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THE STATE OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IN MALAYSIA 2018



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FOREWORD FROM MINISTER OF ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT MALAYSIA



Social entrepreneurship in Malaysia is a growing sector that has the potential to contribute to the socio-economy of the nation. There are many social enterprises that have been actively delivering social values and addressing social and environmental issues in the community. While they have delivered significant impact to the community and the environment, there are still many challenges and barriers in their journey to scale and increase their impact.

One of the biggest hurdles social enterprise encounter is the lack of a legal definition and recognition of social enterprise as a business entity in Malaysia. This issue has led to many social entrepreneurs operating under a variety of legal forms, which are governed by different acts and regulations.

With the lack of institutional and community support available, this sector faces difficulty in attracting and retaining quality talents. Significant support and resources must be given to train and develop knowledge, capability, and skills of quality talent in social enterprises. This will help social enterprises to grow their businesses and increase their impact.

The other challenge faced by social enterprises in Malaysia is the lack of access to funding. Many social enterprises in Malaysia are still funded mainly through charity, foundation work, and corporate responsibility programme. Therefore, a conducive financing ecosystem is needed for social enterprises to accelerate their growth.

With the re-establishment of the Ministry of Entrepreneur Development (MED) in July 2018, we aim to lead the Government's efforts in developing Malaysian social enterprises. Through the National Entrepreneurship Framework, MED will spearhead the effort to address the challenges that exist within the social entrepreneurship sector. MED will formulate and execute the required strategies to empower social enterprises to drive and deliver long term benefits for the society and environment. To achieve this, MED will work closely with all the social entrepreneurship stakeholders and industry players to create an integrated social entrepreneurship ecosystem.

This survey report is timely to complement our effort to formulate a holistic social entrepreneurship development policy that is inclusive and competitive, including driving the development of the B40s (bottom 40 per cent) and M40s (middle 40 per cent) in Malaysia.

YB Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan bin Md Yusof Minister of Entrepreneur Development Ministry of Entrepreneur Development Malaysia

ABOUT THE BRITISH COUNCIL

BRITISH COUNCIL

OUR WORK IN MALAYSIA

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We create friendly knowledge and understanding between the people of the UK and other countries. We do this by making a positive contribution to the UK and the countries we work with – changing lives by creating opportunities, building connections and engendering trust.

We work with over 100 countries across the world in the fields of arts and culture, English language, education, and civil society. Last year we reached over 75 million people directly and 758 million people overall including online, broadcasts and publications. Founded in 1934, we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We have been working with Malaysia since 1948.

We aim to contribute to inclusive economic growth in Malaysia through our social enterprise programme. We promote the development of social enterprise as a means of addressing entrenched social and environmental problems and delivering positive change to our communities and societies. Our Global Social Enterprise programme draws on UK and global experience and is delivered across more than 30 countries with local and international partners.

In 2012, we led a three-year programme to support business development of social enterprises which are today leading advocates for the ecosystem. In 2017, our Social Economy and Investment Conference brought together 500 delegates, including a number of international experts, and saw the launch of a Social Outcomes Fund. In the same year, the British Council brought former MP and author of the UK Public Services (Social Value) act, Chris White, to support social procurement initiatives in Malaysia.

The State of Social Enterprise in Malaysia is the tenth in a series of surveys undertaken by the British Council around the world (https://www. britishcouncil.org/society/social-enterprise/ reports).

This survey builds and expands upon the excellent State of Social Enterprise in Malaysia survey 2014/2015 produced by the Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC).

The objective of this survey is to provide a summary of the current size, scale, and scope of the social enterprise sector in Malaysia.

In addition, this study aims to contribute to the development of social enterprise globally by allowing other actors to assess the sector's progress, and identify possible entry points for supporting growth or for participating in social enterprise.

www.britishcouncil.my

ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (UNITED NATIONS ESCAP)



The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations' regional hub, promoting co-operation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The largest regional intergovernmental platform with 53 Member States and nine associate members, United Nations ESCAP has emerged as a strong regional think-tank offering countries sound analytical products that shed insight into the evolving economic, social and environmental dynamics of the region. The Commission's strategic focus is to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is reinforced and deepened by promoting regional co-operation and integration to advance responses to shared vulnerabilities, connectivity, financial co-operation and market integration. United Nations ESCAP's research and analysis coupled with its policy advisory services, capacity building and technical assistance to governments aims to support countries' sustainable and inclusive development ambitions.

ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS ESCAP - BRITISH COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP

In February 2017, the British Council and United Nations ESCAP signed a collaborative agreement to promote the growth of social enterprise and impact investment across the Asia-Pacific region as a means of supporting progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Together we are co-operating to provide research, analysis, training, policy dialogues, and offer guidance to support policy makers and other stakeholders in formulating and implementing policies and strategies that foster social enterprise and create enabling environments for impact investment. This survey of social enterprise in Malaysia is an example of this work and will provide information as to the size and scale of the social enterprise sector in the country.

Social enterprises harness trade, investment and business activity towards social and environmental objectives and are increasingly recognised as critical drivers of innovation for sustainable development.

ABOUT YAYASAN HASANAH

BUILDING TRUE VALUE

A leading foundation that promotes Malaysia's global sustainability through solutions that empower communities, encourage social inclusivity and improve the environment.

Yayasan Hasanah (Hasanah) is the impactbased foundation of Khazanah Nasional Berhad (Khazanah), the strategic investment fund of the Government of Malaysia.

We were set up as an independent entity on 1 July 2015, building on nine years of corporate responsibility efforts previously driven under Khazanah.

Where Khazanah oversees creation of true value for Malaysia through financial and strategic initiatives, Hasanah focuses on the country's



pressing community and social issues, the upscaling of civil society organisations (CSOs), and working in collaboration through a social sector ecosystem.

Together, Khazanah and Hasanah drive a nationbuilding agenda of progressing Malaysia as a globally competitive nation.

As a grant-giving foundation, our approach goes beyond dollars and cents. We continue to facilitate an ecosystem of transformation, working in collaboration with multiple stakeholders, infusing a spirit of advocacy and building capacity in the areas we focus in. Collectively and collaboratively, we hope to shift the needle of social and community reform for Malaysians, towards a better Malaysia.

MANDATE

Hasanah's vision is to become a leading impactbased foundation that promotes Malaysia's global sustainability through solutions that empower communities, encourage social inclusivity and improve the environment.

Hasanah's focus areas are education; community development; environment; arts, heritage, and culture; knowledge; and initiatives in capacity building, social enterprise and public spaces, anchored to its core foundations of long-term nation building. Built on Hasanah's commitment to stakeholders in upholding the principles of transparency and innovation in the work we do, we are guided by Hasanah's values of empowerment, trust, integrity, inclusiveness, connectedness and authenticity.

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