

Mother of all water series coming to KL

1,000 companies from 32 nations set to attend 10th edition of Asiwater exhibition this April

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ASIAWATER 2018 is back in its 10th edition to bring together industry leaders, experts and practitioners to address challenges and opportunities in developing Asia's water infrastructure.

The region's leading water and wastewater exhibition will take place from April 10 to 12 at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

"Asiwater is the mother of all water series and is set to be the biggest and the best this year, covering the whole of KLCC not only the ground floor but also the second floor."

"We are expanding the seminars organised together with Malaysian Water Association (MWA) this year and will be highlighting four main topics revolving around the central theme of 'Partnership for Growth and a Sustainable Future'," said UBM Asean Business development director Eliane Van Doorn at a press conference at Pantai 2 Regional Sewage Treatment Plant (RSTP), Kuala Lumpur.

The three-day event will see over 1,000 companies from 32 countries showing the latest technologies, solutions and expertise of the water industry to some 19,000 trade visitors and delegates from

48 countries.

The region's largest water and wastewater solutions industry will showcase innovations and solutions in water management, sewerage, industrial wastewater, purification, irrigation and water resource management.

There will also be 11 regional and international pavilions which include Austria, China, Denmark, Germany, South Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, The Netherlands and the US.

Among the highlights are more than 30 free-to-attend seminars and conferences revolving around the theme of "Partnership for Growth and a Sustainable Future."

"Partnership is a very important aspect to achieve the Goal 17 under the Sustainable Development Goals. Not only among the states that we foster partnership but across countries and regions."

"At Asiwater, we bring together industry players across the region to share their experiences and success stories so we could learn from each other of all aspects," said UBM Malaysia Asiwater advisor Datuk Teo Yen Hua.

Conference topics include "Efficient and Sustainable Water Resources", Water Future Partnerships", Water Policy and Governance" and Water



(From left) Mohamed Haniffa, Teo, Van Doorn and IWK southern operations head Mohd Taufiq visiting the Pantai 2 RSTP with Asiwater 2018 participants.

Resources".

Organised by UBM Malaysia, Asiwater 2018 conference and seminars are supported by Malaysian Water Association (MWA), Energy, Green Technology and Water Ministry (KeTTHA), Natural Resources and Environment Ministry (NRE).

In conjunction with the press conference, Asiwater 2018 organised a technical site visit to the Pantai 2 RSTP for more than 100 participants including exhibitors, with support from Indah Water Konsortium Sdn Bhd (IWK).

"The technical visit is to get better understanding of the importance of good sewerage services and to highlight the need for community engagement and support to further improve our sewerage system in this country."

"Pantai 2 RSTP is a good example where the government has successfully incorporated community-friendly facilities within its critical infrastructure of sewerage treatment plant," said Van Doorn.

Spanning over 17ha of land, the main sewerage treatment plant is built below the ground level while the sludge treatment facility is located above ground level, which includes a recreational park and public amenities.

Covering the Pantai catchment

area of over 6,700ha, which includes the central and south-western parts of Kuala Lumpur, the facility serves a population of 1.4 million and is able to treat 320 MLD of effluent.

The Pantai catchment area is the largest of eight catchment areas within Kuala Lumpur. The construction of the plant started in July 2011 and was completed in July 2015.

Designed for "Standard A" effluent discharge quality as prescribed in the Environment Quality Regulations (Sewage) 2009, the facility is designed to maximise green energy recovery through installation of solar panels and biogas utilisation as well as equipped with rainwater harvesting and final effluent reuse for non-potable use.

"Water is essential and we cannot survive without water. There is no such thing as waste-water, just the wasteful way we use water. Public education and execution is equally important to address these issues."

"At IWK, our challenge is to give back life to water thus our tagline 'New Life For Water'."

"We have a plan called Transformasi IWK 2020 with a vision to be the premier wastewater management company in Asia. "We are very lucky that the gov-

ernment is farsighted with a lot of government initiatives and investing in facilities for what we believe the future trend is the source of recovery," said IWK chief operating officer Mohamed Haniffa Abdul Hamid, adding that the Pantai 2 RSTP costs RM1ml.

For the remaining period of the Eleventh Malaysia Plan, the government is focusing on improving coverage, quality and efficiency of water and sewerage services to the public.

With all strategies implemented the government aims to ensure 99% access to clean and treated water, 85% coverage of sewerage connected services in the urban areas and reduction of non-revenue water (NRW) to 31% by 2020.

"Ensuring a universal and equitable access to clean water and sanitation services for all as emphasised in the Sustainable Development Goals has been one of the most challenging agenda for the government."

"The government will continue to invest heavily in both sectors to match the increasing demand for an efficient water and sewerage services resulted from rapid urbanisation and economic development," said KeTTHA deputy secretary general Datuk Dr Tan Yew Chong.

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