

RECODA

NEWSLETTER 2020

A CHAT WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER

The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg



14

Northern Coastal Highway Value Labs



06

Interview

Tan Sri Paul Koon: Leadership and the 'New Normal'



09

Interview

OM Materials: We Are Here to Stay



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 A welcoming message from RECODA's Chief Executive Officer Datu Haji Ismawi bin Haji Ismuni

02 **Chief Minister's Interview**

Our Chief Minister gets candid about RECODA's role in attracting investors while simultaneously implementing billions in infrastructure projects

06 **Leadership and the 'New Normal'**

Press Metal CEO and co-founder Tan Sri Paul Koon gives his insights on leadership in a challenging business environment and working with family members to grow the firm

09 **'We are here to stay'**

OM Materials Executive Chairman Low Ngee Tong speaks about the firm's ferrosilicon and manganese alloy smelting plant in Samalaju and its future direction

11 **Agencies Highlights**

- Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA)
- Highland Development Agency (HDA)
- Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA)

14 **Northern Coastal Highway Value Labs**

The NCH Value Assessment Lab and Pre-Engineering Lab were held to iron out the details of the proposed 86km highway

16 **Activities & Events**

- Courtesy Calls and Engagements
- Contracts Signing - URDA, HDA & NRDA
- RECODA Townhall Session
- CM's Official Visit to Lawas & Sibul
- DCM Awang Tengah Work Trip to Lawas
- RECODA OACP Workshop

24 **Staff Activities**

- Blood Donation Drive
- RECODA's Sport & Recreation Club
- Friendly Golf Game



CEO'S MESSAGE

**DATU HAJI ISMAWI
BIN HAJI ISMUNI**

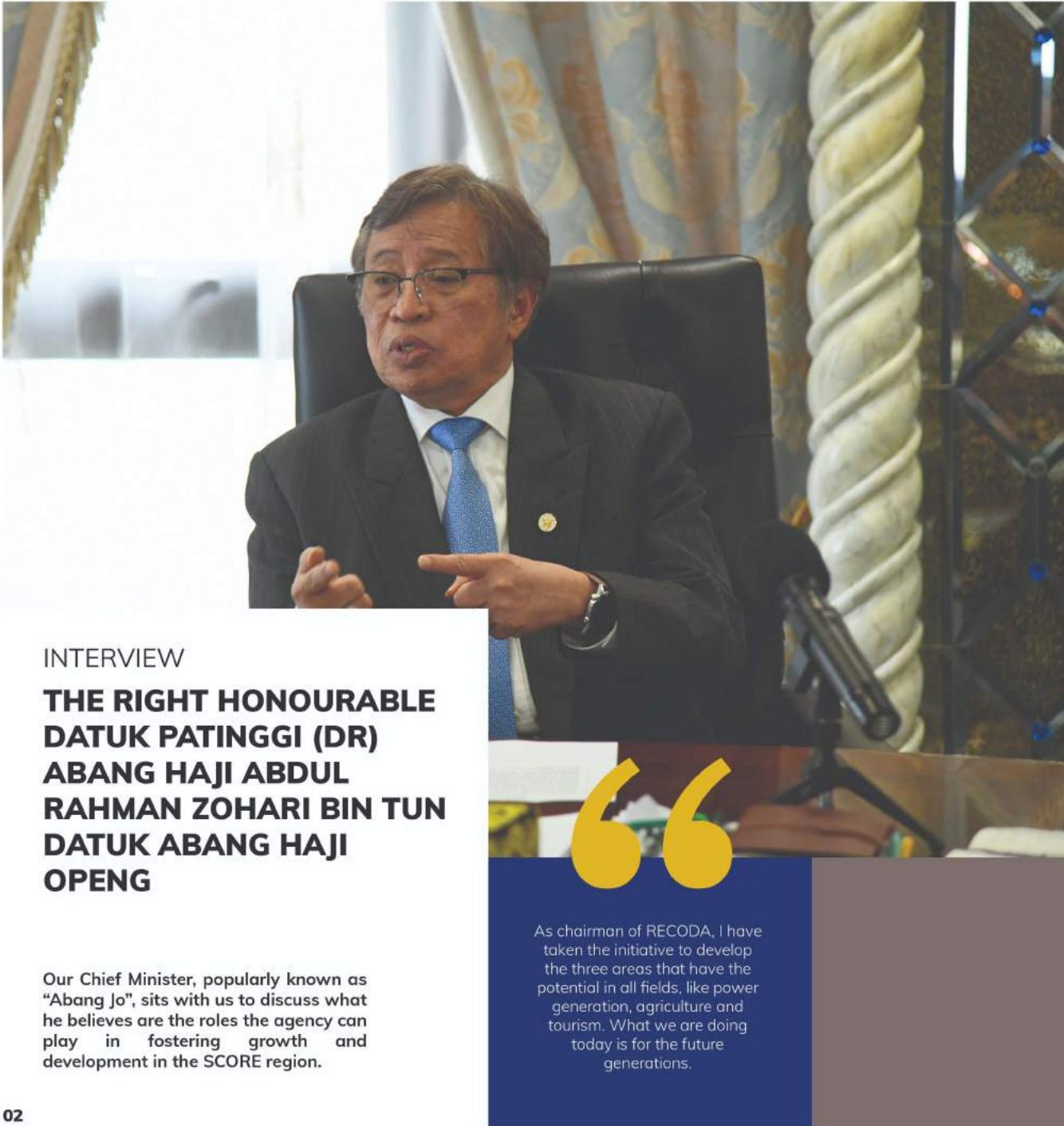
This READCODA is our inaugural newsletter which will be produced annually. It is an e-publication that we want to share with everyone as we capture some of the activities and events, not only on RECODA itself, but that of other stakeholders too, keeping everyone in the loop. We believe sharing is always caring.

In this edition, we are sharing with you our interviews with the Sarawak Chief Minister, The Right Honourable Datuk

Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg. Also, there are interviews with Tan Sri Paul Koon from Press Metal and Mr Low Ngee Tong from OM Materials. Read on to find out what their thoughts are on certain issues. You would not want to miss it. We also share with you some of our internal events so that you could know us better.

On behalf of the editorial team, I hope you find this newsletter informative and

worth your time to read. To those who contribute to the publication of this newsletter, especially our dearest investors in Samalaju Industrial Park, thank you. Lastly, for those who are digital savvy, you may want to visit us on our social media platforms i.e. Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter for the latest updates. Just key in the word "RECODA" and you can find us there.



INTERVIEW

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DATUK PATINGGI (DR) ABANG HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN ZOHARI BIN TUN DATUK ABANG HAJI OPENG

Our Chief Minister, popularly known as “Abang Jo”, sits with us to discuss what he believes are the roles the agency can play in fostering growth and development in the SCORE region.

As chairman of RECODA, I have taken the initiative to develop the three areas that have the potential in all fields, like power generation, agriculture and tourism. What we are doing today is for the future generations.

A CHAT WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER who is also the RECODA Chairman

When you took over the Chief Ministership, you decided to create three development agencies - URDA, HDA and NRDA - to undertake infrastructure development projects in their respective regions. Why did you do so?

In order for us to attract investors to Sarawak, we must first have good infrastructure. Investors will not come unless amenities and connectivity are provided. This means we have to provide access across terrain such as highlands, and treated water and power supplies for industries. When the roads are constructed, the lands nearby could be commercially utilised.

Starting in 2019, the Sarawak Government allocated RM4.5 billion to infrastructure development in the SCORE region, to be implemented by three agencies under RECODA – the Upper Rajang Development Agency, the Highland Development Agency and the Northern Region Development Agency.

As chairman of RECODA, I have taken the initiative to develop the three areas that have the potential in all fields, like power generation, agriculture and tourism. What we are doing today is for the future generations.

Why did the Sarawak government decide to undertake Phase 2 of the Pan Borneo Highway from the Federal Government, which is now known as Northern Coastal Highway?

The 786-km Pan Borneo Highway, which began its construction in 2016, will connect Telok Melano to Pujut Link Road in Miri. The Sarawak Government, with RECODA as the implementing agency, undertook the proposed 86km Northern Coastal Highway, which will connect Limbang and Lawas to the border at Sabah.

This project was actually part of the second phase of the Pan Borneo Highway project for Sarawak but was cancelled by the Pakatan Harapan Government and the Sarawak Government took it up to continue with

the project and renamed it as the Northern Coastal Highway.

We also have to bear in mind that the Indonesian Government had announced that its capital will be relocated from Jakarta to Kalimantan Tengah. What this means to us is that we have to ready ourselves for more bilateral trade activities with this largest economy in South East Asia when this happens. So, we cannot afford to sit idle and do nothing. The Northern Coastal Highway comes at the right time to prepare ourselves for this major change soon, when Indonesia moves its capital to Kalimantan Tengah.

Another major infrastructure project is the Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama road



Artist's Impression of NCH R5 Dual-Carriageway Highway

project. It seems that the Sarawak Government is aggressively building roads in the northern part of the state. What is their socio-economic impact?

In the HDA area, the Sarawak Government intends to enhance road connectivity by upgrading the Miri - Marudi road and the construction of new road from Marudi up to Long Panai with an estimated total length of 160.5km. This project will provide the long-awaited road connectivity to Gunung Mulu National Park.

The northern region of Sarawak is in a strategic location with neighbouring Brunei, Sabah and Indonesia, which enables this region to tap into the economic potential of the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asean Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), among others. We are

putting effort into improving logistics and transportation, as well as infrastructure in the area to make Limbang and Lawas a visible centre of investment attraction as well as to spur the socio-economic development in the region.

What do you believe are SCORE's strongest selling points to investors?

Sarawak is strategically located in the ASEAN region, with a total population of 2.8 million last year, out of which there is a 1.3 million English-speaking working population.

We have oil and natural gas reserves, as well as other natural resources such as vast deposits of silica sand and china clay.

Our biggest advantage is the abundance of renewable energy, provided by our hydroelectric plants such as the Bakun and Murum dams. Investors need competitively priced energy to drive heavy industries and other investments.

Additionally, within SCORE, there are areas dedicated for industries, such as the 8,000ha Samalaju Industrial Park and the 5,200ha Matadeng Industrial Park, in Mukah.

We are stepping up on the development of human capital to meet the needs of industrial employers in SCORE.



Samalaju Industrial Park

Can you give examples of positive feedback you received from foreign investors on why they chose SCORE?

Sarawak has competitive electricity tariffs, built on a sustainable competitive advantage in bulk hydropower. We also have sound transport infrastructure. The state government is stable and we provide investment incentives for businesses.

Additionally, we have a relatively young, English speaking population. Sarawak remains a vibrant location for investors to base a business especially those that require a safe and consistent supply of energy.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, global investment has slowed down. What has been the challenge to Sarawak and how do you foresee

investment in SCORE after the pandemic has been resolved?

Currently, Malaysia's borders are closed. Because the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed economic growth globally, we expect demand for investment to increase once the market opens up again.

Post Covid-19, the government is expected to look at expanding investment incentives to ensure the SCORE region remains resilient.

In the meantime, the Sarawak Government is aggressively improving our infrastructure through the three development agencies with many projects, some of which have already started while some to be implemented soon.

This will lay a good foundation for us once the pandemic is over and the

world economy opens up. We are targeting by 2030, the total targeted investments to reach RM334 billion with 1.6 million new jobs, where up to 80% of these are coming from private investments.

The investments in SCORE have contributed significantly towards Sarawak's GDP and will continue to be the driving force for future growth in the state.



The Sarawak Government, with RECODA, undertook the proposed 86km Northern Coastal Highway, which will connect Limbang and Lawas to the border at Sabah.

LEADERSHIP AMIDST THE 'NEW NORMAL'

RECODA ZOOMs with Press Metal co-founder and CEO Tan Sri Paul Koon, who gave insights on leadership in a challenging business environment and working with family members to grow the firm to be the largest aluminium producer in Southeast Asia.



After a challenging economic environment, base metals commodities are now on the upswing. Could you speak briefly on this?

I believe there's quite a big support from the market, which is in line with the industrial recovery from Covid-19.

There is optimism. I suppose it began from the US election, where everyone believes trade tension should ease and improve. Demand is rising and showing signs that it is going to further improve. Also, the US dollar is going to go weaker, which helps commodity support.

Aluminium is going to be very strong. We believe in this metal because there is this huge directional shift into being more environmentally conscious. There will be a new mindset of how to maintain a better environment moving forward.

For example, if you want cleaner air, the best way to tackle this is to reduce carbon emissions especially from automobiles and the only way to reduce it is to make it lighter. Aluminium becomes the choice material to make it happen, so all the EVs (electric vehicles) that are coming on stream, Tesla and others use a lot of

aluminium in their automobiles. The factory casing, the wheels, all are going to use more and more aluminium. That is one trend that is going in the direction towards green technology.

Are you still continuing with the plan to commission Phase 3 of your smelter expansion early next year?

We started this project before the pandemic but because of the huge setback during the MCO, we stopped for months. When we restarted the projects, to get engineers from overseas was very difficult. Projects were delayed but we are

determined to complete it. So, we are definitely looking at maybe another month or two where we can actually start this project. It will be in Samalaju Phase 3.

With an additional 320,000 tonnes, it will be a 40% increase (for a production output of 1.08 million tonnes per annum), we are looking at recruiting 1,000 more workers from this region. Aggressively, we are adding about 100 to 200 workers monthly. We are getting ourselves ready to start up. Hopefully it can happen without much delay.

You mentioned the importance of hydro-power in providing the energy for your operations. Is this the main reason you decided to base your plants in Sarawak?

Absolutely. We have always been in the aluminium business and started in downstream, buying all these raw materials. We saw the opportunity when Bakun was built and power was available. Naturally, for power intensive industry it is one good starting point, where we put up aluminium smelting in Sarawak. In West Malaysia, it is not possible because the power would not be available in this manner. That was the main driver to put up a lot of these investments in Sarawak.

The world is bearing the brunt of the Covid-19

pandemic. What do you think separates companies that are able to continue their business and those that are not?

It is a tough situation. A lot of people have gone through difficult times but this time, it is unimaginable. No one has gone through such a pandemic in recent times. I guess if you really want to get through a difficult time like this, firstly, you need good leadership. The leaders play an important role in determining how to get themselves out of this difficult time.

I believe one has to understand it is a challenging environment. The leader has to provide a clear pathway as to how to handle the situation now and how to survive. The business environment is tough but there is also opportunity.

What is new normal going to look like?

At the end of the day, what it means is that you have to adapt to new changes in our way of life and in business. Even schoolchildren have to adapt to online classes. Would it be a permanent way going forward, as the new normal? I may not think so. In certain aspects, we may have to go back to pre-Covid conditions.

Online businesses will be on the rise. For example, the convenience of purchasing



groceries online compared to direct physical purchase.

As for business, perhaps less travelling? We find that even with less travelling, we are still able to do business. We have to engage with more technology to stay in touch with customers rather than travelling. I think that is a good way, it saves a lot of time. A lot of work operating from home as well. That's one of the ways going forward.

You basically started from practically nothing, with your brothers. Are there any lessons from that experience that you wish to share with today's entrepreneurs?

It all started in the 1980s, after I graduated overseas from America. It was during a recession, so it was very difficult to get a job then. It so happened that my brother had a business selling hardware products, and I thought to start a small factory to sell aluminium to him. We started the business by renting a factory in Klang

Valley. It was totally new to me. I'm a computer and electrical engineer. Coming into aluminium, I knew nothing. I was on the floor every day getting my hands dirty and learning the ropes, it was a steep learning curve. We started from there and kept growing.

The break came when I made my move abroad, to China. If there is anything that I have gone through that I may share with young entrepreneurs is that you must be able to take certain risks or ventures. It may be challenging but it actually brings a lot of new knowledge.

We ventured into China after about six or seven years of operation because Malaysia is relatively a small market. China was very strong. It was difficult to compete with them, so I decided that if I cannot fight them, I better join them. So I went up there to learn how they did it. I would say from there, we began to expose ourselves more. We learned how to do it better, we invested quite a bit of

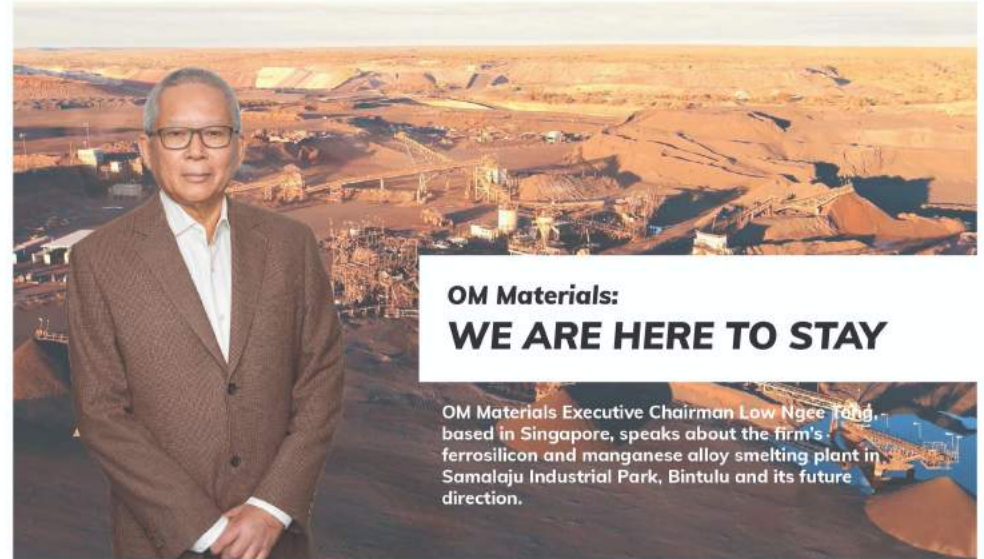
facilities in China, and we were able to capture a larger market.

In the end, just think big. Think global. Have a daring spirit. I know it is difficult and challenging. There could be failure, but without doing it, you would not be able to get yourself exposed to new methods, new technology.

What is it like running an operation with your family?

I know there are many stories about families, where as the business gets bigger, there will be differences of opinion, arguments and fallouts. We are very mindful of that. Definitely, everybody has a different opinion on how to run things but the important thing is that we know our place. We divide our roles, so that we focused on different areas.

I think we have reached the stage in the company to be professionally operated, since we are a larger corporation. We have a lot of responsibilities to keep the company sustainable. The family influence will be less, moving forward. We want to make sure if there is any second generation taking over, they would have to start from ground zero. After having spent so much effort building something up, if you are not careful, it can all go down.



OM Materials: WE ARE HERE TO STAY

OM Materials Executive Chairman Low Ngee Tong, based in Singapore, speaks about the firm's ferrosilicon and manganese alloy smelting plant in Samalaju Industrial Park, Bintulu and its future direction.

Can you speak about OM Sarawak?

We are overall very positive about the growth in Samalaju and Malaysia as a whole. Our confidence in investing in Malaysia, particularly in Sarawak has not changed over the years. We have plans to grow and expand our smelting plant in the near future, but remain cautiously optimistic under current circumstances, with the Covid-19 pandemic yet to subside and the coming general election in Malaysia. We want to grow, but we will let things settle down first before we begin (to expand).

What is the future direction for OM Sarawak?

Everybody is linking the economic recovery to the

vaccine projected to be ready by the first half of 2021. Industrial activities will make a comeback.

Currently from the maximum of running 16 furnaces, we are running 12 furnaces instead, and may place more furnaces in maintenance if the pandemic prolongs further. We are facing huge manpower issues (and this may force us to change our current production plan), but I believe other industrial players are facing similar challenges from Covid as well, not just us.

To answer your question, I think everybody is projecting the industry to return to normal in 2021, but more likely towards the second half of the year.

Can you speak on any plans to embark to an expansion project to boost production capacity?

We plan to expand our production capacity with two additional furnaces once feasible. Our expansion plans include the ongoing conversion of furnaces to produce more silicomanganese and the plan to produce metallic silicon.

I think any additional power offtake is not beneficial for our position at present given the uncertainties arising from the third wave of Covid-19. Power tariff aside, forex changes and the shortage of technical manpower are also part of the considerations when we embark on our expansion projects.



Press Metal Bintulu Sdn Bhd at Samalaju



Can you elaborate further on manpower matters?

We struggle to run on 12 furnaces because of manpower issues. The Chinese workforce are stranded in Sarawak for over a year (due to the pandemic). People are homesick and yearn to return home and we are facing challenges in getting foreign manpower to enter Malaysia (due to the closure of borders and approvals required from the authorities). Take Mr Chen Xiao Dong (Managing Director of OM Sarawak) as an example who is running

to China since January 2020 and might actually miss two Chinese New Years consecutively. In our Singapore office, we have a number of Malaysians who were stranded in Johor and have not returned to the office for close to nine months. They just couldn't come back.

Can you speak on long-term plans for basing yourself in Sarawak?

We have invested close to US\$600 million in our Sarawak plant through various phases of our expansion plans. We are very

proud to have employed Sarawakians which I believe is about 60%-70% of our total workforce currently. Given the current circumstances (restrictions of hiring new foreign workers and the third wave of Covid-19), I think the Sarawak government has been very helpful within the constraints, in terms of bringing in manpower. Sarawak, with its strategic geographical location, reliable infrastructure and utilities have been a great investment hub for us.



**PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:
BALEH ROAD NETWORK**



The 73km road network from Nanga Mujong-Putai in Kapit to the Baleh Dam and Hydroelectric Plant is near completion. The road will connect to the 1,285MW dam in Sungai Dapu in the central region, which will be commissioned by 2026. With the access road to the dam built, the surrounding

areas will be opened up. Remote villages accessible only by river will be connected to Kapit town through roads.

Construction for the RM1.419 billion R3 standard road began in May 2016. It comprises 15 packages involving five contractors.

The road network includes 27 bridges and cuts across hilly and difficult terrain.

The road project is funded by the Federal Government, while the Sarawak Government, via Sarawak Energy Bhd (SEB), is undertaking the dam construction.



URDA PROJECTS STATUS



Total number of projects: 40
(as of 24.12.2020)

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: INTEGRATED HIGHLAND AGRICULTURE STATION (IHAS)



Government, IHAS will act as a nucleus for Proposed Baram Agro-Park (BAP) that focuses on sub-temperate, high-value agriculture produce.

Construction of the RM30.8 million Integrated Highland Agriculture Station (IHAS) in Baram has been completed. IHAS will serve as a bio-tech research centre, which is also engaged in developing high-value downstream agro-food processing and manufacturing, in collaboration with private firms for the export markets. In addition to being a research centre, IHAS will serve as a product collection centre with chilling and packaging facilities for the Long Banga, Long Beruang and Long Peluan areas. With about 625ha of land designated by the Sarawak

IHAS will also focus on improving logistics services through its post-harvest handling facilities and connectivity to and from markets. The objective is to be comparative to Kundasang, Sabah or Cameron Highlands, Pahang.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: NORTHERN COASTAL HIGHWAY (NCH)



and Mengkalap, as well as Merapok CIQ in Lawas.

The Northern Coastal Highway project, which will kickstart very soon and take 48 months to complete, comes at a time when the construction of the Pan Borneo Highway Sarawak, from Sematan to Pujut Link Road is currently on-going and is expected to be completed in 2023.

The Northern Coastal Highway, with JKR R5 standard dual carriageway, will provide the missing link from Miri, Limbang and Lawas to our neighbouring state of Sabah through Brunei in Tedungan and Pandaruan Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) centres in Limbang

The 84km highway will serve as a potential link to future developments such as the proposed Lawas airport, the proposed Integrated Petroleum Chemical Complex in Lawas, proposed Miri-Marudi, Marudi-Mulu (Kuala Melinau) and Long Panai-Long Lama Road as well as to potential developments in Merapok, Sundar and Bukit Sari.



HDA PROJECTS STATUS

PLANNING 10

IMPLEMENTATION 19

Total number of projects: 41
(as of 24.12.2020)

NRDA PROJECTS STATUS

PLANNING 12

IMPLEMENTATION 64

Total number of projects: 167
(as of 24.12.2020)



NORTHERN COASTAL HIGHWAY VALUE LABS

Before any groundwork can begin, several labs need to be held to ensure all issues regarding the highway are resolved prior to construction.

First on line is the Northern Coastal Highway (NCH) Value Assessment Lab, which was held in Kuching from September 23 to 25. The lab was attended by over 200 engineers, consultants and

stakeholders who were briefed on the highway's conceptual design, including alignments of roads, junctions and interchanges.

The two-and-a-half-day lab concluded with Deputy Chief Minister Awang Tengah Ali Hasan officiating its closing. Awang Tengah, who chairs the NRDA, said the project would benefit other proposed developments in the area, such as the

proposed oil refinery in Lawas and tourism in Limbang. He added that the project will provide much needed road connectivity for the region, which is strategically located near to Brunei, Sabah and Indonesia.

Involvement of elected representatives and other stakeholders in the lab would also ensure that the project is thoroughly planned



without ignoring the socio-economic impact on local communities, said RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni during his address.

Following this, the NCH Pre-Value Engineering Lab was held in Kuching starting December 21, and continued through the month. The lab is to determine the best way to manage and implement the project while reducing costs. Again, stakeholders

and consultants provided their feedback.

After this, the NCH Value Engineering Lab will continue to wrap technical matters up. Findings from the labs will then be presented to the Sarawak Government for further deliberation before the project begins in earnest.





COURTESY CALLS AND ENGAGEMENTS

1. Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (SMSB) CEO Mazli Mustaffa briefed RECODA's management on a proposed trackless tram system, which aims to alleviate traffic congestion in Kuching. (September 9, 2020)
2. Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad (CMSB) advisor Dato' Richard Curtis gave a briefing on a proposed new Kuching port. (September 18, 2020)
3. Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore (STATOS) CEO Chew Chang Guan spoke with RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni in a 45-minute Zoom interview. Ismawi spoke on Sarawak's strategic location within ASEAN, with Australia and China nearby as one of its major selling points to investors. (October 14, 2020)
4. Company executives from BL Consultant and Arkitek Gayasri presented their respective proposals for a Food & Recreational Centre and Phase 3 of the Kapit Waterfront as well as a Cultural & Heritage Park. (October 15, 2020)



5. Maltimur Resources Sdn Bhd (MRSB) Project Director Safuani Abdul Hamid, along with MSRB Project & Construction Management Head Lawrence Low, briefed RECODA's management on the organisation chart for the construction of the Northern Coastal Highway. (October 20, 2020)
6. Utilities Ministry electricity supply director Syed Mohamad Fauzi Shahab and Sarawak Energy Bhd (SEB) System Planning General Manager Leslie Chai gave a briefing on Sarawak's electrical generation and transmission system. (October 21, 2020)
7. Brooke Dockyard and Engineering Works Corporate Senior Manager Lubau Genam gave a briefing on the company's history and its plan to diversify from its mainstay of shipyard and offshore works. (November 9, 2020)
8. PUSAKA Capital Chief Operating Officer Mohamad Nor Topek Julaihi briefed RECODA's management on the company, which acts as the investment arm of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC). (November 10, 2020)
9. Assistant Minister of Utilities (Water Supply) / Pantai Damai assemblyman Datuk Dr Abdul Rahman Junaidi, Demak Laut assemblyman Dr Hazland Abang Hipni and Tanjung Datu assemblywoman Datuk Amar Jamilah Anu were briefed in a knowledge-sharing session about the roles played by RECODA as well as the operations of the three agencies under it - the Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA), the Highland Development Agency (HDA) and the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA). (November 25, 2020)



CONTRACTS SIGNING - URDA, HDA & NRDA

Contract signing ceremonies for infrastructure projects in URDA, HDA and NRDA were held in Kuching in January and February. The signing ceremony between RECODA and contractors for HDA was witnessed by board chairman Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas.



2ND NRDA BOARD MEETING

The 2nd NRDA Board Meeting held on March 9 and chaired by Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, affirmed the roll out of all 165 projects by the first half of the 2020, including pushing forward the implementation of some projects slated for the third quarter of the year. These include 25 projects for construction of roads and bridges worth over RM800 million which accounts for the lion's share of the RM1.5 billion allocated to NRDA to speed up the socio-economic development of Limbang and Lawas districts with enabling infrastructure and amenities. Awang Tengah expressed confidence that this target is within reach with the synergy and cooperation from the implementing agency, government departments, consultants, contractors and the public as stakeholders.



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FOR BUKIT LUBOK-KAMPUNG SEBERANG KEDAI ROAD PROJECT IN LIMBANG

A ground breaking ceremony was held on August 25 at Kampung Seberang Kedai, Limbang for a new road connecting to Bukit Lubok. The ceremony was officiated by Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, who is also chairman of the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA). The Bukit Lubok-Kampung Seberang Kedai Road is part of the coastal road infrastructure development by the Sarawak Government meant to boost accessibility to the rural areas. The 3.7km link-road project is one of many slated for transforming the state to open up rural areas that previously, did not have road access. Authorities are planning tourism attractions with a waterfront jetty hugging the riverine settlement, small and medium enterprises centre and village expansion. Other developments being planned would include agriculture, livestock breeding and other economic activities.

LAUNCHING OF NRDA LOGO

The NRDA logo launching ceremony, held jointly with the 2nd NRDA Board Meeting, was held in Lawas on March 8. Gracing the occasion was NRDA chairman Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan.



RECODA TOWNHALL SESSION

A town hall session was held on June 23 to brief RECODA staff on the new scheme of service. Employees enjoy more "take-home" pay with inclusion of new benefits to ensure all employees are rewarded according to their efforts and performance.





CM'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO KAMPUNG PUNANG, LAWAS

As part of his official trip to Lawas, Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg and his entourage visited RECODA's exhibition booth in Kampung Punang on September 28. RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni briefed the Chief Minister as well as Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan on the various infrastructure projects that are in store for Lawas and Limbang. Kampung Punang, a coastal village, will see the construction of new roads and jetties, as well as a new school and a floating mosque. The projects are being implemented by RECODA via the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA). The exhibition at Kampung Punang, joined by other state agencies, saw hundreds of people showing keen interest in the agency's role in bringing development to the state as well as in drawing investment and creating jobs. During a speech, Abang Johari said Lawas and Limbang have a bright future ahead with the prospect of development of the oil and gas industry as it is located within the hydrocarbon reserves belt in the region.



RECODA JOINS EXHIBITION IN SIBU

RECODA, along with a dozen other state agencies, took part in an exhibition held at the side-line of the Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu convention in Sibu on October 3. RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni was invited as a speaker at the event, where he gave an overview of the roles of the three development agencies - URDA, HDA and NRDA - in spurring development in their respective regions. Ismawi briefed attendees on RECODA's role as the lead agency to transform Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) into a competitive and progressive region through sustainable economic development. Meanwhile, RECODA's exhibition booth drew keen interest from the delegates who wanted to find out more about SCORE and the projects under the three development agencies. Among those who visited the RECODA booth was Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg, who sportingly participated in the agency's drive to raise its social media profile.



RECODA AT THE LAUNCH OF BELAGA WATERFRONT

On October 17, RECODA joined several state agencies in a public exhibition in Belaga, in the Kapit division, held in conjunction with the launch of the Belaga Waterfront. Officiating the ceremony was Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg, who was accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri James Masing, chairman of the Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA). Abang Johari, who also officiated the ground breaking ceremony for the Belaga District Mosque the same day, said his government is committed to continuing development in the central region of Sarawak.



NRDA VISITS KAMPUNG MEDAMIT, LAWAS

RECODA joined Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan during his official visit to Limbang on October 23 at Kampung Medamit, where some 300 villagers turned up to hear the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA) Chairman speak.





OUTBOARD MOTORS DONATED AT KAMPUNG LIMPAKU PINANG

Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan continued his official visit on October 24 to Kampung Limpaku Pinang, in Lawas where he announced that the village will be linked to nearby Kampung Bulantak via a new road project. He added that connectivity in the area will be further improved with the proposed 86km Northern Coastal Highway, a project under RECODA. Other infrastructure development projects to be implemented in the area included infrastructure upgrades for a mosque, a jetty and a school. The government also donated outboard motors to fishermen from 29 villages in the Limbagan division.



NRDA VISITS KAMPUNG NOOR ISLAM

Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan spoke to residents in Kampung Noor Islam on October 29 on the ongoing efforts by the Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA), under RECODA, to develop infrastructure to the benefit of local communities. The NRDA chairman said the agency will implement projects such as the construction of a bridge in Kuala Lawas, school upgrades, and roads connecting villages such as Kampung Noor Islam to the coastal highways. The government also donated outboard motors to fishermen from five villages - Noor Islam Ulu, Noor Islam Laut, Masjid Dato Haji Bayan, Baru Ulu and Pemukat.



DCM OFFICIATES AGRICOP FUNCTION

A total of RM219,100 worth of incentives were given to 109 participants of the Agriculture Facilitation Fund, eight under the Coconut Planting Scheme, six under food agro, and 77 under fish landing assistance. At the third series of the Agriculture Community Outreach Programme (AgriCop) at Kampung Noor Islam, Kuala Lawas on October 29, Awang Tengah urged farmers, fishermen and livestock breeders in Lawas to look beyond the domestic market.

RECODA'S OACP (2021-2025) WORKSHOP

RECODA held a workshop from December 21 to 23 on its 'Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan (OACP)' for 2021 to 2025. RECODA staff discussed methods to maintain a high integrity culture. The OACP is an anti-corruption internal policy plan that will address potential problems and weaknesses in good governance. RECODA is the lead agency to implement development projects in the SCORE region, in addition to drawing investors to the state. As such, RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni said officers at all levels need to ensure that the cancer of corruption does not have a chance to grow within the organisation. The strategies outlined will serve as a stepping stone towards a five-year internal plan for continued good governance, he added in his closing speech.



STAFF ACTIVITIES: Blood Donation Drive

RECODA exceeded the collection target during its blood donation drive overseen by Sarawak General Hospital's Blood Bank on September 30, 2020.

Donors from several state agencies, GLCs and consulting firms joined us in contributing to a blood donation drive where we exceeded the target of 30 pints (units) of blood.

"It's quite good. We hope that RECODA can do this again soon," said Dr Muhammad Noor Haziq of the hospital's blood procurement unit.

Thirty two blood bags were successfully obtained and out of that number, 21 were new donors.

The SGH needs 70 units daily, said Dr Muhammad Noor who said the hospital would like to organise another drive with RECODA.



RECODA's Sports & Recreation Club

A new committee RECODA's Sports and Recreation Club (KSRR) was announced after the club held its AGM on December 7, 2020. Corporate Reputation Head Calvin Yeo was announced as KSRR President. Yeo, in his speech, said the club will be organising more activities over the next two years.

RECODA Hosts Friendly Golf Game

Forty-three golfers teed off at Kelab Golf Sarawak on December 13, 2020 in a friendly match hosted by RECODA. Players included RECODA CEO Datu Ismawi Ismuni, Sustainability Head Paul Ponar Sinjeng, Sarawak Federal Secretary Datuk Shahabuddin Omar, Serumbu assemblyman Miro Simuh, Transport Ministry Permanent Secretary Datu Buckland Bangik, Captain of KGS Henry Chuo and other VIPs. The game was won by Michael Tan Kok Peng, with a net score of 66.





INTERNS LEAVING THE NEST

From left to right: Awg Adzil Awg Omar, Catherina Kala, Nurhazlina Hamdan and Eva Thassia Aldrin

Nurhazlina Hamdan, Eva Thassia Aldrin, Catherina Kala and Awg Adzli Awg Omar will be completing their internship by early this year, after which they will be taking a step into the adult working world.

Since joining RECODA early last year under the Graduate Enhancement Training Sarawak (GETS) programme, the four university undergraduates expressed hope they will land on their feet in a challenging Covid-19 environment.

Adzli, sometimes known as Lee, can't wait to begin his career in a business-related field, after already graduating with honours from Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) with a degree in international business.

"It will be challenging," said, Adzli, adding that he enjoyed his time at RECODA where he interned at the Communications and Corporate Reputation Department.

Nurhazlina, Eva and Catherina, who graduated from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), are currently attached to the Highland Development Agency (HDA), Northern Region Development Agency (NRDA) and Upper Rajang Development Agency (URDA) respectively. It was here that they learned administrative skills related to RECODA's implementation of infrastructure projects.

Catherina, known as Cath, had majored in Development Planning & Management, will be looking to enter the jobs market.

"My dream is to be an entrepreneur," she said.

Eva, who studied economics, is considering to further her education while Nurhazlina, known to her friends as Lyn, hopes to land a job in a laboratory.

"Hopefully, I'll be doing research," Nurhazlina, who has a masters degree in molecular biology.

GETS is a 12-month employability enhancement programme offered by the State Government working with partners from the industry.

During the training, interns are paid training allowance of over RM1,000 for degree holders.

tips FOR anxiety

sleep

For 6 to 8 hours every night.



laugh

Laughter is the best medicine.



breath

Use deep breathing techniques.

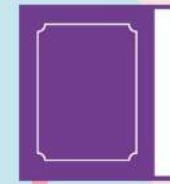


exercise

Or take a walk.

read

Read self-help books.



cell break

Take a technology break.



Improve Your Health

EAT HEALTHY AND LIVE HEALTHY

talk

Talk to a professional.





LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

I had my credit card stolen the other day but I didn't bother to report it because the thief spends less than my wife.

Wife: "I look fat. Can you give me a compliment?"
Husband: "You have perfect eyesight."

Me: "I love you."
You: "Is that you or the wine talking?"
Me: "It's me talking to the wine."

A constantly nagged and harried husband decided to buy his mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift. The next year Christmas came again and this year he didn't buy her any presents. His mother-in-law was upset and asked the son-in-law why she had been forgotten this time. The angry son-in-law responded, "Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year."

I rang the doctor and said, "Quick! My pregnant wife's going into labor, what should I do?" He said, "Is this her first child?" I said, "No, this is her husband."

On my wedding day, my mom told my bride, "No refunds, no exchanges on sale items."

