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Public Bank Organises Sustainability Seminar for SME Manufacturers

Public Bank Berhad recently organised a green seminar for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on 8 October 2025, reinforcing the Bank's ongoing commitment to support Malaysia's transitioning towards a low-carbon economy. This seminar focuses on SME manufacturers in the Klang Valley, recognising the sector's pivotal role in Malaysia's industrial landscape and climate agenda.

The one-day seminar, held at W Hotel, Kuala Lumpur under the theme *"Embracing Sustainable Manufacturing: Building Resilience, Unlocking Opportunities,"* brought together over 180 SME delegates based in Klang Valley. Representatives from the SME Association of Malaysia and the Small and Medium Enterprises Association Malaysia (SAMENTA) were also present, reflecting the diversity and breadth of industry participants committed to advancing sustainability.

The event provided participating SMEs with insights into the evolving climate landscape and underscored the urgency for the business community to address climate change through sustainable practices and responsible resource management. Presentations by key expert speakers, including from PwC Malaysia, SIRIM Berhad and GreenRE provided SMEs with practical tips and guidance on sustainable manufacturing, green certification and the importance of embedding environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles into core business strategies.

Tan Sri Dato' Sri (Dr) Tay Ah Lek, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Public Bank, expressed his enthusiasm for closer co-operation between Public Bank and SME manufacturers, reiterating that the Bank shall continue to play a leading role in financing SMEs while providing dedicated financing solutions to support SMEs' transitioning towards a low-carbon economy.

"Public Bank has been proactive in our drive to help green the manufacturing sector. This includes facilitating SMEs' access to Bank Negara Malaysia's funding schemes to support investments in sustainable solutions and green manufacturing initiatives. Our holistic approach includes providing financing to SMEs at attractive pricing for investments in capital expenditure such as energy-efficient equipment, renewable energy installations and cleaner production technologies. Public Bank has also committed to mobilise RM100 billion in sustainable financing by 2030, with about RM68 billion already achieved as of 2024," said Tan Sri Tay.

Moreover, according to Tan Sri Tay, by embracing sustainability, SME manufacturers could gain a sharper competitive edge, enabling them to expand their market share and strengthen their position in international trade.

Dr. Chin Chee Seong, President of the SME Association of Malaysia, echoed Tan Sri Tay's sentiments on the pivotal role of SME manufacturers in advancing the nation's sustainability agenda. "SMEs constitute about 96% of business enterprises and can be key enablers in driving the nation's climate action commitments. As such, we commend Public Bank for organising this timely green seminar," Dr. Chin said.

Mr. Peter Chan, Executive Director of Superior Press Sdn. Bhd. and adviser to the Selangor and Federal Territory Chinese Printing Presses Association, also applauded Public Bank's commitment in supporting SME manufacturers in their green journey. "This seminar has provided participants with valuable insights into green transitioning, while highlighting the many tangible benefits of adopting sustainable operations," said Mr. Peter.

Recognising the current global climate crisis, Public Bank shall continue to organise similar ESG programmes to help SMEs transition to a greener and more sustainable future.

To find out more about Public Bank's future sustainability events and green financing packages, log on to Public Bank's website at www.pbebank.com or call PB Customer Services at 03-2170 8000.

Public Bank's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Tan Sri Dato' Sri (Dr) Tay Ah Lek liaising with SME delegates and exchanging views on the importance for businesses to embrace sustainability

The *"Embracing Sustainable Manufacturing: Building Resilience, Unlocking Opportunities"* forum drew a full house at W Kuala Lumpur, marking another milestone in Public Bank's commitment to advancing sustainable business practices

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