

## **Launch of GBI Township Tool and RNC Version 2 Tool**

With the launch of the Green Building Index (GBI) Township Tool today (29 March 2011) to widen the green transformation of our neighbourhoods and communities, the basic parameters have been set in place from the initial planning stage to pave the way for new buildings in a township to achieve the GBI certification.

GBI chairman Boon Che Wee said achieving the GBI certification for a township not only showed the green commitment of a responsible developer but also established an environmental legacy and sustainability caveat for all future buildings in the township to match and outperform the community's expectations.

"By outlining measures that are both environmentally and economically achievable and sound, we are confident that the tool will also dispel any misconceptions on the viability of sustainable development and reaffirm our ability to provide for our needs with the most effective use of land and resources; without compromising the ability of future generations to provide for theirs," added Boon, who is also Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (Malaysian Institute of Architects) president.

Six core categories, as prescribed by the GBI, are considered in the delivery of sustainable townships in Malaysia.

They are climate, energy and water, ecology and environment, community planning and design, transportation and connectivity, building and resources as well as business and innovation.

To-date, five pilot projects registered with the GBI are TTDI Alam Impian by .TTDI Land Sdn Bhd, Boga Valley by Boga Valley Corporation Sdn Bhd, Ken Rimba by Ken Holdings Bhd, Elmina East by Sime Darby Property Bhd and Karambunai Integrated Resort City by Karambunai Resorts Sdn Bhd

Since GBI launch in May 2009, it has received over 160 applications for registration, of which 38% are new residential buildings.

Currently, there are 21 GBI green certified buildings, including S11 House, a new two-storey bungalow which attained the GBI Platinum rating.

This residential building features M&E attic floor, cellar and swimming pool, modern tropical with rainwater harvesting, light tubes, wind turbines, insulated roof, recycled materials, greenery walls, cross ventilation as well as sun shading and screening.

Also launched today was the GBI Residential New Construction (RNC) Version 2 Tool, which was undertaken over six months with feedback from property industry stakeholders.

Nine buildings were presented their provisional GBI certifications today.

Among them is Sime Darby Idea House in Denai Alam, Section U16 in Shah Alam, Selangor, which received its GBI-RNC Gold certificate.



*From left: Sime Darby Property Bhd research and development innovation head Sufian Abdullah received the GBI-RNC Gold certification from the Minister of Housing and Local Government Dato' Wira Chor Chee Heung and Boon.*

The other two buildings which received their GBI-RNC certificates are The Light Linear and The Light Point.

Both these projects, sited in George Town, Penang, are owned by Jelutong Development Sdn Bhd.