

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019



**SDI** was established on 2 November 1995. It is registered as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital under the Companies Act 1995, Malaysia. As an autonomous non-profit research institute, it is entrusted to undertake inter-disciplinary research on pertinent development issues related to the state and nation for policy inputs to the government and private organisations/clients.



The principal objective of SDI is to provide independent and objective inputs to complement the policy and decision making process in Sarawak.

The specific objectives are to:

- Undertake interdisciplinary research for policy inputs to the government and other clients;
- Provide an avenue for professionals and other practitioners to discuss, exchange views and opinions facing the state and nation through conferences, seminars, workshops, dialogues and lectures;
- Disseminate information, knowledge and findings to the public through both formal and informal channels; and
- Network with other institutions with similar interests, in and outside Malaysia to facilitate the flow of information and knowledge.

The priority focus areas are:

- Public Policy
- Development Studies
- Socio-economic Studies



### **VISION**

To be a leading research institution in the region

# **MISSION**

To offer comprehensive professional research services that provide valuable inputs to planners and policy makers

To offer professional management services for conferences/seminars and generate reports and recommendations for public policy input and knowledge oriented publications

To contribute to and complement the policy and decision making process in Sarawak

# SARAWAK DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE ANNUAL REPORT 2019



# **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

irst of all, I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to YBhg. Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Morsidi bin Abdul Ghani, former chairman of SDI and the distinguished former board members of SDI who have served the Institute untiringly for the past decade. It is indeed my honour to be appointed as the new Chairman of SDI. It will be a mounting task for me to continue the exemplary leadership of my predecessor. Nevertheless, I believe with the support from the new Board Members and members of SDI, we can continue to contribute to the development of Sarawak.

In 2019, SDI completed two research projects on Digital Readiness of Community in Sarawak, in the Southern and Central regions covering 6 divisions, namely Kuching, Samarahan, Serian, Sibu, Sarikei and Mukah. These surveys were commissioned by Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) in 2018 under the Digital Inclusivity Initiatives, aimed at examining the level of readiness of local residents in terms of digital literacy, skills, and awareness in order to provide a foundation of understanding for future digital economy programmes. Findings from these surveys indicated there is still much to be done to increase the awareness, knowledge and digital skills of the people in these areas. It is, however, encouraging to note a substantial number have started to engage in online transactions and business in the different divisions covered. I hope these findings will help SMA in updating, customising and implementing their outreach, awareness, and digital literacy programs, particularly in the rural areas.

Sarawak became the host for the prestigious Asia Pacific Orchid Conference in 2019 (APOC13) and SDI was appointed by Kuching North City Hall (DBKU) to organise the Lecture Program component. The lecture program discussed the emerging trends, latest technology in orchid cultivation and propagation, research work and efforts in conservation, ethno-orchids and ecotourism. The conference featured more than 60 speakers and was participated by more than 200 orchid enthusiasts from 14 countries.

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SDI also supported the Ministry of Welfare, Community Wellbeing, Women, Family and Childhood Development Sarawak in coordinating the finale of the 7<sup>th</sup> Sarawak Cultural Symposium where a total of 155 resolutions were submitted to the Sarawak State Government. A follow up on the actions taken on these resolutions by the respective government ministries and agencies was also done throughout 2019 and submitted to the ministry.

Several talks on pertinent subject matters in line with the current development in the State were also organised for SDI members and relevant stakeholders. These talks were on STEM Programme, Integrated Water Resource Management for Sustainable Development, and Digital Makerspace and Creative Culture (gamification).

In collaboration with Yayasan Perpaduan Sarawak, a notable project called 'Sarawak's Pride - Most Number of Unity Short Stories' was launched to collect the most number of unity short stories depicting unity and social harmony in Sarawak. The project was also an attempt to set a Malaysia Book of Records for 'Most Number of Unity Short Stories' with 1,000 stories. At the end of 2019, about 750 good stories were selected from the submissions and the call for more stories was continued in 2020.

Besides carrying out the above activities, SDI continues to play a key role in providing inputs through various committees and initiatives on development in the State. I am happy to note that SDI is well recognised in this role. Together with support from the Board Members, corporate members and ordinary members, I will do my best to bring SDI to greater heights.

I wish to also put on record my thanks to the Thinking Working Groups, SDI members, partners, collaborators and the media for their unwavering support to SDI. My deepest appreciation to the management and staff as well for their commitment and hard work.

As SDI turns 25 years this year, we look forward to strive for greater excellence in what we do. I believe with the support from all the government ministries and agencies as well as the private sector, we will be able to bring about greater balanced and inclusive development for Sarawak.

Thank you.

YB DATUK AMAR JAUL SAMION

Chairman

Sarawak Development Institute

# Conferences | Workshops | Forums | Talks | Research

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



CHAIRMAN
YBhg. Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji
Mohamad Morshidi Abdul Ghani
(Retired as State Secretary in August 2019)
(Resigned as Chairman on 31st December 2019)



**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**YBhg. Datu Haji Ismawi Haji Ismuni
Chief Executive Officer
Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA)

### **DIRECTORS**



YB Datuk Amar Jaul Samion
Deputy State Secretary (Rural Transformation)
until his appointment as State Secretary on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019
Currently Chairman of SDI



YBhg. Datu Haji Soedirman Aini (Retired in January 2019)



YBhg. Datu lk Pahon Joyik Deputy State Secretary (Rural Transformation) (as of 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019)



YBhg. Datu William Patrick Nyigor Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak (MESTR)



Dr. Abdul Rahman Deen
Deputy Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Science and Technological
Research Sarawak (MESTR)



YBhg. Datu Buckland Bangik Permanent Secretary Ministry of Transport

# THINKING WORKING GROUPS

### **Development Studies**

### **Public Policy**

### **Socio-economic Studies**

### CHAIRMAN

YB Datuk Amar Jaul Samion State Secretary

## MEMBERS

YBhg. Datu Dr. Ngenang Janggu

Head, Unit for Other Religions (UNIFOR) Chief Minister's Department

Mr. Joseph Blandoi

Deputy General Manager SALCRA

Chief Operating Officer SALCRA Jaya Sdn.Bhd

Ir. Ahmad Denney bin Haji Ahmad Fauzi

> Resident Limbang Division

Mr. Jiram Sidu (Retired)

Mr. William Jitab (Retired)

Hajah Aishah Edris Freelance Consultant

### **CHAIRMAN**

YBhg. Datu Haji Ismawi Haji Ismuni

Chief Executive Officer Regional Corridor Development Authority (RECODA)

### **DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Dr. Abdul Rahman Deen

Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research

### **MEMBERS**

**Abdul Kadir Zainuddin** 

Project Advisor State Financial Secretary's Office

Prof. Dr. Lau Seng

Director

Centre for Water Research Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Retired in November 2019)

Associate Professor Dr. Ahi Sarok

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

### **CHAIRMAN**

YBhg. Datu lk Pahon Joyik

Deputy State Secretary (Rural Transformation)

### **MEMBERS**

YBhg. Datu William Patrick Nyigor

Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, Science & Technological Research Sarawak

Madam Norjanah Razali

Principal Assistant Secretary Ministry of International Trade & Industry, Industrial Terminal & Entrepreneur Development Sarawak

Hajah Aishah Edris

Freelance Consultant

Prof. Dr. Spencer E. Sanggin

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

# **TECHNICAL THINKING GROUP**

### **MEMBERS**

Dr. Abdul Mutalip Abdullah

Visiting Senior Research Fellow Sarawak Development Institute

Dr. Nurhani Aba Ibrahim

Senior Lecturer, Economics Department Faculty of Business Management Universiti Teknologi MARA

Dr. Henry Chan

Conservation Director WWF-Malaysia

Prof. Dr. Lau Seng

Director

Centre for Water Research, Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Retired in November 2019)

### Dr. Ting Su Hie

Lecturer

Centre for Language Studies Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

Tuan Haji Abang Shamsuddin bin Abang Seruji

(Retired)

Mr. Julin Alen

Principal Assistant Director State Planning Unit, Sarawak

# **SECRETARIAT**



1st Row (From Left) – Evelette Robin, Nur Asmida Arzmi, Lelia Sim, Rosalind Wong, Patricia Nayoi

**2**<sup>nd</sup> **Row (From Left)** – Abdul Khalik Putit, Ralph Balan Langet, Tang Tze Lee, Alan Teo, Khairul Anam, Hope Lee, Kamaruddin Sajeli

## Visiting Senior Research Fellow



Dr. Abdul Mutalip bin Abdullah

# **CONFERENCE**



**7<sup>th</sup> Sarawak Cultural Symposium** 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019, Pullman Kuching

The Ministry of Welfare, Community Wellbeing, Women, Family and Childhood Development Sarawak was tasked to organise a dinner as the finale for the 7th Sarawak Cultural Symposium with the theme "Managing Culture in the Digital Age". SDI was appointed to support the compilation of the Symposium resolutions and coordination of the dinner programme involving the seven ethnic communities namely the Bidayuh, Chinese, Iban, Indian, Malay, Melanau and Orang Ulu.

The highlight of the dinner was a presentation of the resolutions' publication to YAB Chief Minister of Sarawak. A total of 155 resolutions covering the areas of culture, heritage, education, land, digital economy and business, civil service, women and youth, politics and religion from the seven ethnic communities were submitted. YAB Chief Minister gave the assurance that all the resolutions would be deliberated on such as the issue of upgrading the Native Court to be equivalent to the Syariah Court and the Civil Court.









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# Brown Bag Talk on 'Integrated Water Resource Management for Sustainable Development'

17th April 2019, AZAM Conference Room

The talk was presented by Professor Dr. Lau Seng, Director of Centre for Technology Transfer & Consultancy, Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation, and lecturer at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS. His talk covered the concept of 'Integrated Water Resource Management' which outlines the need to manage water resources through ecological, institutional, gender and instrumental approaches as stated in the Dublin Principles. He shared a case study on Kelalong Reservoir where there were conflicting needs affecting the water resource management in the area.

One of the highlighted issues is pollution from the activities of increasing population around the reservoir area. The facilities and technologies at the reservoir are not equipped to handle the increasing volume of treated water needed by the population in Bintulu town. The discussion covered suggestions to do cascading dams rather than a big dam to minimise the ecological impact to the environment, but cost is a factor. On conflict resolution, there is a need to do a more effective engagement with all the stakeholders as there is much distrust among and within the communities living in the area. Prof. Dr. Lau Seng believed that proper adoption and implementation of the IWRM's principles will solve the issues arising from the case study.

The talk was attended by more than 30 people comprising SDI members and staff, AZAM staff and representatives from the different government departments, universities, colleges and NGOs.











13th Asia Pacific Orchid Conference 2019

24th – 28th July 2019, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK)

APOC 13 was organized by the Sarawak Government, Kuching North City Hall (DBKU) and the APOC Trust with support from Business Events Sarawak (Sarawak Convention Bureau). SDI was the PCO for this event. The theme for APOC 13 was 'Cultural Exchange through Orchid.' Participants from 18 countries participated in the programs of APOC 13, which included orchid competitions, lecture program, orchid market place, orchid showcase and display, exhibition by relevant agencies and government departments, APOC quiz, children coloring competition, musical buskers, orchid floral fashion competition, orchid flower arrangement, orchid photography competition, terrarium plants competition, children orchid discovery, orchid art and craft demonstration and orchid walk. The main attractions of APOC 13 was the Orchid Plants competition, with more than 600 pots of orchid plants and the Orchid Landscape competition which was participated by 14 countries. The Orchid Showcase was visited by 37, 929 visitors throughout the 5 days show.

orchid art and craft demonstration and orchid walk. The main attractions of APOC 13 was the Orchid Plants competition, with more than 600 pots of orchid plants and the Orchid Landscape competition which was participated by 14 countries. The Orchid Showcase was visited by 37, 929 visitors throughout the 5 days show.

The lecture sessions on 25th and 26th July featured 61 oral presentations by speakers from 16 different countries including Malaysia, Australia, China, Ecuador, France, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, United States, Japan, and Myanmar. The topics discussed during the lecture sessions were on Overview and Planning for Orchid Industry in Asia Pacific Countries, Orchids Conservation Efforts, Research and Development, Orchid

Cultivation, Cultivation and Propagation and on Ethno-orchids and Ecotourism.

More than 250 participants from 17 countries attended the lecture sessions.













### SARAWAK DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

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# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of Sarawak Development Institute

13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Sadong Room Grand Margherita Hotel

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting was attended by 23 members with 12 proxies. The chairman welcomed members to the meeting and briefly mentioned SDI's achievement in playing its role to assist in gathering and providing inputs for policy and decision making in Sarawak through various activities and programmes undertaken in 2018. He also highlighted on the need to be mindful of impacts of



development projects/programmes in relation to SDI's various research projects namely the Sarawak Social Trends Report, 2005-2015, the SALCRA Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Project, and the Quick Appraisals of Digital Economy Intervention Programmes. YBhg. Tan Sri also expressed his utmost appreciation to all Board members, TWG members and active members of SDI for their contribution and continuous support for every programme and activity conducted. He also thanked all corporate members and especially the nine (9) new ones for their interest in joining the Institute. YBhg. Tan Sri further acknowledged the management and staff of SDI for another year of achievement and hard work.

# Brown Bag Talk: An Insight into STEM Programme in Sarawak

11th October 2019, AZAM Conference Room

Mr. Ravi Gopal from IPG Batu Lintang and his team shared their experience on their STEM program for students at SMK Tebedu and SMK Ta'ee. This program was done in partnership with UNITEN and Sarawak Energy Berhad. The program aimed to instil the importance of acquiring knowledge and skills in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The STEM activities covered important areas such as Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) where the students were exposed to activities that required skills and ability in critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, character education and citizenship.



During the presentation, the team showed a demonstration of M-Bot – robot controlled by android smartphone; Wind Turbine – comes with different blades arrangement to generate electricity from wind energy; a short video on a Hydro Powered Car – fuel cell powered by electrolysis technique, and a Solar Powered Car – a small scale car model powered by solar; Virtual Knight Tour Guide – a virtual reality experience using

smartphone and VR box; Intelligent Paper – introduces the concept of planning a program (algorithm); Box Variables – shows how a computer declares and uses variables; and Teleporting Robot – with examples on the importance of good and easy to use interface.

The talk was well attended by more 50 SDI and AZAM members and staff, and representatives from the different government departments, universities, colleges, NGOs and members of the media.





# Public Talk on Digital Makerspace and CreativeCulture

29th November 2019, AZAM Conference Room

The talk was presented by Dr. Sarah Flora Anak Samson Juan, and Dr. Jacey-Lynn Minoi from the Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, UNIMAS. Dr. Sarah shared on 'Digital Makerspace: An Informal Learning Space to Nurture Innovation' while Dr. Jacey-Lynn shared on 'Play in School: Seriously? Co-creativity Approach by the CreativeCulture Initiative'.

Digital Makerspace is an informal learning space to nurture innovation. It caters to the needs of the 21st Century, promotes learning through hands-on applications and immersive experiences, giving leverage to our youth in this fast-changing world. UNIMAS provides consultation to those who are interested to set up their Makerspace as well as the space for interested organisations to do relevant hands-on activities and training.

The talk also shared on the importance of co-creativity in facilitating an engaging learning process based on the CreativeCulture initiative funded by the Newton Fund (UK). In the CreativeCulture model, learners (students, academicians, and teachers) are incrementally inducted into deeper engagement with the playful and gameful design process, scaffolding the process of knowledge and skills constructions as they progress through the co-creative phases. The co-creative process is inspired by play and games.







Several prototypes were shared during the presentation on how Gamifications are used in classes and training of teachers. The importance of indigenised education through adoption of traditional games and practices was stressed during the talk. Various development issues such as climate change, sex education, learning disabilities and social work can be addressed creatively through the Gamification learning approach.

# Post 7<sup>th</sup> Sarawak Cultural Symposium – Compilations of Feedback on Resolutions (May to December 2019)

SDI was appointed by the Ministry of Welfare, Community Wellbeing Women, Family and Childhood Development to undertake a follow up on the resolutions put forward by the different ethnic communities. SDI categorised the resolutions based on issues and identified the relevant government agencies which could provide feedback/inputs on the issues raised. The categories of issues are Culture, Heritage & Customs, Education, Economic/Business Participation, NCR/Land, Creativity & Innovation, Digital Economy, Public Service/Administrative, Research, Native Court, Family & Youth, Politics, and Religion. The responses given by the different agencies were then compiled and submitted to the Ministry in December 2019. Only 33% of the identified government agencies and departments provided feedback/inputs on the resolutions raised within a grace period of 8 months from May to December 2019.















# Yayasan Perpaduan Sarawak

# In Collaboration With Yayasan Perpaduan Sarawak







Project on 'Sarawak's Pride - Most Number of Unity Short Stories'

Launched on 12th February 2019 and Still Ongoing

Yayasan Perpaduan Sarawak (YPS) and Sarawak Development Institute (SDI) embarked on this special project 'Sarawak's Pride – Most Number of Unity Short Stories' to collect short stories on unity from members of the public in Sarawak in an attempt to achieve a record in the Malaysia Book of Records (MBR).

The project was launched on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 by the Honourable Tan Sri Datuk Amar Mohamad Morshidi Abdul Ghani, State Secretary and Chairman of SDI, to call for submissions by members of the public. The project managed to collect more than 1,000 stories by the end of July 2019. On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2019, a maze display showcasing about 450 of the selected stories was launched by His Excellency Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud, and Chairman of YPS, at the Square Tower, Kuching Waterfront.

The maze display was brought to other parts of Sarawak beginning with Sarikei on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019 to 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019, and it was launched by the Right Honorable Chief Minister of Sarawak. The display was also showcased at the Sibu Town Square from 13<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019, at Curtin University Miri from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019, and at the Miri City Fan Amphitheatre from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Throughout these public exhibitions of the maze, the call for more submissions from members of the public was continued to enable the organisers to achieve the MBR record for 'Most Number of Unity Short Stories'. The project is ongoing till 2020.







### 5th Camp United

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Borneo Tropical Rainforest Resort, Miri

Camp United, a signature event of YPS, revolves around activities and games that build team dynamics to foster better understanding of each other's differences and learning how to accept and respect them. These activities were supported by self and interactive group reflection sessions.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Camp United 2019 focussed on themes such as conflict resolution, understanding and acceptance, empathy and communication, and unity in diversity. The participants learned how to step out of their comfort zone, build team spirit and trust under high pressure situations, allow voices for different perspectives, and overcome challenges not as individuals but as a community.

One of the highlights during the camp was a dialogue session where the youth get to ask and discuss about current issues facing the state, country and the community. The youth brought up many pertinent issues like outsiders' perspectives about Sarawak, infrastructure development in the state, disunity among Malaysians, the reliability of education system in Malaysia, immigration policy in Sarawak, STEM education and its opportunities, and appreciating and understanding cultures in particular reference to cultures of international students studying in Sarawak.

A total of sixty-four students from universities and colleges throughout Sarawak, and also from West Malaysia and Sabah, including international students from Pakistan and Zimbabwe participated at the 4 days 3 nights camp.

The participants lauded the content of the camp where they were given a safe space to discuss issues, mixed with a diverse group of young people and questioned happenings in the state and country. In conclusion, the camp gave them the needed space to understand themselves better, build their self-awareness and regardless of backgrounds and beliefs, they all shared a common bond, which is to live a meaningful and enriching life in the diversity that surrounds them.







# **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

# Greater AZAM Gawai-Raya Celebration and Greater AZAM Pre-Christmas & Year End Gathering

29<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Pullman Kuching & 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Grand Margherita Hotel

The greater AZAM, consisting of four organisations namely Angkatan Zaman Mansang Sarawak (AZAM Sarawak), Sarawak Development Institute (SDI), Faradale Media-M Sdn. Bhd. (FMM), and Faradale Holdings Sdn. Bhd. organised these gatherings and celebrations with the aim to build and enhance rapport among the members and staff through many fun activities and games.





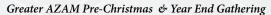




Greater AZAM Gawai-Raya Celebration











# RESEARCH





Kuching

Samarahan

### Survey on Digital Readiness of Community in Sarawak: An Exploratory Survey in Kuching, Samarahan and Serian Divisions

This exploratory survey was commissioned by the Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) in 2018 under the Digital Inclusivity Initiatives, and was completed in July 2019. Its main aim was to examine the level of readiness of local residents in terms of digital literacy, skills, and awareness in order to provide a foundation of understanding for future digital economy programmes. A total of twelve areas with *Pusat Internet Malaysia* (PIM) centres were selected in Kuching, Serian and Samarahan.

906 people were polled during the course of this survey, of which 740 were members of the public, and 166 were members of the local business community. The study revealed that the main usage of digital devices among both public and business groups is mostly for verbal and online communication; and the second most common reason is to conduct online transactions. In terms of internet accessibility and device ownership, there is not much difference between the rural and urban areas covered, although connection speeds remain an issue.

In terms of interest in enhancing their knowledge and skills in digital technology, a majority of respondents from both public and business groups are interested in doing so, especially among young people below the age of 30. As for their knowledge on ICT, respondents' answers were mostly on the low side, indicating they had limited knowledge and understanding on the subject.

A substantial number of the respondents have not heard of Sarawak's digital economy initiatives, and are not able to explain when it was asked. This was more pronounced among the older, less educated demographics.

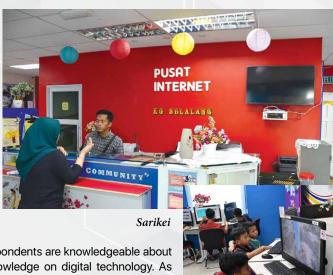
From the findings, the survey proposed a number of recommendations to further expose and educate the community on the development of digital technology as well as digital economy. It is proposed that a more organised effort in targeting older, less educated demographics on digital economy, and its purposes and benefits in the form of awareness campaigns, digital literacy programmes and other supplementing studies be undertaken. And programmes that expose the public to digital skills as well as digital entrepreneurship should be promoted by relevant agencies that could enable a greater integration into Sarawak's digital economy strategy.



Conferences | Workshops | Forums | Talks | Research

Survey on Digital Readiness of Community in Sarawak: Exploratory Survey in Sarikei, Mukah and Sibu Divisions

The survey was the second leg and continuation of a similar survey conducted in Kuching, Samarahan and Serian divisions. In this survey, 21 *Pusat Internet Malaysia* (PIM) were identified in four areas in Sarikei, seven in Sibu, and nine in Mukah covering urban, suburban and rural areas. A total of 923 respondents were interviewed comprising 711 from among the public group and 212 from the local business community.



For both public and business group, many respondents are knowledgeable about ICT and keen to enhance their skills and knowledge on digital technology. As for the awareness of the State's Digital Economy Strategy, both groups scored lower percentage as compared to the awareness on digital economy. Meanwhile, awareness of e-wallets and Sarawak Pay as well as the level of usage is not as low as their knowledge on the State's Digital Economy Strategy. Awareness of Sarawak Pay is about average but utilisation is lower as compared to other e-wallets. In

terms of digital connectivity and utilization, all respondents from public group have access to the internet. Celcom is the most popular service provider for both groups and followed by Digi. Most of the respondents were satisfied with the speed and stability of the internet line. Practically everyone owns a smartphone while only a handful own desktops, laptops and tablets which are very few.

It can be concluded that the respondents have the basic knowledge and skills required to partake in the digital economy and are willing to learn more. It would be useful to explore ways to raise the level of awareness on DE. While a few are already engaged in online business activities, the nature of products sold or bought, the marketing methods, packaging, et cetera including the scale is not known. Further investigations should be done to examine further these aspects so that the right kind of exposure and necessary training can be provided.









Sibu





# **CORPORATE MEMBERS**



Sarawak Economic Development Corporation



Sarawak Information Systems Sdn. Bhd.



Craun Research Sdn. Bhd.



Land Custody and Development Authority



**Miri Port Authority** 



Yayasan Sarawak



Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC)



Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) Sarawak



**Kuching Port Authority** 



Sarawak Energy Berhad



Sarawak Rivers Board



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