018	2019	2020
Approved investment in manufacturing (RM '000)	2,297,530	1,238,369	415,977
Domestic investment (RM '000)	58,751	72,030	411,191
Foreign investment (RM '000)	2,238,779	1,166,339	4,786

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Miri, Sarawak's second-largest city, plays a pivotal role in advancing SDG 9, which focuses on resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization, and innovation. Traditionally an oil and gas hub, Miri is now expanding its economic base into manufacturing, digital technology, and smart urban development. However, challenges in public transport, investment diversification, and digital transformation must be addressed to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth.

Infrastructure and Connectivity

Miri has made significant progress in infrastructure development, particularly in road networks and urban facilities. The Pan Borneo Highway has improved regional connectivity, reducing travel times and enhancing logistics efficiency. However, public transport remains underdeveloped, with a heavy reliance on private vehicles and limited availability of buses, cycling lanes, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure. Unlike Kuching, Miri has yet to adopt sustainable public transport initiatives such as hydrogen buses.

Urban security has improved through the installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras in key areas, helping local authorities enhance safety and traffic monitoring. However, a comprehensive smart city framework is still lacking, limiting the full potential of digital governance and AI-driven urban planning.

Industrial Growth and Investment

Miri's industrial landscape continues to be dominated by oil and gas, but efforts to diversify into manufacturing, tourism, and technology have gained momentum. The Samalaju Industrial Park near Bintulu has attracted investment, yet Miri itself has seen fluctuating investment trends, particularly in manufacturing. Foreign direct investment (FDI) has declined, raising concerns about the sustainability of industrial growth.

Initiatives such as One District One Industry (Satu Daerah Satu Industri) aim to promote local businesses and SMEs, but challenges remain in scaling up production, accessing global markets, and transitioning into high-value industries. Advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, and green technology sectors need stronger incentives to ensure economic diversification and resilience.

Digital Transformation and Innovation

Miri has potential as a technology and education hub, with Curtin University Malaysia playing a key role in digital skills development. However, investment in research and development (R&D) remains low, limiting the city's ability to attract high-tech industries, digital startups, and innovation-driven enterprises. To accelerate digital transformation, Miri requires a Smart Miri Blueprint, focusing on AI integration, big data analytics, smart traffic systems, and e-governance solutions.

Challenges and Path Forward

Miri faces several critical challenges that must be addressed for sustainable industrial and infrastructure growth:

- Declining Foreign Investment – A lack of new FDI in manufacturing threatens industrial expansion.
- Overdependence on Oil and Gas – Limited economic diversification poses long-term risks.
- Weak Public Transport System – The city lacks efficient, sustainable mobility solutions.
- Uneven Digital Access – 5G rollout and broadband expansion need acceleration.
- Low R&D and Innovation Investment – Startup ecosystems and high-tech industries remain underdeveloped.

To overcome these challenges, Miri could implement strategic interventions:

- Expand Green and High-Tech Industries – Incentivize renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, and digital economy sectors.
- Improve Public Transport Infrastructure – Introduce bus rapid transit (BRT), cycling lanes, and smart mobility solutions.
- Accelerate Digital Growth – Expand 5G networks, fiber broadband, and rural connectivity initiatives.
- Strengthen Innovation Ecosystem – Increase funding for R&D, startup incubation, and industry-university collaboration.
- Develop a Smart City Plan – Integrate smart governance, AI-driven urban planning, and big data analytics into city management

Miri stands at a crossroads between traditional industries and emerging digital opportunities. While infrastructure and industrialization efforts have progressed, key challenges in transport, digital transformation, and economic diversification remain. By adopting sustainable policies, fostering innovation, and enhancing connectivity, Miri can transition into a resilient, future-ready economic hub that aligns with SDG 9 goals.

Key Findings of SDG 9 for Sarawak City Council

Both Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Miri (MBM) are advancing toward SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) with significant infrastructure improvements and economic growth. However, their industrial landscapes and digital transformation strategies differ, requiring tailored approaches to sustainable development. Addressing investment diversification, smart urban planning, and digital inclusion will be key to ensuring long-term resilience and innovation-driven growth.

Kuching Selatan Progress

Kuching Selatan is evolving into a logistics, trade, and digital economy hub, leveraging its well-developed infrastructure and service sector. The Pan Borneo Highway and smart urban initiatives are enhancing connectivity, while CCTV installations and digital governance efforts are improving security and efficiency. However, the city faces declining foreign manufacturing investments and uneven digital access in suburban areas.

Foreign Factory Expansions in Kuching (Sama Jaya Free Industrial Zone)

Company	Industry	Recent Activity
Taiyo Yuden	Electronics (MLCC Capacitors)	Expanded production (2023-2024)
Western Digital (WD)	Hard Disk Drives (HDD)	Maintaining operations despite global HDD slowdown
X-FAB Sarawak	Semiconductor Manufacturing	Key player in Sarawak's chip supply chain
PPES Solar	Solar Panel Production	Part of Sarawak's renewable energy push

Proposed Way Forward

- Strengthen high-tech and green industries to attract sustainable investments.]Expand smart mobility solutions, including public transport and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.
- Enhance digital inclusion programs to bridge connectivity gaps in underserved communities.

Miri Progress

Miri remains a major oil and gas hub, though diversification efforts into manufacturing, tourism, and renewable energy are gaining traction. The Pan Borneo Highway has improved logistics, but public transport remains underdeveloped. While Miri is progressing in digital transformation, challenges persist in rural connectivity and startup ecosystem growth. Investment fluctuations, especially in manufacturing and technology sectors, highlight the need for strategic economic diversification.

Proposed Way Forward

- Develop a Smart Miri Blueprint to integrate AI, big data, and smart governance.
- Expand renewable energy investments to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.
- Accelerate digital infrastructure growth, particularly fibre broadband and 5G expansion.



Roles of City Councils in Sarawak for SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

City councils in Sarawak play a pivotal role in supporting sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation, and improving infrastructure to align with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9. However, industrial policies, major infrastructure development, and technological advancements fall under the jurisdiction of federal and state agencies such as the Ministry of Works, Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), and Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation (SDEC). Despite these limitations, city councils act as key enablers by facilitating business growth, smart city development, and resilient infrastructure planning.

Challenges in Infrastructure and Innovation Governance

City councils primarily oversee local road networks, urban planning, and basic utilities, but larger infrastructure projects require inter-agency collaboration. Challenges include inadequate digital infrastructure in rural areas, limited funding for smart city initiatives, and slow adoption of green technology in industries. Additionally, the lack of integration between local, state, and federal planning hampers coordinated industrial growth.

Key Strategies for City Councils to Support SDG 9

Enhancing Urban Infrastructure

1. Improve road networks and public transportation systems.
2. Facilitate the development of smart infrastructure projects.
3. Fostering Technological Innovation
4. Support startup incubators and innovation hubs.

Promote digitalization in small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

1. Encouraging Sustainable Industrialization
2. Advocate for the adoption of green technology and low-carbon industries.
3. Strengthen partnerships with research institutions and private sector players.

The collaboration between local councils, MPHLG, state agencies, and federal ministries is essential in developing resilient infrastructure, fostering innovation, and driving industrial transformation. Local councils act as the primary implementers of national policies, ensuring that infrastructure projects align with the economic and social needs of their respective cities. Through

MPHLG's partnership with the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of International Trade, Industry and Investment Sarawak (MINTRED), local councils receive financial and technical support to develop industrial zones, smart infrastructure, and digital connectivity projects.

Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are crucial in advancing infrastructure and innovation, and local councils serve as facilitators of these collaborations. By working with MPHLG, MDEC (Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation), and MITI (Ministry of Investment, Trade, and Industry), city councils can attract investors, provide incentives for digital transformation, and implement smart city solutions. This partnership enhances the development of sustainable urban infrastructure that supports high-tech industries and SMEs, ensuring economic competitiveness at both national and local levels.

Workforce upskilling and industry transition support require strong engagement from local councils, as they oversee the implementation of training centers, education hubs, and industrial transformation projects. MPHLG, in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resources and vocational training institutions, ensures that councils have the resources to equip workers with digital and green technology skills. This is crucial in preparing urban and rural communities for the future economy, allowing local industries to transition towards sustainability and innovation.

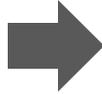
Localized economic development strategies driven by MBKS (Kuching South City Council) enhance urban resilience and industrial sustainability in Sarawak's capital region. Supported by the Ministry of Local Government and Housing Sarawak (MLGH), MBKS is strategically positioning Kuching as a smart city and regional economic hub by capitalizing on Sarawak's unique advantages. By aligning economic policies with Sarawak's digital transformation agenda and green energy leadership - demonstrating how local councils can drive sustainable urbanization in line with state and national development goal shorter



Sustainable Cities and Communities

Objective:

To create inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities by improving housing, infrastructure, public transport, and urban planning while preserving cultural heritage and reducing environmental impact.



SDG 11 is closely connected to several other SDGs, forming a comprehensive framework for sustainable development. It links to SDG 3 (Good Health) through green spaces that promote well-being, to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by providing affordable housing for low-income families, and to SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) through energy-efficient buildings and green transport. It also ties to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by focusing on resilient infrastructure and disaster preparedness, and to SDG 15 (Life on Land) through the preservation of cultural heritage and green spaces to maintain biodiversity in urban areas.

Overview of SDG 11 for Sarawak City Council

SDG 11 emphasizes making cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Both Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Majlis Bandaraya Miri (MBM) have undertaken initiatives to enhance urban livability. According to MURNInets 2024, MBM scored 88.32% and MBKS 81.77%, indicating significant progress in sustainable urban planning. MBKS has focused on green public spaces and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, improving walkability and community well-being. MBM has implemented disaster risk reduction strategies, including flood mitigation and resilient housing projects, ensuring urban resilience against climate-related challenges.

Public transportation and waste management are key aspects of their sustainability efforts. MBKS is expanding public transit accessibility and integrating smart urban mobility solutions, while MBM promotes transit-oriented development to reduce car dependency. Both cities are also strengthening urban governance through digital initiatives to improve service delivery and citizen engagement.

Through these efforts, MBKS and MBM are progressing towards SDG 11's goals, ensuring sustainable urban development that balances environmental conservation, social inclusivity, and economic growth. Their focus on resilient infrastructure and adaptive urban policies positions them as leaders in Sarawak's transition to sustainable cities.



SDG 1 (No Poverty):

Sustainable urban development in MBM and MBKS plays a crucial role in reducing poverty by ensuring access to affordable housing, reliable infrastructure, and essential services. MBM is expanding low-cost housing projects to provide safe and dignified living conditions for low-income groups, while MBKS integrates inclusive urban policies that improve accessibility to public transportation and economic centers. The development of pedestrian-friendly infrastructure and better connectivity between residential areas and employment hubs increases economic opportunities for marginalized communities, reducing urban poverty and enhancing social mobility.



SDG 2 (Zero Hunger):

MBM and MBKS support urban farming, hydroponics, and community gardens as part of their food security initiatives. By utilizing vacant urban spaces for sustainable agriculture, these cities enhance local food production while creating employment opportunities in the agro-industry. Better road infrastructure and market accessibility improve the distribution of fresh produce, reducing food wastage and ensuring affordable food supply for vulnerable populations. Additionally, government support for small-scale farmers and urban agribusinesses fosters local economic growth while promoting sustainable land use.



KUCHING SOUTH CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA KUCHING SELATAN - MBKS)

MBKS is addressing rapid urbanization by expanding affordable housing, green spaces, and micro mobility projects. However, rising property costs and limited land availability create challenges for equitable urban growth. Public transport remains underutilized, with last-mile connectivity issues and reliance on private vehicles contributing to congestion. Waste management initiatives, including smart bin systems and community recycling programs, have made progress, but illegal dumping and low participation in waste separation remain concerns.



MIRI CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA MIRI - MBM)

MBM is enhancing climate-resilient urban planning, yet coastal erosion and extreme weather events pose increasing risks. Public transport improvements and pedestrian-friendly zones are in development, but walkability and accessibility gaps persist. Housing affordability remains a challenge, especially as rental prices rise. Waste management reforms are ongoing, but inconsistent enforcement of waste separation policies affects progress. Stronger policies are needed to improve disaster preparedness and urban sustainability, ensuring Miri remains a livable and resilient city.

Relationship of SDG 11 with other SDGs (Cont..)



SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being):

Well-planned cities in MBM and MBKS promote health through green spaces, walkability, and efficient public transport, reducing pollution and traffic-related illnesses. Compact urban planning also ensures access to healthcare, emergency services, and disaster-resilient infrastructure.

SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation):

Proper sanitation and water management in MBM and MBKS reduce disease risks. Sustainable drainage and modern wastewater treatment improve urban hygiene, crucial in densely populated areas.



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy):

Sustainable energy solutions contribute to improved healthcare services. Hospitals in MBM and MBKS benefit from stable electricity through renewable energy integration, ensuring uninterrupted medical services. Additionally, clean energy reduces air pollution, minimizing respiratory diseases and improving overall public health. Energy-efficient buildings and cooling solutions also create healthier indoor environments for residents.



SDG 13 (Climate Action):

Climate change directly affects public health, with rising temperatures and extreme weather events increasing health risks in MBM and MBKS. Heatwave mitigation strategies, such as tree-planting initiatives and cooling shelters, help prevent heat-related illnesses. Disaster preparedness measures ensure communities are resilient against climate-related health crises, such as dengue outbreaks linked to changing rainfall patterns.



SDG 15 (Life on Land) :

Urban biodiversity in MBM and MBKS improves air quality and mental health. Protecting natural habitats within city limits prevents disease outbreaks and supports sustainable urban development.



Kuching Selatan, a vibrant and culturally rich urban center, plays a crucial role in Sarawak's sustainable urban development agenda. As the city grows, efforts to enhance infrastructure, improve public transport, and create inclusive spaces remain essential to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11). This report examines the progress of SDG 11 in Kuching Selatan, analyzing key initiatives, challenges, and opportunities in making the city more livable, resilient, and environmentally sustainable.

Affordable Housing

Housing affordability is a growing concern in Kuching Selatan, especially for lower-income families.

Key Outcome:

- The demand for PPR housing exceeds supply.
- Additional funding and policy reforms are required to meet growing housing demands.

Public Transport

Public transport in Kuching Selatan is improving but still faces challenges.

- **Key Outcome:** 150 operational buses provide better coverage than Miri, but demand still exceeds supply.
- The planned ART system could significantly improve urban mobility.

Tourism and Recreational

Kuching Selatan has a strong cultural and eco-tourism sector and offers various recreational areas that support urban sustainability.

Key Outcome:

- Cultural festivals and nature tourism have helped recovery efforts.
- Investment in park maintenance and expansion is necessary.

Table 5.11 : Affordable Housing in Kuching Selatan, 2023

Program	Number of Units	Target Group	Status
PR1MA	1,320	Middle-income households	Completed
SPNB	-	Low-income households	-
PPR	439	Low-income households, B40 group	Completed

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Table 5.12 : Public Transport in Kuching Selatan, 2023

Transport Mode	Number of Vehicles	Coverage Area	Status
Buses	150	Urban & Suburban	Expanding
Taxis	60	City-wide	Declining
E-hailing	Increasing	City-wide	Expanding

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Table 5.13 : Tourism Statistics in Kuching Selatan, 2023

Year	Tourist Arrivals	Hotel Occupancy Rate (%)	Revenue (RM Million)
2019	2,000,000	80%	600
2020	900,000	55%	300
2021	700,000	45%	210

Table 5.14 : Recreational Facilities in Kuching Selatan, 2023

Facility	Location	Features
Friendship Park	Urban area	Chinese garden, jogging track
Sama Jaya Nature Reserve	Sub-urban area	Hiking trails, wildlife conservation

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats DP Kuching, 2023

Notes: The available data represent Kuching District as a whole and may not directly reflect the specific progress of Kuching Selatan

Kuching Selatan, a key urban center in Sarawak, has made substantial progress in sustainable urban development, yet faces ongoing challenges related to housing demand, transportation infrastructure, and environmental conservation. As urbanization accelerates, strategic planning and policy interventions are necessary to sustain the city's growth while ensuring inclusivity and environmental resilience.

Affordable Housing and Inclusive Urban Development

The demand for affordable housing in Kuching Selatan remains high, particularly among low- and middle-income groups. While PR1MA, SPNB, and PPR projects have improved access to housing, rapid urban growth continues to drive property prices upward.

To create more inclusive housing solutions, the government should implement stricter regulations on speculative property investment and encourage rent-to-own schemes. Expanding transit-oriented development (TOD) projects near residential areas can enhance affordability by reducing transportation costs.

Public Transport and Urban Mobility

Kuching Selatan's transport system has improved with increased bus routes, but service reliability remains a concern. The long-awaited ART system has faced delays, leaving residents dependent on private cars. Traffic congestion is a growing issue, particularly in commercial zones.

The city should accelerate the development of the ART system and invest in micro-mobility solutions such as electric scooters and bike-sharing programs. Creating pedestrian-friendly streets and integrating smart traffic management systems can also enhance urban mobility.

Tourism and Post-Pandemic Economic Revival

As a cultural and economic hub, Kuching Selatan attracts tourists to destinations such as the Kuching Waterfront, Sarawak Cultural Village, and heritage sites. The pandemic led to a decline in visitor numbers, affecting local businesses.

To strengthen tourism resilience, the city must promote digital tourism campaigns, establish more sustainable tourism packages, and enhance connectivity between tourism hotspots. Supporting local artisans and food businesses can further enrich the visitor experience.

Green Spaces and Sustainable Urban Planning

Parks such as Friendship Park and Sama Jaya Nature Reserve are vital to Kuching Selatan's livability, offering recreational spaces and environmental benefits. However, urban expansion puts pressure on these green areas.

Implementing green infrastructure policies, such as urban forests and water-sensitive urban design (WSUD), can ensure the sustainability of Kuching's green spaces. Strengthening climate adaptation measures through flood mitigation projects and sustainable drainage systems will also enhance urban resilience.

Challenges and Path Forward

- **Housing Demand vs. Supply:** A combination of rent-to-own schemes and TOD projects can improve affordability.
- **Public Transport Gaps:** Fast-tracking the BRT project and investing in micro-mobility is essential.
- **Tourism Dependency:** Promoting digital tourism and local entrepreneurship can enhance economic stability.
- **Green Space Conservation:** Policies must prioritize environmental sustainability alongside urban growth.

By implementing these recommendations, Kuching Selatan can further its progress toward SDG 11, fostering a city that is not only livable but also sustainable and economically resilient.



Miri, known as the “Oil Town of Malaysia,” has experienced significant urban growth driven by its role in the oil and gas industry, tourism, and commerce. As the city continues to expand, ensuring sustainable urban development has become a priority. Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) emphasizes the need for inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities. This report explores Miri’s progress toward SDG 11, focusing on key areas such as affordable housing, public transportation, tourism infrastructure, and green spaces, while addressing the challenges and opportunities that come with rapid urbanization.

Affordable Housing

Affordable housing remains a critical concern in Miri due to increasing urban migration and rising property costs. Several government initiatives address housing affordability:

Key Outcome:

- PR1MA (Perumahan Rakyat 1Malaysia) aims at providing affordable homes for middle-income families. While ongoing, supply constraints remain.
- SPNB (Syarikat Perumahan Negara Berhad) has successfully delivered housing units for low-income groups.
- PPR (People’s Housing Program) serves the B40 group, but demand continues to exceed supply, indicating a need for policy adjustments and increased funding.

Public Transport

Public transport in Miri faces challenges due to the city’s reliance on private vehicles and limited public transportation options.

Key Outcome:

- The availability of only 120 buses is inadequate for the urban population.
- Taxis are in decline due to competition from e-hailing services such as Grab.
- Investments in Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and non-motorized transport options could enhance sustainability.

Tourism and Recreational

Miri is a major tourism hub, but its tourism sector has been impacted by external factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Public recreational spaces contribute to urban sustainability and community well-being.

Key Outcome:

- Tourist arrivals significantly declined due to the pandemic.
- The local government has focused on eco-tourism and cultural tourism to aid recovery.
- Maintenance and accessibility improvements are required to maximize public use.

Table 5.15 : Affordable Housing in Miri, 2023

Program	Number of Units	Target Group	Status
PR1MA	-	Middle-income households	Ongoing
SPNB	1,725	Low-income households	Completed
PPR	505	Low-income households, B40 group	Ongoing

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Table 5.16 : Public Transport in Miri, 2023

Transport Mode	Number of Vehicles	Coverage Area	Status
Buses	120	Urban & Suburban	Insufficient
Taxis	75	City-wide	Declining
E-hailing	Increasing	City-wide	Expanding

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Table 5.17 : Tourism Statistic in Miri, 2023

Year	Tourist Arrivals	Hotel Occupancy Rate (%)	Revenue (RM Million)
2019	1,500,000	75%	500
2020	800,000	50%	250
2021	600,000	40%	180

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Table : Recreational Facilities in Miri, 2023

Facility	Location	Features
Miri City Fan	City Center	Amphitheater, jogging track
Canada Hill	Outskirts	Hiking trails, oil museum
Taman Awam Miri	Urban area	Playground, water park

Source : DOSM, My Local Stats Miri, 2023

Miri, Sarawak's second-largest city, is making significant progress in advancing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11, which focuses on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. As an emerging economic hub, Miri faces challenges in urban expansion, housing affordability, transportation inefficiencies, and the need for enhanced green spaces. Addressing these issues requires a multi-stakeholder approach involving government agencies, private sector investment, and community engagement to ensure a well-planned and livable urban environment.

Affordable Housing and Urban Livability

Housing affordability in Miri is a pressing issue as population growth and economic activities drive housing demand. Many middle-income earners struggle to purchase homes due to rising property prices. Government-led initiatives such as PR1MA and SPNB have sought to bridge the housing gap, with PR1MA focusing on middle-income groups while SPNB and the People's Housing Program (PPR) cater to low-income households. However, challenges persist, including land scarcity and escalating construction costs.

To promote inclusivity, urban planners must integrate mixed-income housing projects that combine social housing with commercial developments. Additionally, smart land use policies should be enforced to optimize available land for affordable housing. Strategic partnerships with private developers can also encourage the construction of more low-cost and mid-range housing units.

Public Transport and Mobility Challenges

Public transportation in Miri is limited, with residents heavily relying on private vehicles, taxis, and e-hailing services. The city lacks an efficient bus system, and there is no existing mass transit infrastructure. This has resulted in increased traffic congestion, especially in commercial districts and during peak hours. Additionally, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure remain underdeveloped, further limiting sustainable mobility options.

To improve urban mobility, Miri should explore a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, similar to those implemented in other developing cities. The integration of electric buses and park-and-ride facilities could help reduce congestion and lower carbon emissions. Furthermore, expanding walkways, bike lanes, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure would enhance accessibility and promote sustainable travel options.

Tourism and Economic Recovery

Tourism plays a pivotal role in Miri's economy, with key attractions such as Niah Caves, Lambir Hills National Park, and the South China Sea's diving spots drawing visitors. However, the COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted the tourism industry, causing business closures and economic losses.

Post-pandemic recovery efforts have focused on promoting eco-tourism and heritage tourism. Sustainable tourism strategies, including digital marketing campaigns, improved tourist facilities, and partnerships with travel agencies, can help rejuvenate the sector. Incentivizing local entrepreneurs to develop community-based tourism projects will further diversify Miri's tourism offerings.

Green and Recreational Spaces for Sustainable Living

Urban green spaces in Miri, such as Miri City Fan and Taman Awam Miri, play a crucial role in promoting well-being and environmental sustainability. These public parks provide recreational spaces, improve air quality, and mitigate the urban heat island effect. However, increasing urbanization threatens the preservation and expansion of such green areas.

The city should adopt urban greening policies, such as integrating vertical gardens, rooftop gardens, and tree-planting initiatives into urban development plans. Additionally, leveraging smart technology for park maintenance and sustainability tracking can ensure long-term benefits for the community.

Challenges and Path Forward

- **Housing Shortages:** A more integrated housing strategy is needed to balance affordability and accessibility.
- **Public Transport Deficiencies:** Investments in mass transit and non-motorized transport infrastructure are crucial.
- **Tourism Resilience:** Diversification and eco-tourism should be prioritized to reduce economic vulnerability.
- **Green Space Protection:** Sustainable urban planning must include green infrastructure policies.

By addressing these challenges, Miri can transition into a more sustainable and resilient city, aligning with SDG 11 goals.

Key Findings of SDG 11 for Sarawak City Council

Both Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Miri (MBM) are making progress toward SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by improving access to affordable housing, enhancing urban mobility, and strengthening tourism development. However, both cities face unique challenges in ensuring equitable housing, efficient public transport, and sustainable tourism growth. Addressing these issues through strategic investments in inclusive housing policies, integrated transportation networks, and eco-friendly tourism initiatives will be key to fostering long-term urban resilience.

Kuching Selatan Progress

Kuching Selatan is advancing its affordable housing initiatives, particularly through public-private partnerships and state-funded housing projects. However, challenges remain in meeting the growing demand for affordable homes, especially for lower-income groups. Rising property prices and land scarcity within the city have pushed many residents to suburban areas, increasing the need for improved connectivity.

Urban transport in Kuching Selatan is heavily dependent on private vehicles, with limited public transport options. While some efforts have been made to introduce smart mobility solutions, such as improved bus routes and pedestrian-friendly initiatives, the absence of an efficient, integrated transit system limits accessibility. Expanding sustainable mobility solutions is crucial to reducing congestion and enhancing urban liveability.

As the gateway to Sarawak's cultural and eco-tourism destinations, Kuching Selatan has strengthened its tourism sector through heritage conservation, waterfront redevelopment, and eco-tourism initiatives. However, the need for better tourism infrastructure and more sustainable tourism policies remains. Investments in green tourism practices, including low-impact travel options and digital tourism platforms, will be necessary to ensure long-term economic and environmental benefits.

Proposed Way Forward

- Expand affordable housing projects with a focus on social housing and inclusive development.
- Develop an integrated public transport system, including bus rapid transit (ART) and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.
- Strengthen sustainable tourism initiatives, including eco-tourism and digital tourism promotion.

Miri Progress

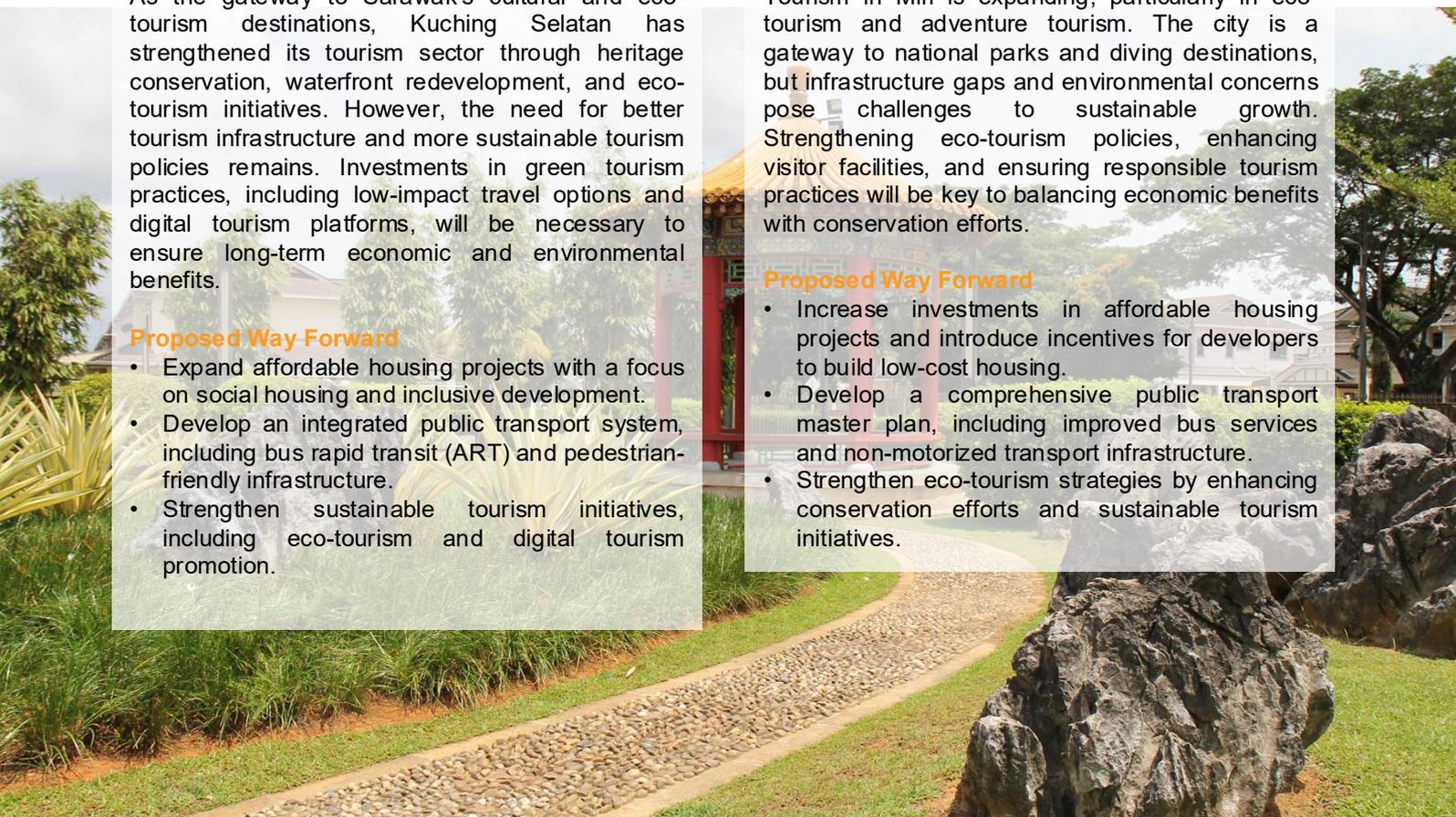
Miri faces a growing demand for affordable housing due to its expanding population and economic growth. While state-led housing projects aim to address this issue, rising land and construction costs have made homeownership increasingly difficult for middle- and lower-income groups. More inclusive housing policies and incentives for developers to build affordable units are needed to bridge this gap.

Public transport in Miri remains underdeveloped, with heavy reliance on private vehicles. The absence of efficient bus services and non-motorized transport infrastructure, such as cycling lanes and walkable city centers, contributes to traffic congestion and limited mobility for lower-income residents. Implementing a more sustainable and inclusive urban transport system is critical to reducing car dependency.

Tourism in Miri is expanding, particularly in eco-tourism and adventure tourism. The city is a gateway to national parks and diving destinations, but infrastructure gaps and environmental concerns pose challenges to sustainable growth. Strengthening eco-tourism policies, enhancing visitor facilities, and ensuring responsible tourism practices will be key to balancing economic benefits with conservation efforts.

Proposed Way Forward

- Increase investments in affordable housing projects and introduce incentives for developers to build low-cost housing.
- Develop a comprehensive public transport master plan, including improved bus services and non-motorized transport infrastructure.
- Strengthen eco-tourism strategies by enhancing conservation efforts and sustainable tourism initiatives.



Roles of City Councils in Sarawak for SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

City councils in Sarawak are at the forefront of urban development, ensuring cities are inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable in alignment with SDG 11. While overarching urban policies are governed by agencies like PLANMalaysia and the Sarawak Planning Authority, local councils play a crucial role in implementing urban zoning, housing regulations, and waste management strategies. They oversee infrastructure development, improve public transportation systems, and enhance green spaces to promote sustainable urban living. Additionally, local councils are responsible for disaster risk reduction measures, ensuring flood mitigation systems and climate-resilient infrastructure are in place. They also engage with communities to foster participatory urban planning, ensuring that development initiatives address the needs of residents. By integrating smart city technologies and promoting sustainable building practices, Sarawak's city councils contribute to long-term urban resilience and economic growth while reducing environmental impact.

Challenges in Urban Sustainability Governance

Rapid urbanization in cities like Kuching and Miri has led to housing affordability concerns, traffic congestion, and environmental degradation. Additionally, inadequate public transport systems and inefficient land-use planning hinder sustainable urban development.

Key Strategies for City Councils to Support SDG 11

Improving Urban Mobility & Public Spaces

1. Expand and enhance public transportation options.
2. Develop green spaces and pedestrian-friendly urban areas.
3. Promoting Affordable & Sustainable Housing
4. Implement policies to encourage mixed-income housing projects.

Strengthen building codes for energy-efficient developments.

1. Enhancing Disaster Resilience & Waste Management
2. Improve flood mitigation infrastructure.
3. Adopt circular economy approaches in waste management.

MPHLG plays a pivotal role in ensuring that local councils develop safe, inclusive, and resilient cities, with local councils leading the implementation of housing policies, transportation planning, and urban resilience strategies. Through partnerships with MUDeNR (Malaysia Urban Development and Resilience Network), state planning authorities, and the Ministry of Transport, MPHLG provides funding and technical support for local councils to enhance public transport, urban greening, and smart

city solutions. City councils are responsible for integrating these policies into their urban planning frameworks, ensuring that urban growth remains sustainable and equitable.

To enhance urban livability, local councils actively implement green city initiatives and climate-responsive infrastructure under MPH LG's Low Carbon Cities Framework (LCCF). By working closely with MGTC (Malaysia Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation) and state governments, councils introduce green building standards, eco-parks, and sustainable drainage systems. These efforts directly improve urban air quality, enhance public spaces, and mitigate climate risks, creating healthier, more resilient cities.

Community-driven urban planning is a key priority, and local councils serve as the primary touchpoints for resident engagement. MPH LG encourages councils to adopt participatory urban governance models, ensuring that housing projects, transport policies, and zoning regulations reflect community needs and aspirations. By working with grassroots organizations, academic institutions, and private developers, councils foster inclusive urban environments that balance economic, social, and environmental priorities.

Sustainable mobility is central to urban development, with local councils responsible for expanding public transportation networks, pedestrian-friendly streets, and cycling infrastructure. MPH LG works with the Ministry of Transport and state transit agencies to provide funding and technical assistance, but the execution is led by city councils, which oversee the construction of transit hubs, regulation of public transport services, and development of EV charging networks. These initiatives make cities more accessible, less congested, and environmentally sustainable.



Responsible Consumption and Production

Objective:

To ensure sustainable consumption and production by promoting resource efficiency, reducing waste, adopting eco-friendly practices, and encouraging responsible behavior across industries and communities for a sustainable future.



SDG 12 has strong linkages with other SDGs, promoting an integrated approach to achieving sustainability. SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) aligns with SDG 12 as sustainable energy production requires efficient use of resources and minimized environmental impact. Similarly, SDG 13 (Climate Action) is directly connected, as responsible consumption and production contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change effects. SDG 15 (Life on Land) also complements SDG 12 through efforts to conserve biodiversity, prevent deforestation, and maintain ecological balance. SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) is closely related, as the transition to sustainable production methods supports job creation in green industries. Lastly, SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) ties into SDG 12 by promoting efficient water use and reducing pollution in water systems.

Overview of SDG 12 for Sarawak City Council

SDG 12 promotes sustainable consumption and production patterns, and both MBKS and MBM have taken steps to reduce environmental impact. MBKS has introduced waste reduction programs, encouraging circular economy principles through community participation and business engagement. MBM, meanwhile, has implemented resource efficiency initiatives, particularly in construction and industrial sectors, to minimize material waste and energy consumption.

Sustainable waste management remains a priority. MBKS has expanded its recycling and composting programs, targeting household and commercial waste. MBM is developing an integrated waste management complex under the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, focusing on waste-to-energy solutions and landfill management. These initiatives align with national sustainability targets and global climate commitments.

Both cities are also promoting sustainable procurement policies within local governance, ensuring public projects incorporate eco-friendly materials and green technologies. By fostering responsible consumption and production, MBKS and MBM contribute to reducing environmental footprints while supporting long-term urban sustainability.



SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation):

Sustainable waste management in MBM and MBKS prevents water contamination, ensuring clean water sources. Circular economy initiatives reduce industrial pollutants, preserving urban water quality.



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy):

Green industry practices and energy-efficient production methods in MBM and MBKS reduce energy waste. Adoption of renewable energy in businesses and public facilities supports cleaner, more responsible consumption.



SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth):

The shift towards sustainable industries in MBM and MBKS creates green jobs, fostering a circular economy. Eco-friendly business models promote long-term economic resilience and innovation.



KUCHING SOUTH CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA KUCHING SELATAN - MBKS)

MBKS is advancing zero-waste strategies, but plastic consumption and food waste remain high. Recycling facilities exist, yet public participation in waste separation programs is low due to lack of awareness. Efforts to promote green businesses and sustainable procurement are increasing, but adoption is slow among small enterprises. The council is also pushing for single-use plastic bans, though full implementation remains challenging due to opposition from businesses.



MIRI CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA MIRI - MBM)

MBM is strengthening waste management and eco-friendly business initiatives, yet illegal dumping and landfill overuse continue to be major concerns. Recycling programs, including waste-to-energy projects and composting initiatives, are expanding, but collection infrastructure needs improvement. Sustainable tourism efforts emphasize responsible waste disposal and eco-friendly accommodations, yet compliance varies among businesses. Consumer education campaigns are in place, but behavioural change takes time, requiring stronger incentives and regulatory enforcement to drive responsible consumption and production.

Relationship of SDG 12 with other SDGs (Cont..)



SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities): Sustainable urban planning in MBM and MBKS prioritizes waste reduction strategies, recycling programs, and eco-friendly infrastructure to minimize environmental impact. Green building initiatives, efficient public transport systems, and smart waste management technologies enhance sustainability. Community-led recycling programs and circular economy practices reduce landfill dependency while promoting environmental responsibility. Smart infrastructure, including energy-efficient buildings and water-saving systems, ensures optimal resource use, making urban living more resilient and sustainable.



SDG 13 (Climate Action): MBM and MBKS are addressing climate change by implementing low-carbon production methods, reducing industrial emissions, and promoting energy-efficient infrastructure. Green policies encourage businesses to adopt cleaner technologies, while sustainable transportation initiatives lower carbon footprints. Waste-to-energy solutions and improved landfill management reduce methane emissions, strengthening climate resilience. Urban greening projects, such as tree-planting and rooftop gardens, mitigate heat island effects, making cities more adaptable to climate challenges.



SDG 15 (Life on Land): Sustainable land use planning and stricter environmental regulations in MBM and MBKS help preserve urban ecosystems and biodiversity. Efforts to curb deforestation and protect green spaces ensure that urban expansion does not compromise natural habitats. Responsible consumption and waste management reduce industrial pollutants, safeguarding soil and water quality. Conservation programs for wetlands and urban forests enhance ecological balance, creating healthier and more livable environments while fostering coexistence between urban development and nature.



Sarawak, Malaysia's largest state, faces significant challenges in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. With rapid urbanization and growing waste generation, ensuring sustainable waste management practices is crucial. Currently, Sarawak relies heavily on landfills, with low recycling rates and limited waste treatment infrastructure. To align with SDG 12, the state must prioritize waste reduction, recycling, composting, and sustainable consumption.

Despite efforts to improve waste management, Sarawak's recycling rate remains below 10%, significantly lower than Malaysia's national target of 22% by 2025. The state primarily relies on landfills, which pose environmental and public health risks. While some composting initiatives exist, they remain small-scale. To achieve SDG 12, Sarawak must expand recycling facilities, enforce waste segregation policies, and promote sustainable consumption habits.

Table 5.18 : Outcome of Waste Management in Sarawak

Indicator	Sarawak (State Level)
Total Waste Generation	~2,500–3,000 tonnes/day
Recycling Rate	<10%
Primary Waste Disposal Method	Landfilling
Organic Waste Processing	Limited initiatives
Key Challenges	Low awareness, lack of infrastructure

Source :

1. *The Borneo Post* (2018)
2. *Sarawak Tribune* (2023)

Sarawak faces significant challenges in waste management, with a recycling rate of less than 10%, far below Malaysia's national target of 22% by 2025. The state produces an estimated 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes of waste daily, most of which is sent to landfills due to the lack of adequate waste processing facilities. The continued reliance on landfilling not only contributes to land scarcity but also leads to environmental issues such as leachate contamination of water sources and increased greenhouse gas emissions from decomposing organic waste. Without improved waste diversion strategies, Sarawak will continue to struggle with waste accumulation and its associated environmental and health risks.

One of the key challenges in Sarawak's waste management system is the lack of infrastructure to support large-scale recycling and waste recovery. The state has a limited number of material recovery facilities (MRFs), making it difficult to process recyclable waste efficiently. Additionally, there is an absence of proper waste collection and segregation mechanisms, leading to most waste being mixed and disposed of in landfills. The vast geographical landscape of Sarawak, with its rural and remote communities, further complicates waste collection and disposal efforts, as logistics and transportation costs remain high.

Public awareness and participation in sustainable waste management practices are also major concerns. Many households and businesses do not actively practice waste separation due to a lack of education on its importance and the absence of incentives for recycling. Unlike other states in Malaysia that have implemented mandatory waste segregation policies, Sarawak has yet to enforce strict regulations that require residents to separate waste at the source. As a result, recyclables such as plastic, paper, and glass that could be repurposed continue to be discarded in landfills, reducing the efficiency of resource recovery.

Another pressing issue is the inadequate processing of organic waste, which makes up a significant portion of municipal solid waste. While there are some small-scale composting and food waste recycling initiatives, they remain limited in reach and effectiveness. Without proper organic waste treatment facilities, food waste continues to decompose in landfills, generating methane—a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Addressing these challenges will require a multi-faceted approach, including increased investment in waste infrastructure, stricter policy enforcement, and stronger public engagement efforts to create a sustainable and circular waste management system in Sarawak.



Kuching Selatan, managed by the Kuching Selatan City Council (MBKS), generates approximately 690 tonnes of waste per day. While some recycling and composting initiatives exist, the city still faces challenges in waste diversion, public awareness, and infrastructure expansion. Achieving SDG 12 requires a more comprehensive waste management approach.

Kuching Selatan has made notable progress in waste management, particularly in organic waste composting and recycling collection. However, the city's recycling rate remains below 5%, indicating a need for greater public participation and improved waste processing facilities. Expanding drop-off centers and awareness programs could significantly enhance waste diversion.

Table 5.19 : Outcome of Waste Management in Kuching Selatan

Year	Waste Collection (tonne)	Recycle (kg)	Compost (tonne)
Year 2023	70,314.93	61,804	10,170
Year 2024	72,849.88	66,443	10,200
Year 2025 (Jan – April)	29,963.90	26,604	3,300

Source : MBKS (2025)

Low Recycling Participation

Despite awareness campaigns, recycling participation among residents and businesses remains low. Many still dispose of mixed waste, reducing the efficiency of recycling efforts. Behavioral habits and limited incentives further discourage consistent waste segregation. To address this, MPH LG has supported local councils in promoting recycling through food waste segregation programs and improved recycling infrastructure, ensuring better waste processing and encouraging public involvement.

Infrastructure Limitations

Kuching Selatan faces challenges in waste management infrastructure, with limited sorting facilities and collection points. Inefficient waste separation and insufficient recycling facilities contribute to improper disposal. To tackle this, MPH LG has aided in establishing recycling centers and expanding waste collection networks, including a food waste segregation initiative at the wet market, ensuring organic waste is properly processed instead of reaching landfills. Expanding these efforts is key to improving overall efficiency.

Policy and Public Perception

The absence of strict enforcement on waste segregation hinders progress, while many residents perceive recycling as inconvenient. MPH LG has introduced policy frameworks and launched community engagement programs to raise

awareness, including outreach in schools and businesses. Strengthening monitoring mechanisms and offering incentives such as tax rebates can further encourage compliance and shift public attitudes toward a more sustainable mindset.

Challenges and Path Forward

The primary challenges in waste management for Kuching Selatan include low public participation, inadequate infrastructure, weak policy enforcement, and a lack of awareness. Despite MPH LG's support in launching food waste segregation at the wet market and establishing recycling centers, many residents remain hesitant to adopt sustainable waste disposal habits. Without stronger enforcement and engagement, waste accumulation will continue to strain landfills, contribute to pollution, and undermine sustainability efforts. A multi-stakeholder approach involving government agencies, private sector investment, and community participation is needed to tackle these pressing concerns.

To enhance waste management, expanding infrastructure, strengthening enforcement, and scaling up recycling programs are crucial. MPH LG's continued support, combined with private sector partnerships and community engagement, can drive better waste management outcomes. By fostering a culture of recycling and sustainability, Kuching Selatan can progress toward a cleaner, greener future.



Miri, Sarawak’s second-largest city, generates approximately 500 tonnes of waste per day. However, it faces limited recycling infrastructure and low public participation in waste segregation. Addressing these issues is essential for Miri to progress toward sustainable waste management and contribute to SDG 12 goals.

Miri’s waste management system lacks a structured recycling initiative, and most waste ends up in landfills. With a recycling rate of only 3–4%, public awareness and participation remain low. The city needs better waste tracking, formalized recycling programs, and increased investment in recycling facilities to meet SDG 12 targets.

Table 5.20 : Outcome of Waste Management in Miri

Category	Miri (MCC)
Total Waste Generation	~500 tonnes/day
Recycling Rate	3–4%
Primary Waste Disposal Method	Landfilling
Recycling Programs	Limited municipal programs
Public Awareness	Low

Source :

1. *The Borneo Post* (2018)
2. *Sarawak Tribune* (2023)
3. *Local council websites and sustainability reports*

Limited Recycling Infrastructure

Miri faces challenges in recycling due to the absence of a dedicated Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Without a proper facility for sorting and processing recyclable materials, much of the waste that could be reused ends up in landfills. To address this, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MPHLG) has supported local councils in expanding recycling initiatives, including the establishment of community-based collection centers to improve waste segregation at the source. Further investment in MRF development would enhance efficiency and sustainability.

Low Public Awareness

Many households and businesses in Miri do not practice effective waste separation, limiting the success of recycling programs. A lack of awareness about the environmental and economic benefits of waste segregation contributes to low participation. To tackle this, MPHLG has initiated public engagement campaigns, school programs, and partnerships with local businesses to encourage better waste disposal habits. Strengthening these educational efforts can help shift public perception and foster a more recycling-conscious community.

Over-Reliance on Landfilling

With limited waste treatment options, Miri remains highly dependent on landfills, which are unsustainable in the long run. As landfill space becomes scarce, alternative solutions such as composting, waste-to-energy initiatives, and expanded recycling facilities are necessary. MPHLG has supported pilot projects for organic waste segregation and is encouraging local councils to explore circular economy approaches to reduce landfill dependency.

Need for Better Data Management

Inconsistent tracking of waste generation and recycling rates makes it difficult to measure progress and identify areas for improvement. Establishing a standardized waste data collection system is essential for informed decision-making and better resource allocation. MPHLG has advocated for the adoption of digital tracking systems and collaboration with research institutions to develop more accurate waste management strategies.

Path Forward

Improving waste management in Miri requires a multi-faceted approach, expanding infrastructure, strengthening public awareness, exploring waste treatment alternatives, and enhancing data management. MPHLG’s continued support, coupled with local government initiatives and private sector collaboration, will be key in transforming Miri’s waste management system into a more efficient and sustainable model for the future.

Key Findings of SDG 12 for Sarawak City Council

Both Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Miri (MBM) are making progress toward SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by implementing waste management strategies, promoting recycling initiatives, and improving sustainability practices. However, both cities face unique challenges in waste segregation, recycling participation, and infrastructure limitations. Addressing these issues through enhanced public awareness, improved recycling facilities, and policy-driven waste reduction efforts will be crucial for ensuring long-term environmental sustainability.

Kuching Selatan Progress

Kuching Selatan has taken steps to promote waste segregation and recycling, particularly through local council initiatives and support from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (MPHLG). Programs such as food waste segregation at wet markets and improved recycling infrastructure have been introduced to encourage better waste management practices. However, despite awareness campaigns, participation remains low, with many households and businesses continuing to dispose of mixed waste. Strengthening incentives and enforcement mechanisms will be key to increasing recycling rates.

Infrastructure limitations also pose challenges to effective waste management in Kuching Selatan. The city lacks adequate sorting facilities and collection points, which reduces the efficiency of recycling efforts and increases landfill dependency. Expanding waste management infrastructure, including the development of Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) and more extensive waste collection networks, will help improve sustainability outcomes.

Proposed Way Forward

- Expand food waste segregation programs and improve public education on recycling.
- Invest in better waste management infrastructure, including MRFs and dedicated collection centers.
- Strengthen incentive programs for households and businesses to participate in recycling efforts and environmental benefits.

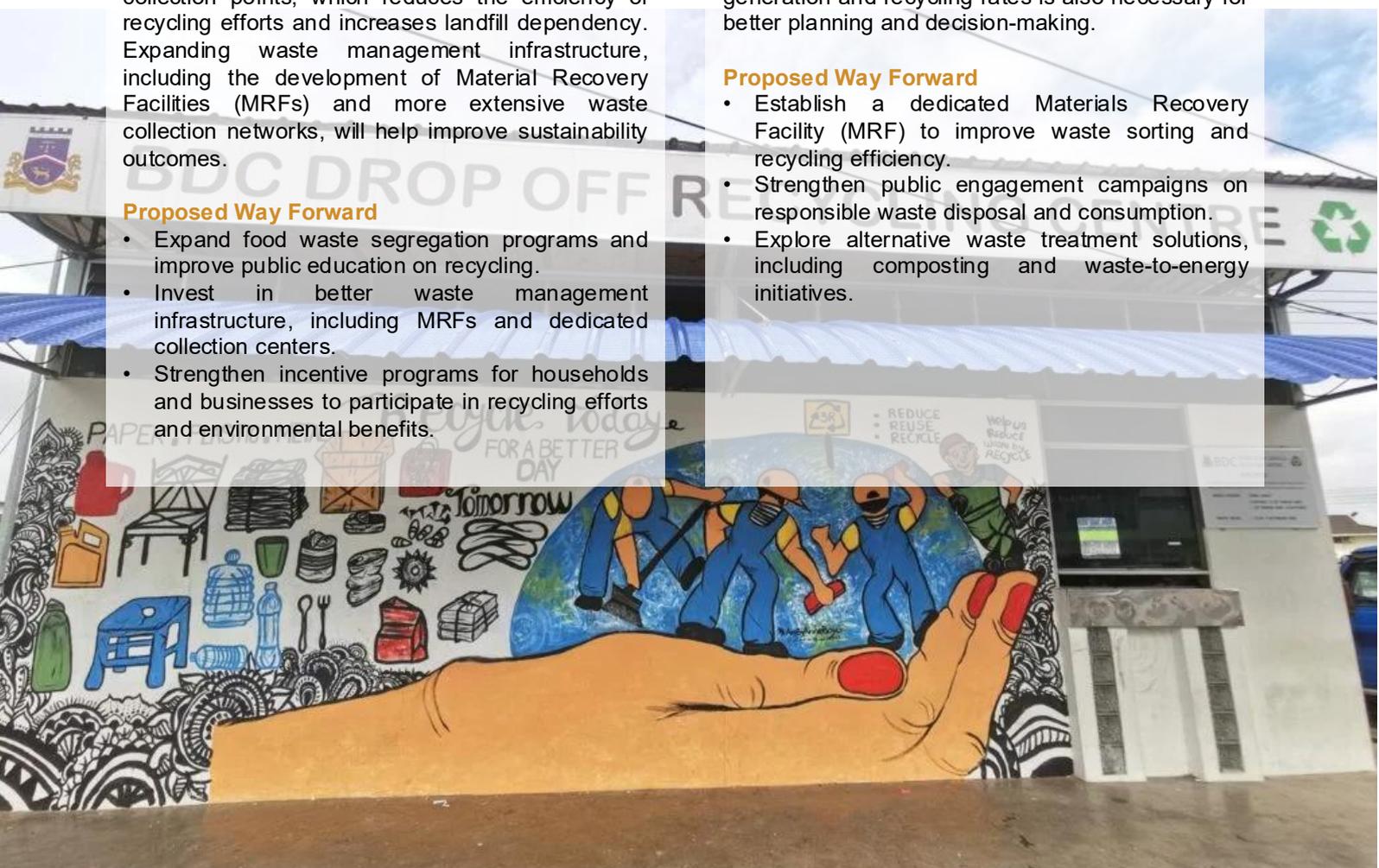
Miri Progress

Miri faces similar challenges in waste management, particularly due to the absence of a dedicated MRF and low public awareness regarding recycling practices. Many residents do not practice waste separation, leading to high landfill dependency. To address this, MPH LG has supported public engagement campaigns and community-based waste collection efforts, but more comprehensive programs are needed to drive behavioral change.

Additionally, Miri's waste treatment options remain limited, making it heavily reliant on landfills as the primary disposal method. Without alternative solutions such as composting, waste-to-energy technologies, and expanded recycling facilities, long-term sustainability will be difficult to achieve. Improving data collection and tracking of waste generation and recycling rates is also necessary for better planning and decision-making.

Proposed Way Forward

- Establish a dedicated Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to improve waste sorting and recycling efficiency.
- Strengthen public engagement campaigns on responsible waste disposal and consumption.
- Explore alternative waste treatment solutions, including composting and waste-to-energy initiatives.



Roles of City Councils in Sarawak for SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

City councils in Sarawak play a crucial role in advancing sustainable consumption and production under SDG 12 by implementing localized waste management, recycling, and eco-friendly policies. While national policies are set by federal agencies like the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, city councils enforce waste separation, expand recycling programs, and promote composting to minimize landfill waste. They also encourage businesses to adopt green procurement, eco-labeling, and sustainable production methods. Public awareness campaigns further educate communities on responsible consumption, fostering a culture of sustainability. Through these initiatives, city councils contribute to reducing environmental impact and promoting a circular economy.

Challenges in Sustainable Consumption and Waste Management

Key challenges include high waste generation, low recycling rates, and inadequate enforcement of sustainable business practices. Additionally, public awareness on sustainable consumption remains limited, leading to inefficient resource use and pollution.

Key Strategies for City Councils to Support SDG 12

Enhancing Waste Management & Recycling Programs

1. Implement stricter waste separation policies.
2. Establish incentives for businesses to adopt circular economy practices.

Encouraging Sustainable Business Practices

1. Promote green procurement and eco-labeling initiatives.
2. Support businesses in adopting sustainable supply chain practices.

Raising Public Awareness on Responsible Consumption

1. Organize community engagement programs on sustainable living.
2. Implement educational campaigns on reducing plastic waste.

Local councils play a crucial role in implementing sustainable consumption and waste management programs, supported by MPH LG's funding and policy frameworks. Working alongside SWCorp, the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change (NRECC), and private waste management companies, councils manage recycling initiatives, landfill operations, and community waste reduction campaigns. Without strong local-level governance, national waste reduction goals would be difficult to achieve.

MPH LG has provided significant funding and technical assistance to help local councils develop waste segregation programs, community composting projects, and circular economy solutions. Through grants and policy support, councils such as Majlis Bandaraya Ipoh (MBI) and Majlis Perbandaran Subang Jaya (MPSJ) have successfully introduced integrated waste collection systems and green procurement policies that prioritize eco-friendly materials and sustainable resource use.

Sustainable procurement is another area where local councils drive change, ensuring that municipal projects prioritize energy-efficient materials, renewable energy solutions, and environmentally responsible suppliers. By working with MITI and MPC (Malaysia Productivity Corporation), councils integrate green business practices into their governance models, encouraging local businesses and communities to adopt eco-conscious habits.

Public participation is key to achieving SDG 12, and councils lead community engagement efforts by organizing educational programs, green consumer awareness campaigns, and partnerships with NGOs. With MPH LG's support, local councils can expand sustainability initiatives, reducing waste at the household, business, and municipal levels while promoting a circular economy approach.



Climate Action

Objective:

To enhance resilience, reduce climate vulnerabilities, and integrate sustainable practices for a climate-resilient and low-carbon future.



SDG 13 intersects significantly with other goals. It aligns with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) in fostering climate-resilient urban and rural planning. SDG 15 (Life on Land) is interconnected as effective climate action supports biodiversity conservation and forest management. SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) complements SDG 13 by promoting sustainable practices that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) plays a vital role in reducing carbon footprints by transitioning to renewable energy sources. Finally, SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) is tied to SDG 13 through measures that address flooding and drought impacts on water resources.

Overview of SDG 13 for Sarawak City Council

SDG 13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. MBKS and MBM have adopted climate mitigation and adaptation measures to enhance urban resilience. MBKS has increased investments in flood management infrastructure and coastal protection projects to safeguard communities from extreme weather events. MBM has focused on low-carbon city initiatives, incorporating renewable energy and energy-efficient infrastructure into urban planning.

To reduce emissions, both cities are expanding green mobility options. Sarawak Metro has introduced electric buses and bicycle-friendly infrastructure, while MBM is promoting energy-efficient buildings through stricter development guidelines. Additionally, both councils are working towards climate-conscious urban policies, integrating environmental sustainability into long-term city planning.

Public awareness and engagement play a crucial role in their climate strategies. MBKS and MBM actively organize community-led environmental programs, fostering climate resilience at the grassroots level. Their combined efforts align with Malaysia's climate commitments, ensuring sustainable urban development while mitigating climate risks.



SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation):

Climate change affects water availability and quality in MBM and MBKS, making sustainable water management essential. Investments in flood mitigation systems, eco-friendly drainage, and wastewater treatment facilities ensure clean water access despite unpredictable weather patterns. Rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling help reduce water stress, while community awareness programs promote responsible water use and conservation.



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy):

Transitioning to renewable energy in MBM and MBKS reduces carbon footprints and strengthens climate resilience. Solar panel installations, energy-efficient buildings, and microgrid systems lower dependence on fossil fuels while ensuring stable electricity supply during extreme weather events. Electrification of public transport and incentives for energy-efficient industries further promote sustainable urban energy solutions, improving air quality and reducing climate-related health risks.



KUCHING SOUTH CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA KUCHING SELATAN - MBKS)

MBKS is implementing climate adaptation measures, including urban greening projects, sustainable drainage systems, and energy-efficient public buildings. However, rising urban heat islands and frequent flash floods demand accelerated action and stronger climate resilience policies. Renewable energy integration, particularly solar panel installations, is progressing, yet high costs and regulatory hurdles slow adoption. Carbon footprint reduction strategies, such as low-carbon mobility programs and electric vehicle incentives, are in early stages but need better public buy-in and funding support.



MIRI CITY COUNCIL (MAJLIS BANDARAYA MIRI - MBM)

MBM is advancing carbon reduction efforts, but dependence on fossil fuels remains high. Coastal protection projects, including mangrove restoration and seawall reinforcements, are critical as rising sea levels threaten low-lying communities. Extreme weather events, including storms and floods, are increasing, requiring stronger early warning systems and climate adaptation plans. While eco-tourism and sustainable energy projects are gaining traction, greater collaboration between industries, government, and communities is needed to accelerate climate action effectively.

Relationship of SDG 13 with other SDGs (Cont..)



SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities): Climate-resilient urban planning in MBM and MBKS integrates green infrastructure, disaster preparedness, and sustainable mobility solutions. Expanding green spaces, enhancing coastal protection measures, and implementing climate-responsive building codes minimize the impact of extreme weather events such as floods and heatwaves. Investments in public transportation, pedestrian-friendly streets, and low-carbon urban designs make cities more livable, reducing emissions and fostering environmental sustainability.



SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Sustainable business practices in MBM and MBKS drive climate action by reducing industrial emissions, waste generation, and resource depletion. Circular economy initiatives, such as upcycling programs, waste-to-energy projects, and eco-friendly packaging regulations, encourage responsible consumption while mitigating environmental harm. Green industry incentives help businesses transition to sustainable models, reducing their carbon footprint and aligning production with global climate goals.



SDG 15 (Life on Land): Climate action in MBM and MBKS is crucial for protecting forests, wetlands, and biodiversity. Urban expansion and industrial activities threaten natural habitats, making sustainable land use policies and conservation programs essential. Reforestation efforts, mangrove restoration, and urban biodiversity protection reduce the impact of climate change on local ecosystems. By balancing urban development with ecological preservation, MBM and MBKS create resilient environments that safeguard biodiversity, reduce urban heat effects, and enhance climate adaptation efforts.



Sarawak, the largest state in Malaysia, is home to vast tropical rainforests and rich biodiversity, making it a key player in climate action initiatives. Given its unique environmental landscape, the state has actively pursued policies and programs aligned with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13 to combat climate change and its impacts. With a strong emphasis on sustainability, Sarawak has implemented legislative measures, promoted renewable energy, and undertaken large-scale afforestation programs to mitigate environmental degradation. The state government has also recognized the importance of sustainable urban planning, pollution control, and waste management to ensure long-term ecological balance while accommodating economic growth and development.

Deforestation remains a significant challenge, with Sarawak losing 3.27 million hectares of tree cover between 2001 and 2023, accounting for 56% of Malaysia's total tree cover loss. While these changes contribute to economic growth and national development, local measurements indicate environmental and social impacts that require attention. However, despite limited local control over large-scale land-use decisions, efforts in conservation, reforestation, and sustainable land management are gaining traction. Additionally, addressing river pollution through improved wastewater treatment and stricter industrial regulations presents an opportunity to enhance environmental sustainability and community well-being.

Table 5.21 : Key Environmental Statistics for

Indicator	Value	Year
Forest Cover	7.65 million ha (61.4% of land)	2023
Renewable Energy Consumption	62%	2024
Trees Planted	35 million	2024
Rivers Monitored	66	2023
Polluted Rivers	5	2023
E-Waste Collected	218.779 metric tonnes	2022

Source :

1. Sarawak Forestry Dept.
2. Sarawak Energy
3. NREB Sarawak
4. DOE Malaysia

Legislative Action & Renewable Energy

Sarawak became the first Malaysian state to enact the Environment (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Bill in November 2023, aiming for net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Sarawak Climate Change Policy promotes sustainable energy, environmental protection, and community participation.

By October 2024, Sarawak exceeded its 60% target, reaching 62% renewable energy consumption through hydropower, solar, and hydrogen initiatives. With ongoing investments, the state is emerging as a leader in the hydrogen economy.

Forest Conservation & Tree Planting

Sarawak retains 7.65 million hectares of forest cover (61.4% of total land) as of 2023. To ensure sustainability, Forest Management Certification (FMC) is mandatory for all long-term timber license areas, promoting responsible logging.

Under the Greening Sarawak Campaign, 35 million trees were planted by 2024, achieving the target a year ahead. This initiative supports carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and public participation in conservation.

River & E-Waste Management

- Water quality monitoring in 2023 covered 66 rivers, revealing:
 - 11 clean rivers
 - 50 moderately polluted rivers
 - 5 polluted rivers, including the Miri River

River pollution, caused by industrial discharge, agricultural runoff, and poor waste disposal, requires better wastewater treatment and stricter regulations.

Sarawak ranked second in Malaysia for e-waste collection in 2022, gathering 218.8 metric tonnes. While progress is evident, expanding recycling programs remains essential.

Key Challenges

From 2001 to 2023, Sarawak lost 3.27 million hectares of tree cover, accounting for 56% of Malaysia's total deforestation. Stronger land-use policies and enforcement are crucial.

River pollution remains a critical issue, requiring enhanced wastewater treatment and stricter industrial discharge controls. Addressing these challenges demands strong policies, enforcement, and community engagement to protect Sarawak's environment.



Kuching Selatan, administered by the Kuching South City Council (MBKS), plays a vital role in balancing urban development with environmental conservation. As a rapidly growing urban area, Kuching Selatan faces challenges such as flooding, waste management, and green space reduction. However, through active participation in state-led sustainability programs, the city has made notable contributions to Sarawak’s climate action efforts under SDG 13.

Rapid urbanization has increased carbon emissions and reduced green spaces. Flooding remains a pressing issue, necessitating continuous improvements in drainage and flood mitigation infrastructure.

Table 5.22 : Key Environmental Statistics for Kuching Selatan

Category	Value	Year
Trees Planted	Part of 35 million	2024
E-Waste Collection	Part of 218.779 metric tonnes	2022
Major Flood Events	5 recorded	2023

Source :
 1. Kuching Selatan City Council
 2. DOE Malaysia
 3. DID Sarawak

Urban Greenery and Climate Action

Kuching Selatan, under the Kuching South City Council (MBKS), is actively contributing to Sarawak’s 35 million tree-planting initiative to expand urban greenery and enhance climate resilience. The initiative not only improves air quality and biodiversity but also helps mitigate the urban heat island effect caused by rapid urbanization. However, ongoing development continues to put pressure on existing green spaces, making it crucial to balance infrastructure growth with environmental conservation.

Flood Management and Drainage Improvements

With its low-lying terrain, Kuching Selatan remains highly vulnerable to flooding, especially during heavy monsoon seasons. In 2023 alone, five major flood events were recorded, disrupting daily life and causing economic losses. The Sarawak Flood Mitigation Plan aims to upgrade drainage infrastructure, construct retention ponds, and implement better stormwater management systems. While these measures have helped alleviate some flood risks, increasing urbanization and climate change-induced extreme weather events demand continuous investment in flood prevention strategies and climate adaptation measures.

E-Waste Management and Recycling Efforts

Kuching Selatan plays a key role in Sarawak’s growing e-waste management efforts, contributing to the state’s 218.8 metric tonnes of e-waste collection in 2022. The expansion of digital technology and electronic device usage has led to an increasing volume of discarded electronics, posing a threat to environmental and public health if not managed properly. Improving collection efficiency, increasing public awareness, and strengthening recycling infrastructure are essential to ensure that e-waste is disposed of safely and repurposed effectively.

Key Challenges and Pathways

As urban expansion accelerates, Kuching Selatan faces mounting challenges in carbon emissions, loss of green spaces, and increasing flood risks. While the city has made strides in sustainability initiatives, more proactive policies are needed to enhance green infrastructure, strengthen flood resilience, and advance waste management solutions. A long-term commitment to sustainable urban planning, stricter environmental regulations, and stronger community engagement will be key to securing a resilient and eco-friendly future for Kuching Selatan.



Miri, Sarawak’s second-largest city, is a key economic hub driven by the oil and gas industry. Governed by the Miri City Council (MCC), the city is actively engaged in SDG 13 initiatives, focusing on pollution management, renewable energy adoption, and environmental conservation.

Miri faces difficulties in balancing economic expansion with environmental conservation. Industrial pollution remains a significant issue, and the contamination of the Miri River highlights the need for stricter regulations and enhanced wastewater treatment systems.

Table 5.23 : Key Environmental Statistics for Kuching Selatan

Indicator	Value	Year
Miri River Pollution Level	Polluted	2023
Centralized Sewerage System	Phase 1 completed	2024
Trees Planted	Part of 35 million	2024

Source :
 1. Miri City Council
 2. NREB Sarawak

Tackling River Pollution and Wastewater Management

The Miri River was classified as polluted in 2023, reflecting ongoing challenges in wastewater management and industrial discharge. To address this, the Centralized Sewerage System Project (Phase 1) was completed in early 2024, improving wastewater treatment efficiency and reducing direct pollution into the river. However, stricter enforcement and expanded infrastructure are still needed to ensure long-term water quality improvement.

Managing Industrial Pollution and Green Energy Transition

Miri’s oil and gas industries remain a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, raising concerns about air quality and carbon footprints. To counter this, the Sarawak Green Hydrogen Initiative is being developed to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and promote clean energy adoption. While this initiative marks progress towards a greener economy, wider industry participation and increased investment in sustainable energy are crucial for impactful change.

Strengthening Environmental Conservation and Urban Greening

Miri plays an active role in Sarawak’s Greening Campaign, contributing to the state’s goal of planting 35 million trees to enhance urban green spaces, improve air quality, and mitigate climate change. These efforts help counteract the effects of deforestation, rapid urbanization, and industrialization, which have led to shrinking green areas. Despite ongoing conservation efforts, urban expansion and land development continue to threaten existing forests, parks, and biodiversity.

Moving forward, stronger urban planning policies, sustainable land-use strategies, and community-led conservation programs are necessary to ensure long-term environmental sustainability. Incorporating more green infrastructure, such as urban forests, green corridors, and eco-friendly building designs, can further enhance Miri’s resilience against climate change.

Key Challenges and Pathways

As Miri continues to grow, balancing industrial expansion with environmental conservation remains a key challenge. Industrial pollution, river contamination, and the loss of green spaces require immediate attention and stronger regulatory frameworks. Future priorities should focus on:

- Expanding and upgrading wastewater treatment facilities to improve water quality.
- Strengthening pollution monitoring and enforcement measures for industries and urban developments.
- Accelerating the transition to renewable energy through greater adoption of green hydrogen and other sustainable technologies.
- Enhancing urban green space policies to ensure long-term conservation of forests and ecosystems.
- Increasing public and corporate participation in sustainability efforts through awareness campaigns and incentives.
- With the right balance of policy action, investment, and community engagement, Miri can achieve sustainable growth without compromising its natural environment, ensuring a cleaner, healthier, and greener future for its residents.

Key Findings of SDG 13 for Sarawak City Council

Both Kuching Selatan (MBKS) and Miri (MBM) are making progress toward SDG 13 (Climate Action) by implementing flood mitigation measures, pollution control strategies, and urban greening initiatives. However, both cities face challenges in managing industrial pollution, reducing carbon emissions, and addressing climate-related risks such as flooding and deforestation. Strengthening climate resilience, expanding green infrastructure, and enforcing stricter environmental policies will be crucial for ensuring long-term sustainability.

Kuching Selatan Progress

Kuching Selatan has made strides in urban climate resilience by actively participating in Sarawak's 35-million tree-planting campaign and upgrading flood mitigation systems. Given its low-lying geography, flooding remains a critical concern, and the city has implemented drainage improvements and constructed retention ponds to manage excess rainfall.

Additionally, Kuching Selatan is taking steps to improve electronic waste (e-waste) collection, contributing significantly to Sarawak's total 218,779 metric tonnes of collected e-waste in 2022. However, rapid urbanization, declining green spaces, and increasing carbon emissions pose challenges to long-term sustainability.

Proposed Way Forward

- Expand flood mitigation efforts through advanced drainage planning and retention pond construction.
- Strengthen green infrastructure policies to balance urbanization with conservation.
- Improve waste management programs, particularly for e-waste and sustainable urban practices.

Miri Progress

Miri is tackling environmental challenges by addressing river pollution, industrial emissions, and green energy initiatives. The Miri River was classified as polluted in 2023, prompting the completion of Phase 1 of the Centralized Sewerage System in 2024 to enhance wastewater management. However, stricter enforcement is required to prevent further contamination from industrial discharge and urban runoff.

Additionally, Miri's oil and gas industries contribute significantly to carbon emissions, making the Sarawak Green Hydrogen Initiative a crucial step toward reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Despite active participation in the Greening Sarawak Campaign, the city faces challenges in balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability.

Proposed Way Forward

- Enhance industrial pollution controls with stricter regulations and emissions monitoring.
- Expand wastewater treatment facilities to improve water quality in the Miri River.
- Accelerate the transition to renewable energy, particularly through hydrogen-based solutions.



Roles of City Councils in Sarawak for SDG 13: Climate Action

City councils in Sarawak play a vital role in climate adaptation and mitigation, aligning with SDG 13. While national and state agencies set policies, city councils implement localized initiatives such as flood control, improving drainage and coastal defences to reduce flood risks. They also promote urban greening by expanding parks, tree planting, and green roofs to combat the urban heat island effect. Additionally, councils support emissions reduction through public transport improvements, energy-efficient buildings, and renewable energy adoption. By integrating these efforts with national strategies, city councils enhance climate resilience and contribute to sustainable urban development.

Challenges in Climate Resilience and Adaptation

Sarawak faces increasing risks of extreme weather events, deforestation, and rising emissions due to urban expansion and industrial activities. Limited financial resources and weak enforcement mechanisms hinder the effective implementation of local climate actions.

Key Strategies for City Councils to Support SDG 13

Enhancing Urban Climate Resilience

1. Develop flood prevention and drainage improvement projects.
2. Promote climate-adaptive urban planning.

Promoting Renewable Energy & Emissions Reduction

1. Encourage solar energy adoption in public buildings.
2. Implement green transportation policies, such as electric buses.

Strengthening Community Engagement in Climate Action

1. Conduct awareness programs on energy efficiency and sustainability.
2. Foster partnerships with NGOs and the private sector for climate initiatives.

Tackling climate change requires strong coordination between MPHLG, local councils, and national climate agencies. While MPHLG sets the policy direction, local councils are responsible for translating these policies into local climate action plans. By working with NRECC, MetMalaysia, and the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID), councils integrate climate adaptation strategies into urban planning to enhance flood resilience, mitigate urban heat effects, and protect biodiversity.

MPHLG has played a leading role in securing climate finance for councils to implement renewable energy and carbon reduction initiatives. Through the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, local governments receive grants and incentives for solar energy adoption, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable transport systems. City councils oversee the installation of solar panels on government buildings, transition municipal fleets to electric vehicles, and enforce building energy codes.

Disaster preparedness and risk reduction are critical areas where local councils take the lead, ensuring that flood mitigation systems, coastal protection projects, and early warning mechanisms are effectively implemented. MPHLG collaborates with the Sarawak Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) to provide technical guidance, while local councils conduct emergency response drills, improve drainage systems, and engage communities in disaster preparedness programs.

Public engagement is key to long-term climate resilience, and local councils play a frontline role in educating communities, enforcing environmental regulations, and fostering climate-conscious behaviours. By working with private sector partners, universities, and NGOs, councils lead tree planting campaigns, urban farming programs, and climate literacy initiatives. These efforts help urban populations actively contribute to climate action, ensuring sustainable development for future generations.

5.2 Role of Local Authorities in SDG Implementations

The Miri City Council (MBM) and Kuching South City Council (MBKS) play a crucial role in implementing SDG 8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action) through governance, policy enforcement, and sustainable urban development initiatives.

For SDG 8, MBM and MBKS support local economic development by attracting investments, promoting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and enhancing tourism sectors to create job opportunities. They facilitate entrepreneurship programs, vocational training, and business-friendly policies to drive economic growth.

In SDG 9, both councils focus on infrastructure development, ensuring efficient public transport, digital connectivity, and sustainable industrial zones to support innovation and long-term economic resilience.

Under SDG 11, MBM and MBKS work to make their cities livable and inclusive by improving public transport, housing, waste management, and green spaces. They implement urban planning regulations, upgrade drainage systems, and promote affordable housing projects to address issues like flooding, traffic congestion, and squatter settlements. For SDG 12, both councils encourage waste reduction, recycling initiatives, and green procurement policies, promoting a circular economy and responsible consumption habits.

In tackling SDG 13, MBM and MBKS focus on climate adaptation and disaster preparedness, including flood mitigation projects, reforestation programs, and urban heat island reduction strategies. They enforce environmental regulations, promote sustainable energy use, and integrate smart city technologies to strengthen climate resilience.

By actively implementing policies aligned with these SDGs, MBM and MBKS contribute to sustainable economic growth, environmental resilience, and social inclusivity, ensuring a better quality of life for their residents.





6.0

**FUTURE
ACTIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

SARAWAK SDG ROADMAP

6.1 Categoricalised SDG By 5 Focus Areas

Social, Infrastructure, Cities and Community Livability, Environmental and Governance are the **five focus areas** for the roadmap, the foundation for the 17 global SDGs. This Roadmap provides a comprehensive framework for addressing Sarawak’s most pressing challenges. It involves analysing the effectiveness of existing policies and strategies and identifying additional interventions to pave the way for a more equitable and sustainable future of the city.

Social SDGs

Addressing Societal Needs and Inequalities

Infrastructure SDGs

Addressing essential infrastructure needs

Cities and Community Livability SDGs

Focused on sustainability in cities and communities

Environmental SDGs

Tackling Climate Action and Sustainability Challenges

Governance SDGs

Strengthening Institutional Frameworks and Transparency

The Roadmap Timeframe

The SDG strategy timeline for Sarawak is designed to align the city's development with the SDGs, ensuring a balanced approach to social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The strategy outlines specific actions and project components categorized into three phases (1, 2 and 3), ensuring a phased and systematic implementation.

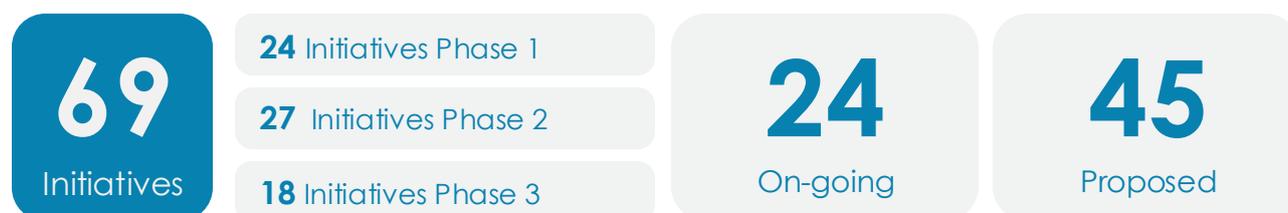


Table 6.1: Project Timeframe by Focus Areas for Sarawak City Councils

Timeframe		
Phase 1 (2025 – 2026)	Phase 2 (2026 – 2030)	Phase 3 (after 2030)
Social SDGs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Bantuan Sara Hidup Affordable Housing Development Program Breastfeeding room and Diaper Changing room in MBKS hall Sumbangan Keperluan Asas Sarawak (SKAS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed and Enhancement of Mobile Library Service – Community Education Section, MPH LG 	
Infrastructure SDGs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of LED Lights in Rural Areas in Miri Kuching Smart City Replace conventional bulb to LED bulb for the lighting under Miri City Council's jurisdiction Replace conventional bulbs to LED bulb in Miri City Council's buildings / market Preparing paperwork for Smart Lighting / Smart Meter projects within Miri City Council's jurisdiction Implementation of Solar Lighting at certain area (futsal court, park, and etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of replacing existing conventional bulb to LED bulb Implementation of Solar lighting at certain areas (park, and etc.) Implementation of Smart Lighting / Smart meter projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of Smart lighting / Smart meter implementation

The Roadmap Timeframe

Timeframe		
Phase 1 (2025 – 2026)	Phase 2 (2026 – 2030)	Phase 3 (after 2030)
City and Community Livability SDGs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe City • Child Friendly City Initiative Committee • Age-Friendly City Committee • Miri Smart City Blueprint • Miri Operation Command Centre • Miri Smart Proof Concept project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Skim Penempatan Semula • Proposed Affordable Housing • Smart Parking (Phase 2: 4 areas, 2,719 sensor bays) • Additional Smart Pedestrian • Crossings and Traffic Light Intersections (proposed) • Miri Smart City App (Phase 2–5: Bus Info, Tourism Info, Contractor Info, Booking) • 3 Smart Pedestrian Crossings • 4 Smart Traffic Light Intersections • Smart Parking (Phase 1: 2 areas, 2,040 sensor parking bays) • Miri Smart City App – “Miri CARES” module for community • Feedback and reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart City • Kuching City Local Plan • Expansion to rural/sub-districts (e.g., Bario) • Integration of AI for real-time traffic optimisation • Continuous monitoring of 30% Traffic Time Reduction KPI
Environmental SDGs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic Waste Reduction Program • Sarawak Low Carbon Initiative • Greening Sarawak Campaign • Kuching South Car Free Morning • Seed Ball Project • No plastic straw and no Styrofoam campaign • Bank Sampah Program • MBKS-Private Sector Collaboration: High-Rise Waste Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Waste-to-Energy Study • Proposed Sanitary Landfill • Proposed Sarawak Reef Ball Project • Proposed Borneo Adventures: Citizens Science in Action Program • Miri Car Free Day • Solid Waste Collection, Street Sweeping, Drainage Maintenance modules in Smart City App (proposed) • Public Wi-Fi for Smart Energy Management (target 10,000 users) • Grass Cutting & Drain Clearing reporting module (Smart City App) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kuching Low Carbon Hub • Tree Planting Programs • Large-Scale Composting • Waste Innovation Initiatives • Green Action module in Smart City App (Phase 2–5)

Source: URBANICE Malaysia

The Roadmap Timeframe

Timeframe		
Phase 1 (2025 – 2026)	Phase 2 (2026 – 2030)	Phase 3 (after 2030)
Governance SDGs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic International Cooperation • MBKS SDG Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart Project, Asset & e-Digital Document System (MCC, MGC & PWD) • Digital Road Maintenance Module - Live in 2026 • Digitalisation of 4 Business Licensing categories • Miri Smart City App – “Chatbot” service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering the SDG Committee at the Local Government Level • Proposed Data Centre and Digitalisation • Maintenance and Optimisation of Smart Government & Smart City App Modules • Integration of AI & IoT into Government Systems • Continuous KPI Monitoring: Crime Reduction, e-Payment Uptake, System Performance

Social SDGs

Addressing Societal Needs and Inequalities

Sarawak City Councils demonstrate a strong commitment to social equity and inclusive development, striving to improve living standards and reduce disparities across communities. By addressing key societal challenges such as healthcare access, education quality, employment opportunities, and gender equality, Sarawak aims to enhance social well-being and economic resilience. Ensuring equitable access to essential services and strengthening social support systems will be crucial in fostering a more inclusive and sustainable future for all residents.



6.2 Social SDGs: Addressing Societal Needs and Inequalities

Current Situation

Sarawak city councils are actively working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by addressing key social and economic challenges. Rapid urbanization, economic shifts, and rural-urban disparities have contributed to issues such as housing affordability, income inequality, food insecurity, and limited access to healthcare and education. To address these concerns, local authorities and stakeholders have introduced various initiatives aimed at improving living conditions, enhancing social welfare, and promoting inclusive economic growth. However, challenges persist in ensuring effective poverty alleviation, food security, healthcare accessibility, quality education, gender equality, and equitable economic opportunities across urban and suburban communities.

SDG 1: No Poverty

Efforts to reduce poverty focus on supporting low-income groups through financial aid, affordable housing programs, and job creation initiatives. Assistance programs provide direct financial relief to vulnerable populations, including single parents and persons with disabilities, helping to alleviate financial burdens. Housing initiatives aim to improve affordability and living conditions in urban areas. However, sustaining long-term economic stability and creating sufficient job opportunities remain ongoing challenges.

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Ensuring food security is a priority, particularly for low-income households. Initiatives supporting local food production and urban farming aim to reduce dependency on imports, promote sustainable agriculture, and lower food costs. Community farming programs encourage self-sufficiency by providing fresh produce to households. However, challenges such as fluctuating food prices and access to nutritious food require continuous policy improvements to strengthen food resilience.



SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Ensuring accessible healthcare services remains a priority for Sarawak city councils, particularly in underserved communities. Mobile health initiatives and community healthcare programs aim to provide essential medical services. However, challenges such as limited healthcare infrastructure, a shortage of medical professionals, and accessibility barriers continue to affect public health outcomes..

SDG 4: Quality Education

Education remains a key focus, with efforts to improve school infrastructure and enhance digital learning accessibility. Initiatives supporting school upgrades and public libraries aim to create better learning environments. However, disparities in education access, particularly for students in lower-income areas, highlight the need for further investment in teacher training and school resources.

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Gender equality initiatives focus on empowering individuals through entrepreneurship training, financial literacy programs, and leadership development. Efforts to close gender gaps in employment and economic participation are ongoing. However, disparities in leadership roles and workforce opportunities underscore the need for stronger enforcement of inclusive policies.

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

City councils are working to improve job opportunities and economic resilience by supporting vocational training, entrepreneurship programs, and small business development. While these initiatives contribute to economic growth, challenges such as limited industrial expansion and reliance on traditional economic sectors remain barriers to broader employment opportunities.

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reducing social and economic disparities is a crucial goal for sustainable urban development. Programs focusing on inclusive infrastructure, vocational training, and support for vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and senior citizens, are being implemented. Despite these efforts, income inequality and disparities in access to essential services continue to pose challenges.



Issues and Challenges

Financial Hardship and Housing Accessibility

Many low-income households in Sarawak’s urban areas struggle with financial instability, rising living costs, and limited access to affordable housing. A shortage of low-cost housing has led to overcrowding and informal settlements, impacting overall well-being. Additionally, high construction costs and slow housing project approvals further restrict housing availability. Addressing these issues requires city councils to expand affordable housing programs, enhance financial aid schemes, and streamline housing development policies.

Healthcare Service Gaps and Accessibility

Healthcare services within Sarawak’s city jurisdictions remain unevenly distributed, leading to longer waiting times for medical consultations and treatments. A shortage of medical professionals, combined with high patient volumes, contributes to overcrowded healthcare facilities and extended waiting periods. Additionally, gaps in preventive healthcare awareness result in an increased burden on medical services, further straining the system. Strengthening urban healthcare infrastructure, expanding mobile clinics, and investing in the medical workforce are crucial steps to reducing wait times and improving healthcare accessibility.

Employment Barriers and Economic Stability

The job market in Sarawak’s urban centers remains challenging, with many residents struggling to secure stable employment. The limited presence of high-value industries and reliance on traditional economic sectors restrict job opportunities, particularly for youth and fresh graduates. Additionally, some urban workers lack access to skills training and job placement programs, contributing to income inequality. Expanding job creation initiatives, supporting entrepreneurship, and investing in workforce upskilling programs are essential for improving economic stability.

Infrastructure and Connectivity Challenges

Many areas within Sarawak’s city council jurisdictions face challenges related to road conditions, unreliable public transport, and inadequate digital connectivity. These infrastructure limitations slow economic growth, restrict access to essential services, and hinder urban development. Addressing these gaps through road network expansion, public transportation improvements, and digital infrastructure enhancement will be key to boosting overall connectivity and economic opportunities.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.



Program Bantuan Sara Hidup



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Program Bantuan Sara Hidup (BSH) is a government financial assistance program designed to support low-income households in Malaysia. The initiative aims to reduce financial burdens, improve economic security, and ensure better living standards for vulnerable groups such as the B40 community, single parents, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities.	Kuching South City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching South	Residents Kuching Selatan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct financial aid helps low-income households meet basic needs Supports vulnerable groups, reducing income gaps 	SDG 2, SDG 8, SDG 10

Affordable Housing Development Program



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Affordable Housing Development Program by Miri City Council (MBM) aims to provide quality and cost-effective housing solutions for the city's lower-income and underserved communities. The initiative focuses on developing low-cost and medium-cost housing units through government funding, partnerships with private developers, and financing schemes to make homeownership accessible.	Miri City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri	Residents Miri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing affordable housing to low-income groups reduces financial burdens and improves living standards Ensuring access to safe, affordable, and adequate housing for urban populations 	SDG3, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 11

Sumbangan Keperluan Asas Sarawak (SKAS)



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
SKAS is a state assistance program that provides digital vouchers as financial support to low-income residents of Sarawak. This program provides targeted financial aid in the form of digital vouchers, ensuring that beneficiaries can access essential goods and services efficiently.	All local authorities	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Sarawak residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct financial aid helps low-income households meet basic needs Supports vulnerable groups, reducing income gaps 	SDG 2, SDG 8, SDG 9 and SDG 10

Proposed Mobile Library Service – Community Education Section, MPHLG



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The Mobile Library Service aims to provide reading and learning resources to students in underserved and remote areas. By utilizing mobile libraries, students in schools without sufficient library facilities can access books, educational materials, and digital resources. This initiative helps bridge the gap in educational resources, ensuring that students, regardless of their location, have access to knowledge and opportunities for learning. The program is implemented in collaboration with local councils and the community education section, covering multiple districts in Sarawak.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seksyen Pendidikan Komuniti • Sarikei District Council • Sibulungan Municipal Council • Sri Aman District Council • Miri City Council • Dalat dan Mukah District Council 	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SJK Siniawan, Bau • SJK Batu 15, Padawan • SK St. Michael, Entingan, Samarahan • SK St. Elizabeth, Tijirak, Serian • SK Java, Sarikei • SJK Sing Ming, Sarikei • SK Rantau Panjang, Sibulungan • SK Nanga Pedai, Kanowit • SK St. Lawrence, Sri Aman • SK St. Barnabas, Sri Aman • SK Kpg. Bungai, Subis • SK Kpg. Selanyau, Subis • SK Kuala Balingian, Mukah • SK Kpg. Teh, Mukah • SK Kpg. Bungai, Miri • SK Kpg. Selanyau, Miri • SK Kpg. Angus, Miri • SJK Chung Hua Sibuti, Miri • SK Kpg. Beraya, Miri 	Primary school students in rural and remote areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased access to reading materials for students in rural and remote schools • Improved literacy rates and education quality among students • Strengthened collaboration between local authorities and schools • Promotion of lifelong learning and knowledge-sharing 	SDG 10 and SDG 11

Breastfeeding Room



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
MBKS city hall provides breastfeeding room together with diaper changing room for the usage of public and staff.	• MBKS	MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		• Kuching South	MBKS	Encourages breastfeeding by providing a private, hygienic, and comfortable space for mothers. Reduces the risk of improper diaper disposal in public restrooms.	SDG 1 and SDG 12

Infrastructure SDGs

Addressing essential infrastructure needs

Sarawak City Councils are advancing its SDG 6, 7, and 9 commitments by improving water access, energy sustainability, and infrastructure resilience. Efforts to expand piped water coverage and upgrade sanitation systems enhance public health, while investments in hydropower and renewable energy support cleaner, more affordable electricity. However, high tariffs and slow adoption of renewables remain challenges.

Strategic investments in transportation and digital infrastructure drive economic growth, improve connectivity, and foster innovation. Strengthening these sectors is key to building a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Sarawak in line with the 2030 Agenda.



6.3 Infrastructure SDGs: Addressing essential infrastructure needs

Current Situation

Sarawak city councils are actively working to enhance clean water and sanitation (SDG 6) by addressing accessibility and quality concerns, particularly in underserved areas. Challenges such as aging water infrastructure and maintenance issues continue to affect supply reliability. To ensure long-term sustainability, investment in centralized water treatment systems, improved maintenance protocols, and regular monitoring of supply networks is essential. Expanding piped water access to unserved communities remains a priority to reduce dependence on alternative and potentially unsafe water sources.

Strengthening energy efficiency programs and providing incentives for households and businesses can help manage costs while reducing carbon emissions. Policies supporting green energy adoption and reducing dependency on fossil fuels should be further explored to create a more sustainable urban environment.

In terms of industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9), Sarawak city councils face challenges related to aging infrastructure, accessibility issues for vulnerable populations, and gaps in digitalization. While urban development projects are underway to enhance public services, concerns about infrastructure maintenance, connectivity, and inclusivity remain. Expanding digital infrastructure and implementing smart city initiatives can help address these issues.

Furthermore, ensuring that public facilities accommodate persons with disabilities (OKU), the elderly, and children is essential for fostering inclusivity. Strengthening the enforcement of building codes and infrastructure policies is also crucial to ensuring long-term resilience.

Overall, while Sarawak city councils have taken steps toward achieving SDGs 6, 7, and 9, further efforts are needed to enhance water accessibility, support clean energy transitions, and improve infrastructure inclusivity. Investing in renewable energy adoption, advancing digital transformation, and ensuring compliance with accessibility standards are key to building a sustainable and future-ready Sarawak



Issues and Challenges

The following section summarizes key issues, challenges, and recommendations identified for infrastructure SDGs through analysis and stakeholder engagements, which this report aims to address and advance in support of the 2030 Agenda. This summary highlights pressing issues and challenges with supporting data, providing a comprehensive understanding to guide informed decision-making and strategic policy development.

Sarawak city councils face significant challenges in ensuring equitable access to clean water, particularly in underserved urban and peri-urban areas. Aging water infrastructure, limited coverage of piped water supply, and inconsistent maintenance contribute to frequent supply disruptions. Additionally, existing water treatment facilities require upgrades to enhance efficiency and ensure compliance with safety standards. Many communities still rely on alternative water sources such as rainwater harvesting and groundwater extraction, which pose potential health risks due to contamination. Without continuous infrastructure investment and stricter water quality monitoring, ensuring long-term water security for both residents and businesses remains a critical concern for local councils.

Infrastructure Accessibility and Digitalisation Gaps (SDG 9) for Sarawak City Councils

Sarawak city councils continue to face challenges in maintaining and upgrading infrastructure to meet the needs of an expanding urban population. Many public facilities, transportation networks, and commercial buildings lack adequate provisions for persons with disabilities (OKU), the elderly, and children, limiting accessibility and inclusivity. Additionally, aging infrastructure and inadequate maintenance result in frequent breakdowns, increasing operational costs and reducing efficiency.

A key concern is the slow progress in digital transformation, which affects urban management, public services, and economic opportunities. While digitalisation efforts are underway, disparities in internet connectivity persist, particularly in suburban and semi-urban areas, limiting access to essential online services, education, and business growth. To create a future-ready urban environment, city councils must prioritize investments in smart infrastructure, strengthen enforcement of inclusive urban planning policies, and enhance digital connectivity to drive economic and social development.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.

Installation of LED Lights in Rural Areas



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>This project involves the installation of solar-powered streetlights in rural and off-grid areas of Miri. The initiative aims to provide reliable nighttime lighting to enhance community safety, support local activities, and improve visibility on roads and public spaces. Solar lighting is an environmentally friendly solution, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and lowering electricity costs. The project also promotes sustainable development by ensuring long-term energy efficiency and resilience against power disruptions.</p>	Miri City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Remote and underserved rural communities within Miri District	Residents of Miri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved lighting in rural areas for safety and security Reduced reliance on conventional electricity and lower carbon footprint Enhanced accessibility and mobility at night 	SDG 3 and SDG 9

Conventional Bulb Replacement to LED



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The replacement of conventional bulbs with LED lighting in Miri is an energy efficiency initiative aimed at reducing electricity consumption, lowering carbon emissions, and cutting long-term costs for households, businesses, and public infrastructure. This project aligns with Sarawak's broader sustainability goals and supports global efforts to combat climate change.</p>	Miri City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri District	Residents of Miri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced reliance on conventional electricity and lower carbon footprint Enhanced accessibility and mobility at night 	SDG 3 and SDG 9

Installation of Solar Lights



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>This project involves the installation of solar-powered streetlights in rural and off-grid areas of Miri. The initiative aims to provide reliable nighttime lighting to enhance community safety, support local activities, and improve visibility on roads and public spaces. Solar lighting is an environmentally friendly solution, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and lowering electricity costs. The project also promotes sustainable development by ensuring long-term energy efficiency and resilience against power disruptions.</p>	Miri City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Futsal court, parks	Residents of Miri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved lighting for safety and security Reduced reliance on conventional electricity and lower carbon footprint Enhanced accessibility and mobility at night 	SDG 3 and SDG 9

Smart Meter Projects



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>Miri, as a key urban center in Sarawak, is gradually adopting smart meter technology as part of Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB)'s broader initiative to modernize electricity infrastructure under the Sarawak Smart Grid Masterplan (2020–2030).</p>	Miri City Council	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri	Residents of Miri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved lighting for safety and security Reduced reliance on conventional electricity and lower carbon footprint Enhanced accessibility and mobility at night 	SDG 3 and SDG 9

Kuching Smart City



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The Kuching Smart City project aims to transform Kuching into a technologically advanced and sustainable urban hub. It includes the implementation of smart traffic systems, digital governance, real-time public transport monitoring, and enhanced public safety measures through surveillance and IoT (Internet of Things) solutions. The project also focuses on integrating smart energy management, waste collection optimization, and digital citizen engagement platforms. By leveraging data-driven solutions, the initiative aims to improve urban living, reduce congestion, and create a more resilient and efficient city.</p>	<p>Kuching South City Council</p>	-	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<p>Key urban zones and commercial areas within Kuching South</p>	<p>Residents of Kuching South</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced digital infrastructure and connectivity Increased efficiency in traffic management and public safety Improved urban services through smart technologies 	<p>SDG 11 and SDG 16</p>

Cities and Community Livability SDGs

Focused on sustainability in cities and communities

Sarawak City Councils have made significant strides in advancing sustainable urban development under SDG 11, focusing on resilient infrastructure, inclusive public spaces, and smart city initiatives. The district prioritizes on efficient public transportation, and green urban planning to enhance the quality of life for residents.

Additionally, digital connectivity, smart city solutions, and community-driven urban programs support economic vitality and social inclusivity. Expanding public green spaces and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure fosters a more livable and sustainable city.



6.4 Cities and Community Livability SDGs: Focused on sustainability in cities and communities

Current Situation

Sarawak city councils face ongoing challenges in promoting sustainable and livable urban environments, particularly in housing, infrastructure, and public spaces. Housing affordability remains a key concern, with high property prices making homeownership difficult for lower-income groups. Many older housing areas still lack proper infrastructure and modern amenities, reducing overall living conditions. Additionally, urban expansion is constrained by geographical factors such as hilly terrain, which complicates infrastructure development and increases construction costs. While the Post-COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 outlines urban sustainability goals, local councils require more targeted policies to improve affordable housing access and ensure balanced urban growth.

Another pressing issue is the limited availability of green spaces, which are vital for community well-being and environmental sustainability. Rapid urbanization and commercial developments have reduced the allocation of parks and recreational areas, leaving residents with fewer outdoor spaces. Although Smart City initiatives are being introduced to incorporate sustainability into urban planning, stronger efforts are needed to ensure green infrastructure development and enhance public accessibility to recreational areas.

Additionally, waste management issues continue to affect city councils, with insufficient landfill capacity and limited recycling facilities leading to improper waste disposal. Illegal dumping remains a significant problem, impacting public health and urban cleanliness. Without improved waste management systems, such as dedicated recycling centers and stricter enforcement of waste disposal regulations, these challenges will persist and hinder Sarawak's progress toward sustainability.

While Sarawak city councils have made strides toward urban sustainability, further improvements in affordable housing policies, green space development, and efficient waste management are necessary to build resilient, inclusive, and well-planned cities. Strengthening urban planning strategies, enhancing public facilities, and adopting smarter environmental solutions will be crucial in shaping a more livable Sarawak for future generations.

Issues and Challenges

The following section summarizes key issues, challenges, and recommendations identified for Cities and Communities SDGs through analysis and stakeholder engagements, which this report aims to address and advance in support of the 2030 Agenda. This summary highlights pressing issues and challenges with supporting data, providing a comprehensive understanding to guide informed decision-making and strategic policy development.

Housing Affordability and Rising Costs

Sarawak city councils are grappling with the growing challenge of housing affordability, as rising property prices make homeownership and rental options increasingly difficult for low- and middle-income residents. Rapid urban development and increasing demand for residential properties have further driven costs up, putting financial strain on many households. While the Post-COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 outlines measures to improve housing access, local councils need to implement more targeted initiatives, such as affordable housing projects, rental assistance programs, and strategic urban planning to ensure inclusive and sustainable housing solutions.

Limited Green Spaces and Urban Sustainability

A shortage of well-maintained green spaces poses a challenge to the sustainability efforts of Sarawak's city councils. Parks, recreational areas, and urban greenery play a crucial role in improving air quality, mitigating urban heat, and enhancing residents' well-being. However, rapid urbanization has resulted in fewer dedicated green spaces, limiting public access to natural environments. While Smart City initiatives are being introduced to integrate sustainability into urban planning, greater emphasis is needed on preserving and expanding green areas within city limits. This includes improving park maintenance, enforcing green infrastructure policies, and incorporating more eco-friendly elements into city planning.

Waste Management and Land Use Challenges

Sarawak's city councils continue to face challenges related to waste management and land-use planning, particularly due to insufficient landfill capacity and the lack of comprehensive recycling systems. As urban populations grow, existing landfills are reaching capacity, leading to increased illegal dumping, environmental pollution, and public health risks. Additionally, the absence of dedicated recycling centers results in over-reliance on landfills, limiting sustainable waste disposal options. Poorly coordinated urban expansion has also contributed to issues such as traffic congestion, inefficient zoning, and inadequate public infrastructure. To address these concerns, city councils must invest in modernized landfill management, waste-to-energy solutions, and integrated recycling programs, while strengthening urban planning frameworks to create cleaner, more sustainable, and better-planned cities.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.

Smart City



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Sarawak is actively pursuing smart city principles to become a model of sustainable urban development and improve the quality of life for its citizens. The integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and technological advancements is essential in addressing urban challenges such as congestion, pollution, outdated infrastructure, and crime. These initiatives align with the Post-Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, which aims to create an inclusive society, enhance economic prosperity, and promote environmental sustainability.	All local authorities	Smart City Committee (Economic Planning Unit)	-	Phase 3 (beyond 2030)	EPU
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Improved urban living standards,	SDG 9

Safe City



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Focuses on enhancing urban safety through various measures, including crime prevention strategies, improved street lighting, and the implementation of surveillance systems to monitor public spaces. Additionally, efforts are made to improve pedestrian safety and reduce accident-prone areas through better urban planning. Collaboration with local communities and law enforcement under community policing efforts further strengthens neighborhood security, ensuring a safer and more livable environment for residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council Kuching South City Council Padawan Municipal Council 	MB Miri MBKS MD Padawan	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Local Community	Safety for Local Community	SDG 16

Proposed Skim Penempatan Semula



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Skim Penempatan Semula is a government initiative aimed at relocating and providing proper housing for communities living in squatter areas. This scheme is designed to improve the living conditions of affected families by offering structured housing solutions with basic amenities like clean water, electricity, proper drainage, and roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuching South City Council Miri City Council Sibu Municipal Council Dalat & Mukah District Council Kota Samarahan Municipal Council 	Sarawak State Planning Authority (SPA)		Phase 2 (2026-2030)	
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching, Miri, Sibu, Dalat and Mukah, Selangau, Kota Samarahan	Public	Relocation assistance, affordable housing	SDG 1, 9

Kuching City Local Plan



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Kuching City Local Plan 2030 (KCLP) outlines the strategic direction for Kuching City over the next decade, guiding its growth and transformation while addressing social, economic, and environmental factors.	Kuching South City Council	MUDENR	-	Phase 3 (after 2030)	MUDENR
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching	Public	Kuching City Local Plan	SDG 1,2,3,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14,15,16,17

Proposed Affordable Housing



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Aims to address housing affordability and accessibility, particularly for B40 and low-income households.	All local authorities	Housing Development Corporation		Phase 2 (2026-2030)	
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Local Community	New housing developments with subsidized pricing.	SDG 2, 9

Child-Friendly City Initiative



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Kuching South City Council (MBKS) has adopted the Child-Friendly City Initiative (CFCI), a global UNICEF-led program, to create a safer, more inclusive, and supportive urban environment for children in Kuching. This initiative aligns with Malaysia's commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).	• MBKS	MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		• Kuching South	MBKS	Enhanced children's safety, participation, and well-being	SDG 5, 9

Age-Friendly City Committee Initiative



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recognised MBKS as part of their Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC).	• MBKS	MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		• Kuching South	Older adults and vulnerable groups	Enhanced infrastructure, public spaces and services for older adults and other vulnerable groups.	SDG 5, 9

Miri Operation Command Centre



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Miri Operation Command Centre (OCC) is a key component of Miri's Smart City Transformation, acting as a centralized monitoring and response hub for urban services, security, and emergencies. It integrates real-time data analytics, IoT sensors, and AI-driven decision-making to enhance efficiency, safety, and sustainability in Miri.	• Miri	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		• Miri District	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public safety and emergency response Disaster management Utility and environmental monitoring 	SDG 5, 9



Miri Smart City Proof of Concept

Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Miri Smart City PoC is a pilot initiative testing innovative urban technologies to enhance livability, sustainability, and efficiency in Miri, Sarawak.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri residents	Reduce traffic congestion and carbon footprint, improve waste management and emergency response times and enhance public engagement through digital platforms.	SDG 5, 9



Smart Parking

Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Miri's Smart Parking System leverages technology to reduce congestion, improve parking availability, and enhance the urban mobility experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri District 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real-Time Parking Guidance Cashless Payments 	SDG 9

Proposed Smart Pedestrian Crossings and Traffic Light Intersections

Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
To implement AI-enhanced pedestrian crossings and smart traffic intersections to improve road safety, reduce congestion, and prioritize walkability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart Pedestrian Crossings Accessibility-First Design 	SDG 9, 16

Miri Smart City App

Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Miri Smart City App is a unified digital platform designed to enhance convenience, sustainability, and civic engagement for residents and visitors. Includes: Solid Waste Collection, Street Sweeping, Drainage Maintenance modules Grass Cutting & Drain Clearing reporting module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri District 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart mobility Public transport integration 	SDG 9

Miri Car Free Day



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Miri's Car-Free Day is an initiative where designated streets are temporarily closed to motorized vehicles, encouraging walking, cycling, and public transport to reduce emissions and foster a healthier urban environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce Traffic Congestion & Pollution Promote Active Lifestyles 	SDG 3

Public Wi-Fi for Smart Energy Management



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Miri is deploying free public Wi-Fi networks integrated with smart energy management systems to optimize power usage, reduce costs, and promote sustainability while keeping citizens connected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri District 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart energy integration Public wifi access 	SDG 9

Miri Car Free Day



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
Miri's Car-Free Day is an initiative where designated streets are temporarily closed to motorized vehicles, encouraging walking, cycling, and public transport to reduce emissions and foster a healthier urban environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce Traffic Congestion & Pollution Promote Active Lifestyles 	SDG 3

Public Wi-Fi for Smart Energy Management



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Miri Smart City App is a unified digital platform designed to enhance convenience, sustainability, and civic engagement for residents and visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri 	Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri District 	Miri residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart mobility Public transport integration 	SDG 9

Environmental SDGs

Tackling Climate Action and Sustainability Challenges

Sarawak City Councils are actively working to address environmental challenges related to SDGs 12, 13, 14, and 15 by improving waste management and collaborating with local businesses to reduce agriculture and tourism impacts. However, the region faces difficulties with waste management and climate resilience due to erratic weather, landslides, and shifting agricultural patterns. To combat these, climate action strategies focusing on both mitigation and adaptation are being developed. Conservation efforts, including reforestation and biodiversity protection, aim to preserve natural resources and combat deforestation. Continuous efforts are needed for long-term sustainability.



6.5 Environmental SDGs: Tackling Climate Action and Sustainability Challenges

Current Situation

Sarawak's city councils are actively implementing sustainability initiatives in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

Waste Management and Sustainable Consumption (SDG 12)

To promote responsible waste management, city councils have launched community recycling programs and plastic waste reduction initiatives to minimize environmental pollution. Additionally, efforts are underway to develop a new waste disposal center, improving efficiency in waste management while aligning with Sarawak's Environmental (Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Emission) Bill, 2023.

City councils are leading Low Carbon City initiatives, expanding urban greening projects, and conducting climate change awareness programs to foster a more sustainable urban environment. These efforts contribute to Sarawak's broader target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, reinforcing its commitment to climate resilience.

To enhance water quality and protect aquatic ecosystems, city councils are working on river pollution reduction initiatives and marine conservation programs. These projects complement broader environmental conservation efforts, including those supported by international organizations like the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO).

Biodiversity conservation remains a priority for city councils, with urban reforestation programs and large-scale tree planting initiatives being implemented. These efforts align with Malaysia's national goal of planting 100 million trees by 2025, reinforcing Sarawak's commitment to green infrastructure and ecological sustainability.

Through these collective initiatives, Sarawak's city councils are fostering a cleaner, greener, and more resilient urban environment. Strengthening waste management, climate action, conservation efforts, and urban planning will be key to ensuring a sustainable future for all residents.

Issues and Challenges

The following section summarises key issues, challenges, and recommendations identified for Environmental SDGs through analysis and stakeholder engagements, which this report aims to address and advance in support of the 2030 Agenda. This summary highlights pressing issues and challenges with supporting data, providing a comprehensive understanding to guide informed decision-making and strategic policy development.

Illegal Dumping and Waste Management (SDG 12)

Illegal dumping remains a major concern under the jurisdiction of Sarawak City Councils, leading to environmental degradation and public health risks. Insufficient waste disposal facilities, weak enforcement, and low public awareness contribute to waste accumulation in public spaces, drains, and riverbanks. Addressing this issue requires stricter regulations, improved waste collection services, and stronger community involvement in responsible waste disposal practices.

Limited Sanitary Landfills (SDG 12)

The limited availability of sanitary landfill sites poses a significant challenge for waste management within Sarawak City Councils area. Existing landfill sites are nearing full capacity, while the search for new locations is hindered by urban expansion and environmental concerns. Without sustainable waste management solutions such as enhanced recycling programs and waste reduction initiatives, the increasing population and waste generation will continue to place strain on landfill infrastructure.

Improper Waste Management (SDG 12)

Inadequate waste management systems within Sarawak City Councils jurisdiction contribute to pollution, environmental degradation, and public health hazards. The rapid increase in waste from residential, commercial, and industrial sectors, combined with ineffective collection services and enforcement, has led to frequent illegal dumping. Unregulated disposal at riverbanks, vacant lands, and roadsides exacerbates pollution and threatens water sources, necessitating improved waste management strategies and stricter enforcement measures.

Marine and River Pollution (SDG 14)

Water pollution remains a critical issue in areas under Sarawak City Councils due to industrial discharge, household waste, and poor sewage management. Contaminants from various sources degrade water quality, endanger marine biodiversity, and negatively impact economic activities such as fisheries and tourism. Strengthening pollution control measures, enhancing wastewater treatment facilities, and implementing river rehabilitation programs are essential to preserving the city's water ecosystems.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.

Proposed Waste-to-Energy Study



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
A study on the waste management system that uses high-tech incinerators to generate energy. The plan involves zonal waste collection with centralized incinerators, which could transform waste into energy and other products.	All local authority	Economic Planning Unit (EPU)	-	Phase 2 (2026-2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Helping to reduce waste and protect the local environment	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

Proposed Sarawak Reef Ball Project



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Sarawak Reef Ball Project is a significant marine conservation initiative aimed at enhancing fishery resources, promoting marine-based ecotourism, and exploring coral mariculture as a new economic opportunity. Launched in 2018, the project has deployed 16,800 reef balls along a 746km stretch of Sarawak's coastline, creating the world's longest reef ball barrier reef. Each reef ball is designed to increase fishery resources by approximately 100 to 400kg per year, averaging 250kg per unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miri City Council Lundu District Council Kuching South City Council 		-	Phase 2 (2026-2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri-Sibuti Coral Reefs National Park Tanjung Datu National Park Talang-Satang National Park Sematan Lundu coastal waters	Public	Reduce carbon emissions	SDG 13

Plastic Waste Reduction Program



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>These programs focus on reducing single-use plastics, promoting recycling, and encouraging public awareness campaigns to minimize plastic pollution. Efforts include the introduction of plastic-free policies, community-based recycling initiatives, and collaborations with businesses to adopt sustainable packaging alternatives. Additionally, enforcement measures and incentive programs aim to encourage responsible plastic waste disposal and long-term behavioral change among residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saratok District Council Lubok Antu District Council Kanowit District Council Maradong & Julau District Council Miri City Council Lundu District Council Kuching South City Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saratok District Council Lubok Antu District Council Kanowit District Council Maradong & Julau District Council Miri City Council Lundu District Council Kuching South City Council 	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Saratok, Lubok Antu, Kanowit, Maradong & Julau, Miri, Lundu	Public	Minimise plastic pollution	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15



No Plastic Straw and No Styrofoam



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source				
MBKS has a policy for no plastic straw and no Styrofoam for market, hawker centers, restaurants, Ramadan Bazaar and Kuching Festival Fair.	• MBKS	• MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-				
						Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
						Kuching South	Public	Minimise pollution	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

Bank Sampah Program



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source				
MBKS has implemented Bank Sampah - a structured recycling initiative in which residents deposit recyclables in exchange for incentives. To promote sustainability, community engagement, and waste reduction.	• MBKS	• MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-				
						Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
						Kuching South	Public	Minimise pollution	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

MBKS-Private Sector Collaboration: High-Rise Waste Management



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
MBKS has collaborated with a private company to form a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to manage inorganic waste and used cooking oil collection in high-rise residential areas.	• MBKS	• MBKS	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching South	Public	Minimise pollution	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

Large Scale Composting



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
A sustainable solution for managing organic waste, reducing landfill dependence, and producing valuable compost for agriculture or landscaping.	• Miri City Council	• Miri City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri	Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces methane emissions from landfills. Produces compost for farms, parks, or urban greening. 	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

Sarawak Low Carbon Initiative



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
The Low Carbon Initiative in Sarawak is a strategic effort to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, mitigate climate change impacts, and promote sustainable urban development. It aligns with Malaysia's Low Carbon Cities Framework (LCCF) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by integrating eco-friendly policies, green technologies, and community-driven programs	All local authorities	All local authorities	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Reduction in carbon emission	SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 15

Greening Sarawak Campaign



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
For the Greening Sarawak Campaign, Sarawak has surpassed the target 35 million in year 2024, contributing to Malaysia's national goal of 100 million trees. Remarkably, Sarawak achieved this target ahead of schedule in mid-2024, highlighting the state's commitment to environmental sustainability.	All local authorities	Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre	Sarawak Energy	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Enhance ecological functionality, support forest-dependent communities, and preserve Sarawak's status as a sanctuary of greenery	SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Kuching South Car Free Morning



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The program designates specific roads as vehicle-free zones for a few hours, encouraging walking, cycling, and recreational activities. It aims to raise awareness of sustainable transportation, reduce traffic congestion, and create a cleaner urban environment. The initiative also fosters community engagement by providing a safe and enjoyable space for residents to be active while supporting environmental sustainability efforts.</p>	Kuching South City Council	Kuching South City Council	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching South	Public	Reduced carbon emission	SDG 3, 11, SDG 12, SDG 15

Kuching Low Carbon Hub



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authority	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The Kuching Low-Carbon Hub is a key initiative under Sarawak's Post-Covid-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, aimed at positioning the state as a leader in renewable energy and decarbonisation.</p> <p>As part of the broader Sarawak Gas Roadmap (SGR), the hub focuses on promoting low-carbon solutions, sustainable development, and a transition to cleaner energy. It serves as a catalyst for industrial growth, attracting investments, generating high-quality jobs, and supporting regional decarbonisation efforts.</p> <p>The initiative aligns with Sarawak's vision of a high-income, environmentally responsible economy, ensuring long-term economic prosperity and sustainability.</p>	Kuching South City Council	Petroleum Sarawak Berhad (PETROS)	Petroleum Nasional Berhad (PETRONAS)	Phase 3 (after 2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching	Public	Energy transition, environmental sustainability	SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Seed Ball Project



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
An innovative reforestation initiative aimed at restoring degraded forest areas, particularly in remote and inaccessible regions. This project involves the use of small, nutrient-rich balls made of soil, clay, and organic matter, which contain seeds of native tree species. These seed balls are designed to enhance germination rates and promote natural afforestation with minimal human intervention.	All local authorities	Sarawak Forestry Department	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Accelerates reforestation	SDG 11 SDG 15



Proposed Waste-to-Energy Study



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
To reduce landfill dependence while producing renewable energy and aligns with Sarawak's Post-COVID Development Strategy 2030 for green energy.	All local authorities	All local authorities	-	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Energy generation and waste reduction	SDG 11 SDG 12

Proposed 'Borneo Adventures: Citizen Science in Action' program



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>This initiative aims to empower individuals to participate in environmental conservation through citizen science projects across Sarawak. It emphasizes the pivotal role of libraries as community connectors and facilitators in these initiatives, transforming them into bridges between scientific research and community engagement.</p> <p>The program includes interactive workshops and field-based learning opportunities. Participants, including secondary school students (ages 13 to 17), researchers, university students, and adults aged 18 and above, engage in biodiversity documentation and water quality testing using advanced tools like iNaturalist and water testing kits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuching South City Council Miri City Council Sibu Municipal Council 	Persatuan Pustakawan Malaysia	Pusat Pembangunan Lestari Universiti Malaya (UMSDC), American Corners Malaysia, Pustaka Negeri Sarawak, Perpustakaan Negeri Sabah, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Perpustakaan Universiti Teknologi MARA Pahang dan PPM Kumpulan Sabah dan Sarawak.	Phase 2 (2026-2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching, Miri, Sibu	Public	Enhanced understanding of biodiversity conservation	SDG 13 SDG 14



Governance SDGs

Strengthening Institutional Frameworks and Transparency

Sarawak City Councils are committed to strengthening local governance and institutions to enhance transparency, decision-making, and institutional capacity in alignment with SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). However, further efforts are necessary to promote inclusivity and build public trust. Achieving SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) requires stronger collaboration between the government, private sector, and civil society, particularly in SDG reporting, implementation, and monitoring. Key challenges such as illegal plantations, jurisdictional overlaps in land governance, and resource management issues continue to hinder sustainable development. Strengthening both local and international partnerships is essential to overcoming these obstacles and ensuring long-term sustainability in Sarawak.



6.6 Governance SDGs: Strengthening Institutional Frameworks and Transparency

Current Situation

Sarawak City Councils are actively working to enhance governance, institutional capacity, and strategic partnerships in alignment with SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Efforts focus on improving transparency, optimizing decision-making processes, and strengthening public service delivery. However, challenges persist, including jurisdictional overlaps in land administration, enforcement limitations, and the need for more inclusive community engagement to foster public trust and ensure effective governance.

Sarawak City Councils have established collaborations with government agencies, the private sector, and civil society to advance sustainable development in line with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Public-private partnerships and international cooperation efforts are being implemented, particularly in areas such as environmental conservation, digital transformation, and economic growth. However, challenges remain, including limited data-sharing mechanisms, resource constraints, and the need for improved SDG monitoring frameworks. Strengthening multi-stakeholder engagement is crucial to accelerating progress and ensuring more effective implementation of sustainability initiatives.

Issues and Challenges

The following section summarizes key issues, challenges, and recommendations identified for Governance SDGs through analysis and stakeholder engagements, which this report aims to address and advance in support of the 2030 Agenda. This summary highlights pressing issues and challenges with supporting data, providing a comprehensive understanding to guide informed decision-making and strategic policy development.

Challenges in Ensuring Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) in Sarawak City Councils

Sarawak City Councils face several challenges in maintaining peace, justice, and strong institutions, including the rise in scams, drugs, illegal gambling, and cybersecurity threats that impact public safety. Issues such as online fraud, digital crime, theft, and vandalism remain prevalent, requiring stronger law enforcement and community policing. A lack of trust in local government institutions in some communities further hampers public cooperation in governance and security efforts, emphasizing the need for greater transparency and inclusive engagement.

Challenges in Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Development (SDG 17) in Sarawak City Councils

Efforts to achieve SDG 17 in Sarawak City Councils are hindered by weak coordination between government agencies, the private sector, and NGOs, reducing the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives. Limited community engagement in certain programs results in low participation and minimal impact. Funding constraints and resource limitations slow down the implementation of development projects, while inefficient data-sharing mechanisms between agencies affect decision-making and project execution. Additionally, private sector involvement in sustainability efforts remains insufficient, highlighting the need for better incentives, collaboration strategies, and policy support to strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development.

Note: These findings are sourced from the focus group discussion carried out in January 2025.

Empowering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Committee at the Local Government Level



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Committee within the local authorities in Sarawak is envisioned as a dedicated task force to drive sustainability initiatives in alignment with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda. This committee aims to integrate SDG principles into urban governance, ensuring that Sarawak progresses towards becoming a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient city.</p>	All local authorities	All local authorities	-	Phase 3 (after 2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Regular meetings, progress reports, and policy recommendations	SDG 11, SDG 16

Proposed Data Centre and Digitalisation



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>The proposed data centre in Sarawak will serve as the central hub for smart city management, digital governance, and real-time data processing.</p> <p>This facility will support Sarawak's digitalisation efforts, ensuring secure, efficient, and scalable data management for municipal services, businesses, and the public sector.</p>	All local authorities	All local authorities	-	Phase 3 (after 2030)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Sarawak	Public	Improved efficiency, economic growth, better public engagement	SDG 11, SDG 16

Strategic International Cooperation



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>This initiative focuses on establishing a twin-cities program with international cities that share similar profiles to the local authorities, fostering collaborative exchanges in sustainable development, urban management, and cultural enrichment to enhance mutual growth and knowledge sharing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kapit District Council • Miri City Council • Marudi District Council 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan • Thailand • Vietnam • China • Taiwan 	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
<p>Notable PBTs include:</p>		<p>Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)</p>	<p>Target Group</p>	<p>Outcome of Project</p>	<p>Other Related SDGs or Targets</p>
<p>MBKS: Friendship cities with China, Korea, Japan</p>		Friendship cities	Sarawak residents	Foster international collaboration, enabling shared knowledge and sustainable development between cities with similar profiles.	All SDGs
<p>MD Kapit: Collaboration with Asia countries such as Japan, Thailand and Vietnam on low carbon initiatives</p>					
<p>MB Miri: Collaboration with 9 sister cities include Japan and China in which they aim to develop a research centre to attract investment and boost tourism</p>					
<p>MD Marudi: Sisterhood with Kaohsiung, Taiwan</p>					

MBKS SDG Committee



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>MBKS has established an SDG Committee comprising both Councillors and Administration officials to oversee Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)-related projects and programs. This demonstrates a strong commitment to aligning local governance with global sustainability targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MBKS 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan • Thailand • Vietnam • China • Taiwan 	Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Kuching	Public	Foster international collaboration, enabling shared knowledge and sustainable development between cities with similar profiles.	All SDGs

Smart Project, Asset & e-Digital Document System (MCC, MGC & PWD)



Explanation of Project/Program	Local Authorities	Lead Agency/Department and Focal Point	Partners Involved	Project Priority	Project Authority Source
<p>A unified digital platform for real-time project monitoring, asset management, and paperless documentation tailored for MCC, MGC, and PWD Miri.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miri City Council 			Phase 1 (2025-2026)	-
		Target Area (Entire Local Authority Area/Specific Area)	Target Group	Outcome of Project	Other Related SDGs or Targets
		Miri	Public	Enabling shared knowledge	All SDGs

Process Flow of the Sarawak SDG Roadmap

Each phase is strategically designed to build upon previous achievements, ensuring that Sarawak progresses towards becoming a sustainable, resilient, and globally connected state.

By following this phased approach, Sarawak's SDG Roadmap aligns with both local development goals and international sustainability standards.

Phase	Key Focus Areas
Phase 1 (2025-2026)	Immediate actions – Addressing urgent social needs, basic infrastructure, climate resilience, and governance frameworks.
Phase 2 (2026-2030)	Expansion – Scaling up initiatives, strengthening urban planning, improving environmental policies, and fostering economic growth.
Phase 3 (After 2030)	Long-term vision – Implementing smart cities, advanced environmental strategies, and digital transformation.

Phase 1 (2025-2026): Immediate Actions

The initial phase focuses on foundational programs to address social welfare, infrastructure needs, and environmental sustainability. Key initiatives include affordable housing programs, poverty assistance schemes, rural healthcare expansion (mobile clinics), and school infrastructure upgrades. Infrastructure projects such as clean water supply, rural electrification, drainage system improvements, and solar lighting installations lay the groundwork for future development. Environmental efforts include plastic waste reduction, e-waste recycling, river cleanups, and the Greening Sarawak Campaign, while governance initiatives establish strategic international cooperation to support long-term SDG implementation.

Phase 2 (2026-2030): Expansion and Scaling Up

The second phase expands on the groundwork of Phase 1, with a stronger focus on urban planning, economic empowerment, and environmental conservation. Initiatives such as resilient housing for flood-prone areas, smart city planning, affordable housing expansion, and business capital assistance for women and youth aim to enhance economic and social development. Infrastructure improvements continue with new water treatment plants, upgraded village roads, and waste-to-energy projects. Environmental conservation is emphasized through marine ecosystem protection, the Sarawak Reef Ball Project, and sanitary landfill development, while governance efforts focus on strengthening the SDG Committee at the local government level.

Phase 3 (Beyond 2030): Long-term Vision

The final phase prioritizes long-term sustainability, smart city transformation, and digital governance. Major projects include the Kuching Low Carbon Hub, smart city digital infrastructure, governance reforms, and institutional capacity building. Environmental efforts shift towards biodiversity conservation, renewable energy expansion, and strategic waste management to ensure climate resilience. Governance improvements, including data center digitalization and strengthening international partnerships, solidify Sarawak's commitment to sustainable urban development and global SDG alignment beyond 2030.