

## KEDAH ECO-SCHOOLS PROGRAMME (KESP) 2021 LAUNCH EVENT

4 MAY 2021















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### **Executive Summary**

Green Growth Asia Foundation (GGAF) is expanding the Eco-Schools Programme, the largest global sustainable schools programme, to the state of Kedah.

Eco-Schools will be reaching many states including Kedah, with the support from Yayasan Sime Darby (YSD), The Datai Langkawi (TDL) and Kementerian Pendidikan Malaysia (KPM), among other local and international organisations. The Eco-Schools Programme in Kedah will be focused in Langkawi with 10 schools under the patronage of YSD and 2 schools in collaboration with TDI

With more than 300 schools in Malaysia participating in the Eco-Schools programme to date, GGAF is looking forward to growing the number of schools in more states. By introducing a newly revised programme structure and with new partners joining, the Eco-Schools programme is now better equipped to disseminate environmental education and awareness among the youth in the nation.

This programme report contains the details of the event comprising of a comprehensive agenda. The Kedah Eco-Schools Programme (KESP) 2021 launch began with a programme brief, followed by a well-received and interactive sharing session, multiple compelling keynote speeches from the programme's patrons and finally a special tour of The Datai Langkawi unique premises.



BACKGROUND PAGE 2

# Event Background

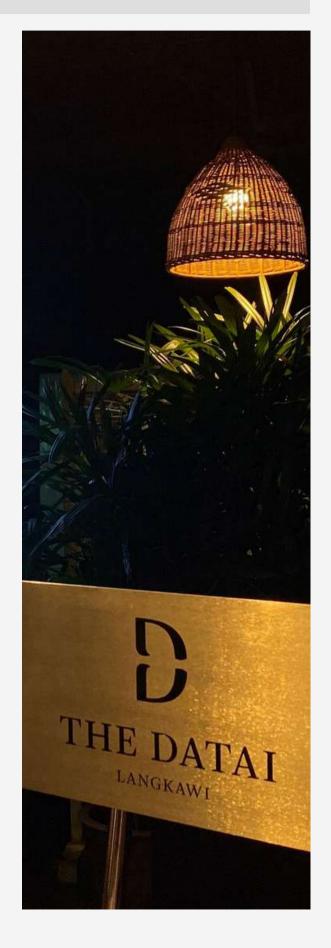
### Kedah Eco-Schools Programme (KESP) 2021 Launch Event

4 MAY 2021 THE DATAI LANGKAWI

The Kedah Eco-Schools Programme (KESP) event launch, co-organised with The Datai Langkawi management, was held at the Gulai House on 4 May 2021.

Present at the event were school principals, headmasters and teachers from 11 schools in Langkawi. The launch also featured keynote speeches from Arnaud Girodon (General Manager, The Datai Langkawi), Tuan Haji Ahmad Shukri Shafie (Deputy Director of Student Development, Kedah State Education Department), Dr Mahadi Mohamad (Executive Director, Green Growth Asia Foundation) and Ms Sophia Lim (Chief Executive Officer, WWF-Malaysia). Also featured were video messages from YSD Chairman Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar and Greentech Chief Executive Officer Mr Shamsul Bahar, who were unable to attend the event.

In this new venture, GGAF is indebted to receive support from existing and new organisations with the same aim of building environmentally literate citizens who understand their relationship with the natural world.





# Event Agenda

8:00 am Arrival and Registration

9:00 am Welcoming Speech and Doa Recital by

**Encik Johan Abdullah** 

**Director of Human Resources** 

The Datai Langkawi

9:20 am Lagu Negaraku

Lagu Negeri Kedah

9:30 am Eco-Schools Programme Brief by

**Aysha Zamuel** 

**Programme Coordinator** 

**Green Growth Asia Foundation** 

9:50 am Sharing Session with

**Puan Jamilah Ishak** 

**Headmistress** 

Sekolah Kebangsaan Dato Demang Hussin

10:30 am Welcoming address by

YBrs. Dr Mahadi Mohamad

**Executive Director** 

**Green Growth Asia Foundation** 

10:45 am Opening remarks by

**Encik Shamsul Bahar Chief Executive Officer** 

Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre (MGTC)

(Recorded video message)

Ms Sophia Lim

**Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer,** 

**WWF-Malaysia** 



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11:15 am Special address by

Tuan Ismail bin Man

**Deputy District Education Officer (Student Development)** 

**Langkawi District Education Office** 

11:30 am Keynote address by

Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar

Chairman

Yayasan Sime Darby (Recorded video message)

Mr Arnaud Girodon General Manager The Datai Langkawi

12:00 pm Official Launch of the Kedah Eco-Schools Program 2021 by

Mr Arnaud Girodon General Manager The Datai Langkawi

12:10 pm Appreciation ceremony

12:30 pm Handover ceremony (Penyerahan watikah pelantikan)

12:50 pm Photography session

1:00 pm The Datai Langkawi Tour led by

Mr Remi Giromella

**Director of Human Resources** 

The Datai Langkawi

3:00 pm End of Programme





ATTENDEES PAGE 6

## List of Attendance

			<u> </u>
NO	NAMES	POSITION	ORGANISATION
1	Dr Muhammad Mahadi Bin Mohamad	Executive Director	Green Growth Asia Foundation
2	Balamurugan Ratha Krishnan	Chief Executive	Green Growth Asia Foundation
3	Sri Themudu	Programme Director	Green Growth Asia Foundation
4	Aysha Zamuel	Programme Coordinator	Green Growth Asia Foundation
5	Arnaud Girodon	General Manager	The Datai Langkawi
6	Johan bin Abdullah	Director of Human Resources	The Datai Langkawi
7	Sophia Lim	CEO and Executive Director	WWF-Malaysia
8	Thiagarajan Nadeson	Head of Markets and	WWF-Malaysia
		Education,	
9	Dr Henry Chan	Conservation Director	WWF-Malaysia
10	Mohd Yusof bin Mahdzir	Assistant Director of Student	JPN Kedah
		Talent Development	
11	Zuherly Zolkapali	Desk Officer Kedah Eco-	JPN Kedah
		Schools Programme 2021-2023	
12	Ismail bin Man	Deputy District Education	PPD Langkawi
		Officer (Student Development)	
13	Ronizam Sairizal	Assistant Director (Student	PPD Langkawi
		Development)	
14	Aznan bin Haji Alias	Deputy Director of Education	JPN Perak
		(Student Development Sector)	
15	Aini Saadah binti Mohd Saod	Assistant Director Student	JPN Perak
		Affairs	
16	Khoo Siow Ling	Assistant Director Student	JPN Perak
		Affairs	
17	Lukman Hakim bin Jusoh	Assistant Director Student	JPN Perak
		Affairs	
18	Jamilah binti Ishak	Headmistress	SK Dato Demang Husin, Melaka



ATTENDEES PAGE 7

NO	NAMES	POSITION	ORGANISATION
19	Che Aziz bin Hassan	School representative	SK Langkawi
20	Sukri Amri bin Abdul Ghani	School representative	SK Langkawi
21	Muhd Shukeri Rokhani	School representative	SK Kedawang
22	Siti Shazwani binti Rasli	School representative	SK Kedawang
23	Muhammad Faizal bin Muhammad	School representative	SK Seri Negeri
	Hanafiah		
24	Nurul Sakinah Mohd Adnan	School representative	SK Penghulu Ahmad
25	Nurul Shakinah Mehat	School representative	SK Penghulu Ahmad
26	Armiza binti Din	School representative	SK Sungai Menghulu
27	Mohd Shafiq Firdaus bin Shahrani	School representative	SK Sungai Menghulu
28	Teo Siew Lean	School representative	SJK (C) Chung Hwa
29	Chuah Shuh Yaw	School representative	SJK (C) Chung Hwa
30	Rodziman Osman	School representative	SK Ewa
31	Mohd Zahir Ali	School representative	SK Ewa
32	Azima binti Ismail	School representative	SMK Mahsuri
33	Siti Nazirah binti Yahaya	School representative	SMK Mahsuri
34	Ruzaida binti Ismail	School representative	SMK Kelibang
35	Rafidah binti Yaakob	School representative	SMK Kelibang
36	Sarimah Saidin	School representative	SMK Kedawang
37	Noor Asikin Musa	School representative	SMK Kedawang
38	Mohamad Asyraf Ibrahim	School representative	SMK Tunku Putra





## Programme Details

The Kedah Eco-Schools Programme (KESP) 2021 event launch was held to commemorate the programme initiation in Langkawi. After years of pursuing the needed support in order to gain a wider reach of schools and produce more profound environmental impacts, Green Growth Asia Foundation (GGAF) aims to provide concise insights and a positive introduction of the programme during the launch for the attendees, in particular the schools' representatives.

#### SHARING SESSION WITH PUAN JAMILAH ISHAK

After a brief introduction on the Eco-Schools programme implementation presented by Aysha Zamuel, GGAF programme coordinator, came the sharing session with a fervent guest speaker. Puan Jamilah binti Ishak, headmistress of Sekolah Kebangsaan Dato Demang Husin, who had been invited to discuss the Eco-Schools programme and its relation to curriculum integration. Her full of gusto presentation illustrated the type of passion all head teachers should possess for achieving impactful and long-lasting environmental changes through student-led projects. She also reiterated countless times that the Eco-Schools programme goes way beyond the typical school environmental activities and that it does not serve as an additional school project, an occurrence that is usually thought of as burdensome especially during a pandemic, among other things. Puan Jamilah proved that the Eco-Schools programme is vital and highly needed to serve many of the initiatives drawn by the National Education Philosophy (NEP).

#### WELCOMING ADDRESS BY YBRS. DR MAHADI MOHAMAD

The Executive Director of GGAF, Dr Mahadi Mohamad gave his welcoming address after addressing the floor and acknowledging the exuded passion of all of the organisations involved in environmental education and the Eco-Schools programme. In his welcoming address, he reiterated that the students should be engaged by the organisers and stakeholders in an organised effort in order to promote environmental sustainability. In doing so, the favourable effects and outcomes will be experienced by not only the students but also their school and community.

#### **OPENING REMARKS BY ENCIK SHAMSUL BAHAR**

Encik Shamsul Bahar, unable to attend the physical event, had prepared a video message for the event. In the video, he stated that MGTC has the vision to uphold Malaysia's position as a nation that is ever-ready to combat environmental issues. In line with their vision, MGTC has been continuously involved in educating the community and promoting green culture across the country by playing an active role in driving the country's green agenda and sustainable development. Mr Shamsul also stated that the Eco-Schools programme is one of MGTC's collaborations acting as an impactful initiative to continue the journey towards sustainable development through education and sustainable development and has the potential to change young people's perceptions of sustainable development over the long term.



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#### **OPENING REMARKS BY MS SOPHIA LIM**

Sophia Lim, Executive Director and CEO of WWF-Malaysia, talked about how WWF is happy with the progress made by GGAF for the Eco-Schools programme. It was pointed out that an understanding of lifecycle and sustainability should be taught in the education system across all disciplines to overcome the unsustainable ways the world's population is consuming the planet's resources.

#### SPECIAL ADDRESS BY TUAN ISMAIL BIN MAN

Deputy District Education Officer (Student Development) of Langkawi District Education Office, Tuan Ismail bin Man in his speech, thanked the organisers and the schools' representatives before he reiterated that he hoped for the schools selected from the Langkawi district will get the support that they need from the sponsors and coordinators for the Eco-Schools programme.

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY Y.A.M. TUNKU TAN SRI IMRAN IBNI ALMARHUM TUANKU JA'AFAR

Also unable to attend the launch event was His Royal Highness, YAM Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar, Chairman of Yayasan Sime Darby. Similarly, a video message had been prepared and was shown during the event where shared his aspiration of the Eco-Schools programme being a programme that will connect Malaysian students with their overseas counterparts and also a programme that promotes exchange among teachers to be competent in environmental education. He also expressed his hopes of developing a deep sense of awareness of responsibility among students through the collaboration with GGAF and that together, a more significant impact can be achieved on the mindset and behaviour of the students and teachers in combatting environmental issues.

#### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY MR ARNAUD GIRODON**

Mr Arnaud Girodon, General Manager of The Datai Langkawi expressed his excitement for the Eco-Schools programme and its alignment with The Datai Pledge implementation in pursuing conservation and sustainability initiatives. The Datai Pledge aims at supporting the next generation under their Youth For The Future pillar of The Datai Pledge led by Johan Abdullah, Director of Human Resources for The Datai Langkawi. He thanked and congratulated GGAF for the remarkable efforts in protecting the natural heritage. The Datai Langkawi is looking into the path towards conservation, with numerous measures currently available in their establishment such as the resort's in-house Permaculture Garden and The Lab. After his speech, a 'Youth For The Future' video was played to show The Datai Pledge's commitment to a sustainable future for the children.



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#### OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE KEDAH ECO-SCHOOLS PROGRAM 2021 BY MR ARNAUD GIRODON

The Kedah Eco-Schools Programme 2021 was launched by Mr Arnaud Girodon followed by a special video of testimonies from Eco-Schools ambassadors in Melaka consisting of a headmistress, teachers, parents, and most importantly students.

#### **APPRECIATION CEREMONY**

As the main organiser, GGAF also held a ceremony to express our appreciation and gratitude towards the people who have made the programme possible. Presenting the tokens of appreciation to the supporters of the Kedah Eco-Schools Programme were Dr Mahadi Mohamad, GGAF Executive Director and Mr Balamurugan Ratha Krishnan, GGAF Chief Executive. Those who received the tokens were Mr Arnaud Girodon and Encik Johan Abdullah from The Datai Langkawi for their collaboration and support for the programme and for organising the launch event at The Gulai House, Encik Mohd Yusof bin Mahdzir of JPN Kedah, Tuan Ismail bin Man of PPD Langkawi, Encik Aznan bin Haji Alias of JPN Perak, Ms Sophia Lim of WWF- Malaysia as well as Puan Jamilah binti Ishak, Headmistress of SK Dato Demang Husin.

#### HANDOVER CEREMONY (PENYERAHAN WATIKAH PELANTIKAN)

The handover ceremony was held to officially mark the transfer of power and trust to the school representatives under the Eco-Schools programme. The certificates were presented by Tuan Mohd Yusof bin Mahdzir, Assistant Director of Student Talent Development, Student Development Sector, JPN Kedah and Tuan Ismail bin Man, Deputy District Education Officer (Student Development), PPD Langkawi to all the school representatives.

#### PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION

The photography session was organised in multiple groups near The Gulai House location. All present strictly adhered to the SOP, including maintaining physical distance and wearing face masks.



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#### THE DATAI LANGKAWI TOUR LED BY MR REMI GIROMELLA

iThe Datai Langkawi organised a tour led by Mr Remi Giromella, Quality Control and Improvement Manager. The tour involved all the VIPs and Langkawi schools' representatives and the attendees were divided into three groups:

#### PURE CENTRE & IN-HOUSE BOTTLING PLANT

In line with its Zero Waste to the Landfill Programme, The Datai Pledge is committed to handling waste sustainably by separating all trash into organic and non-organic waste at the Pure Centre for recycling and upcycling. Organic waste, such as food waste or wet waste, is then used as biofertilisers and compost.

Religiously practising its No Single-Use Plastic Policy, the establishment created its own in-house water bottling plant where its customised glass bottles are recycled and the drinking water content is purified using reverse osmosis. This also includes the use of bamboo and stainless steel straws as well as sustainable bamboo toiletries.

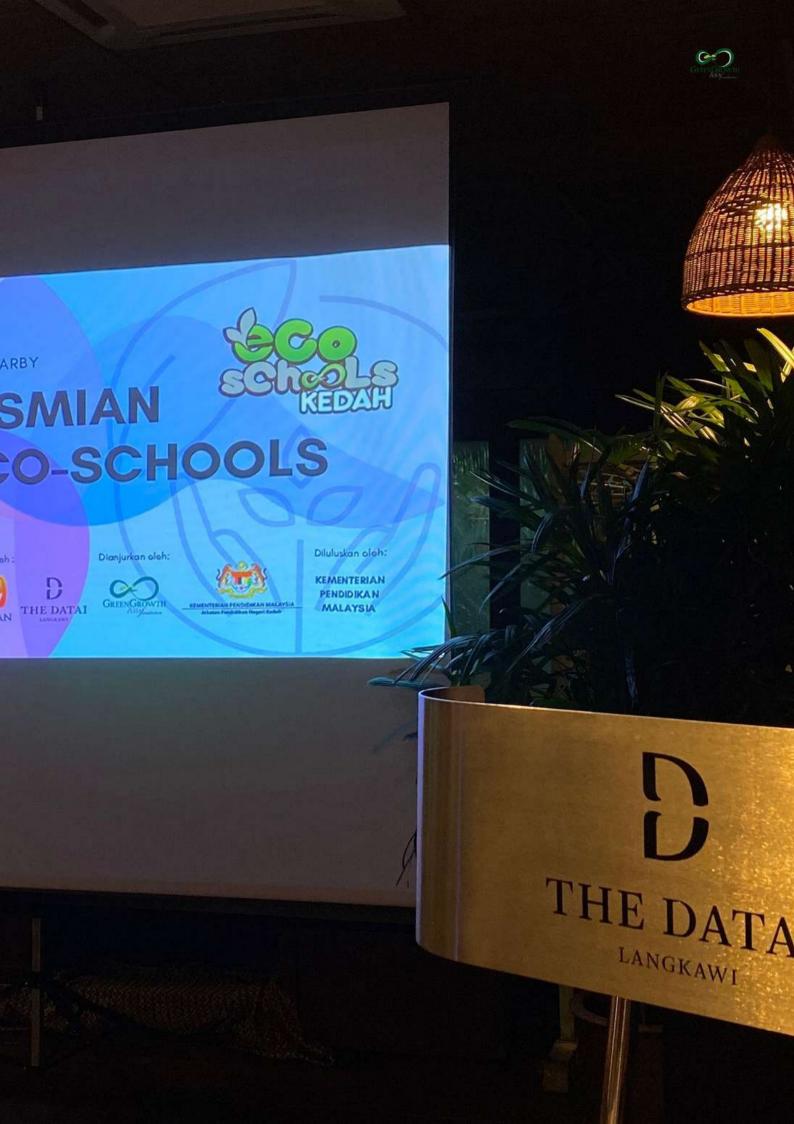
#### PERMACULTURE GARDEN & PURE LAB

Located in the heart of an ancient rainforest. The Datai Langkawi is determined to sustain and regenerate its well-being. Using the permaculture philosophy, The Garden was created to create a balance of nature and man and to create a living ecosystem that prevents exploitation and wastage.

In its Pure Lab, non-organic waste is treated to be reused, or in other words, upcycled. For example, glass is crushed and used for construction and decorative activities, recycle paper is shredded and made into compost and recycle plastic is shredded to create concrete slabs for new constructions.

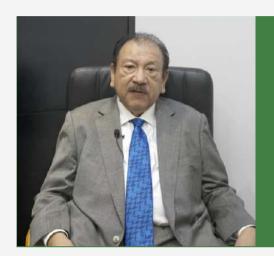
#### THE NATURE CENTRE

The Datai Langkawi is also very passionate about protecting the coral reefs. The Nature Centre organises the Coral Reef Rehabilitation whereby damaged corals and taken to the centre to be treated in a controlled environment until they have reached recovery and transplanted back to their natural habitat.





## Speech Quotes



### Y.A.M. TUNKU TAN SRI IMRAN IBNI ALMARHUM TUANKU JA'AFAR

CHAIRMAN, YAYASAN SIME DARBY

Through our collaboration with GGAF, we truly hope that the students involved will develop a deep sense of awareness of their responsibility as the 'guardians' who are entrusted to protect the environment for future generations to come. Having reviewed the activities set out by GGAF for this programme, we believe that they will make a significant impact on the students' as well as their teachers' mindset and behaviour in tackling environmental issues.



#### ARNAUD GIRODON

GENERAL MANAGER, THE DATAI LANGKAWI

We are also very excited to join forces with Green Growth Asia Foundation for our Youth for the Future programmes and collaborate in the Eco-Schools programme in Langkawi in the effort to tackle the sustainability challenges,



#### **TUAN ISMAIL BIN MAN**

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (STUDENT DEVELOPMENT) OF KEDAH STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

I am hopeful that the schools selected in Langkawi for this programme will exert the same kind of passion and achieve great impacts with the students through project-based learning.





#### **ENCIK SHAMSUL BAHAR**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MALAYSIAN GREEN TECHNOLOGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRE (MGTC)

The Eco-Schools programme acts as an impactful initiative to continue the journey towards sustainable development through education and sustainable development and has the potential to change our children's perceptions of sustainable development over the long term period.



#### DR MAHADI MOHAMAD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GREEN GROWTH ASIA FOUNDATION

By engaging young people in an organised effort to promote environmental sustainability, the positive effects will not only be experienced by the students but also their school and community. The programme gives them the autonomy to drive their eco-projects addressing various environmental issues.



#### **MISS SOPHIA LIM**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR @ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WWF-MALAYSIA

An understanding of lifecycle and sustainability should be stressed in our education system across all disciplines. The world's population has already consumed many of the planet's resources in unsustainable ways.

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**PRESS RELEASE** 

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## Press Release



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### **Expanding the Eco-Schools Programme in the Jewel of Kedah**

**Langkawi, Kedah, 4 May 2021** - Green Growth Asia Foundation (GGAF) is expanding the Eco-Schools Programme (ESP), the largest global sustainable schools programme to Langkawi, Kedah.

After marking their success in Melaka with multiple schools awarded with the Green Flag, GGAF is bringing the programme to Langkawi. With support from Kedah State Education Department, local and international organisations, the ESP in Langkawi will see ten schools served under the patronage of Yayasan Sime Darby and two schools in collaboration with The Datai Langkawi.

In his welcoming address at the launch event, Dr Mahadi Mohamad, Executive Director of GGAF, said, "By engaging young people in an organised effort to promote environmental sustainability, the positive effects will not only be experienced by the students but also their school and community. The programme gives them the autonomy to drive their eco-projects addressing various environmental issues."

Sophia Lim, Executive Director and CEO of WWF-Malaysia, added, "As the National Operator of the programme, we are happy with this progress. An understanding of lifecycle and sustainability should be stressed in our education system across all disciplines. The world's population has already consumed many of the planet's resources in unsustainable ways. Therefore, we are committed to empowering young people with the knowledge and skills to lead a sustainable lifestyle."

"We are happy and proud to co-organise the launch at our venue. We are also very excited to join forces with Green Growth Asia Foundation for our Youth for the Future programmes and collaborate in the Eco-Schools programme in Langkawi in the effort to tackle the sustainability challenges," said Arnaud Girodon, General Manager, The Datai Langkawi.



PRESS RELEASE PAGE 16

After ten years of setting its foot in this country, the programme has been enhanced by GGAF with support from Yayasan Sime Darby to further strengthen Malaysia's environmental education efforts.

Beginning in 2021, the Eco-Schools Programme will be comprising a set of new modules created under the five key elements; (1) eco-schools workshop, (2) environmental action workshop, (3) pedagogy workshop, (4) international collaboration and (5) rewards and recognition). Additionally, the schools with active involvement in the programme will be basing the programme using the three-year cycle phases; Phase 1: Preparation, Phase 2: Implementation and Phase 3: Report and Award. The elements, phases and modules have been curated by project coordinators, global experts and renowned local and global researchers. Combined, all of these components create a better and improved programme structure for the Eco-Schools programme implementation suited for the Malaysian education system.

In his video message, His Royal Highness, YAM Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar shared his aspiration, "This programme is especially unique because it will connect Malaysian students virtually with their overseas counterparts, for important exposure and experience. It also promotes knowledge exchange among teachers who, through this programme, would become competent in the field of Environmental Education and become change agents among their peers.

Through our collaboration with GGAF, we truly hope that the students involved will develop a deep sense of awareness of their responsibility as the 'guardians' who are entrusted to protect the environment for future generations to come. Having reviewed the activities set out by GGAF for this programme, we believe that they will make a significant impact on the students' as well as their teachers' mindset and behaviour in tackling environmental issues."

To date, the ESP has been adopted by more than 300 schools in Malaysia. Many schools have been awarded Green Flags to recognise their effort and contribution to sustainability. In this new venture, GGAF is indebted to receive support from Kedah State Education Department. Together they aim to build environmentally literate citizens who understand their relationship with the natural world.



#### PRESS RELEASE

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Deputy District Education Officer (Student Development) of Langkawi District Education Office, Tuan Ismail bin Man in his speech, reiterated that "With the compelling presentation by Puan Jamilah on the Eco-Schools programme and its relation to the curriculum integration, I am hopeful that the schools selected in Langkawi for this programme will exert the same kind of passion and achieve great impacts with the students through project-based learning."

-Ends-

#### For more information, please contact:

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Project Director
Green Growth Asia Foundation

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GALLERY PAGE 18

# Gallery



Group Photo, near The Gulai House



The Datai Pledge Tour, Permaculture Garden



GALLERY PAGE 19



Johan Abdullah, Director of Human Resources, The Datai Langkawi



Dr Mahadi Mohamad, Executive Director, Green Growth Asia Foundationi



Arnaud Girodon, General Manager, The Datai Langkawi



Aysha Zamuel, Programme Leader - Education Pathway, Green Growth Asia Foundation



Sophia Lim, Executive Director and CEO of WWF Malaysia



Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Ja'afar, Chairman of Yayasan Sime Darby



Jamilah Ishak, Headmistress, Sekolah Kebangsaan Dato Demang Hussin, Melaka



Ismail bin Man, Deputy Education Office of Student Development, PPD Langkawi



Encik Shamsul Bahar, Chief Executive Officer, MGTC



GALLERY PAGE 20







The Datai Langkawi

The Datai Langkawi

The Datai Langkawi



Group Photo, near The Gulai House



The Gulai House



The Gulai House

Photo Credits: Green Growth Asia Foundation



