



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

## PRESS RELEASE

### THE 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE CITIES (ESC) AWARD & 5<sup>th</sup> CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION (COR) CEREMONY RECOGNIZED 29 CITIES

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Through Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), Malaysia hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Award and the 5<sup>th</sup> Certificates of Recognition (COR) Ceremony in conjunction with the Official Gala Dinner of the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME) in Langkawi. The successful organisation of this awards ceremony is one of the key deliverables of Malaysia's hosting of the 18th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (AMME).

At the ceremony, ten (10) ASEAN cities were conferred the 6<sup>th</sup> ESC Award, while nineteen (19) cities received the 5<sup>th</sup> COR in recognition of achievements across five categories: Clean Air, Clean Land, Clean Water, Urban Biodiversity and Green Spaces and Circular Economy.

The ESC Award is ASEAN's environmental recognition programme, honouring cities that demonstrate outstanding commitment to maintaining clean, green and liveable environments amidst rapid urbanisation and economic growth.

Malaysia was proud to be recognised among the award recipients. Kota Tinggi was honoured with the 6<sup>th</sup> ESC Award, while Johor Bahru, Bandaraya Diraja Klang, Petaling Jaya, Hang Tuah Jaya, Banting and Melaka received the COR across multiple categories. These recognitions reaffirm Malaysia's strong commitment to advancing

sustainability at the local level and contributing to ASEAN's shared vision of building resilient, liveable and environmentally sustainable cities.

NRES also extends its heartiest congratulations to all the winning cities from ASEAN Member States. Their achievements not only serve as an inspiration to other cities in the region but also strengthen ASEAN's collective resolve to share best practices and work together towards a greener, more sustainable future.

## **MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (NRES)**

**3 SEPTEMBER 2025**



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## ATTACHMENT

### **RECIPIENTS OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN ESC AWARD**

| No. | Country           | City Nominations<br>for<br>ESC Award 2025 | Key Features  |
|-----|-------------------|---|---|
| 1   | Brunei Darussalam | Seria                                     | BSP's Solar Photovoltaic Plant, Seria Energy Recreational Park and No Plastic Bag Everyday Initiative.  |
| 2   | Cambodia          | Siem Reap City                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Clean City Award (2022-2025), and ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award (2022-2024), including plastic free initiatives and groundwater conservation.</li></ul> |
| 3   | Indonesia         | Banyumas                                  | Public Service Innovation Award, waste management, cleanliness, urban environmental quality, circular economy.  |
| 4   | Lao PDR           | Xay City                                  | Ecosystem-based Adaptation, disaster risk management, local climate adaptive living facility, waste management for plastics.  |

|   |             |                           |   |
|---|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| 5 | Malaysia    | Kota Tinggi               | ASEAN Clean Tourist City Standard, sustainable urban development, inclusive community engagement and innovative local initiatives.  |
| 6 | Myanmar     | Hpa-an City               | Waste management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, plastic waste management.  |
| 7 | Philippines | Samal City                | Solid waste management, marine biodiversity protection, community education and responsible waste handling.   |
| 8 | Singapore   | Brickland-Tengah Division | Community-based environmental programmes, community-based sustainable festivals, community cycling initiative, community-business collaboration in sustainability.          |
| 9 | Thailand    | Pakkret City Municipality | Integrated solid waste management, clean water, and GHG emissions management, energy efficiency, wastewater management, flood prevention and response planning, air quality |

|   |          |             |  |
|---|----------|-------------|--|
|   |          |             | management, biodiversity and green space.  |
| 1 | Viet Nam | Hoa Lu City | Gender sensitive sustainable development initiatives, sustainable tourism, environmental education and awareness in schools. |

## Recipients of the 5<sup>th</sup> Certificates of Recognition

| Category     |                                     | 5 <sup>th</sup> COR 2025 |                              |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Big Cities   | Clean Air                           | Indonesia                | Malang                       |
|              | Clean Water                         | Indonesia                | Bandung                      |
|              | Clean Land                          | Malaysia                 | Johor Bahru                  |
|              | Urban Biodiversity and Green Spaces | Malaysia                 | Klang                        |
|              |                                     | Viet Nam                 | Hai Phong                    |
|              | Circular Economy                    | Indonesia                | Padang                       |
|              |                                     | Malaysia                 | Petaling Jaya                |
| Small Cities | Clean Air                           | Cambodia                 | Tboung Khmum                 |
|              |                                     | Malaysia                 | Hang Tuah Jaya               |
|              |                                     | Thailand                 | Hua Hin City<br>Municipality |
|              | Clean Water                         | Cambodia                 | Ponhea Kraek                 |

|  |  |             |                             |
|--|--|-------------|-----------------------------|
|  |  | Cambodia    | Takhmao                     |
|  |  | Malaysia    | Banting                     |
|  |  | Philippines | Dipolog                     |
|  | <b>Clean Land</b>                          | Indonesia   | Ciamis Regency              |
|  | <b>Urban Biodiversity and Green Spaces</b> | Thailand    | Thungsong Town Municipality |
|  | <b>Circular Economy</b>                    | Cambodia    | Sihanoukvile                |
|  |  | Malaysia    | Melaka                      |
|  |  | Philippines | Bacolod                     |