



**PRIME MINISTER
MALAYSIA**

MESSAGE

First and foremost, I take great pride to congratulate the professional Architects and Engineers of Green Building Index (GBI) for the launch of Green Building Index Township Tool and Residential New Construction Tool Version II on 29 March 2011.

The Green Building Index, first launch on 21 May 2009, was created to provide a common and verifiable building industry mechanism to benchmark buildings within the Malaysian context. As a follow-up, the introduction of this GBI Township Tool is significant and timely to widen the green transformation to the next level in line with Government New Economic Model to become a high-income nation and low-carbon economy that is both inclusive and sustainable by 2020.

The Green building Index Township Tool, as an enabling tool, will set in place from the initial planning stage to promote sustainable Township with liveable places that meets the diverse needs of the community, both now and in the future. They are places that are well planned and designed, safe and secure, and enhance the surrounding environment, thus providing a high quality of life for the people who live, work and play there.

For the long term viability of our society, we must look beyond the construction of green buildings alone. The three (3) pillars of sustainability between the environmental, the social and the economic must be addressed holistically. With this Township tool, it will provide an opportunity for the application of public-private smart partnership approach throughout the development process and will facilitate the developers and the professional team to plan, design, build, manage and operate sustainable township.

It is clear the worst scenarios of climate disasters due to the global effects of carbon emissions and climate change should not be taken lightly. The building and construction sector which accounts for as much as 40% world's energy consumption contributes significantly to climate change and global warming due to the increasing concentration of greenhouse gases. The Green Building Index Township Tool sets out a vision for sustainability within the built environment which provides guidance to assist State and Local authorities, developers, builders and professionals to deliver more environment-friendly and sustainable township and community.

The government is very serious in its effort to address the effects of climate change and global warming and the need to shift more towards green technology and products, as the key driver to achieve high-income but low-carbon economy so as to enhance the quality of life and to ensure a better future for all Malaysian.

Once again, I congratulate and applaud the initiatives and efforts of Green Building Index who with the full support of the building, housing and property industry has developed these important and significant rating tools for township and residential developments in Malaysia. I support and wish you every success in its implementation.

1Malaysia "People First, Performance Now"

(DATU' SRI MOHD NAJIB)