

MARC MALAYSIAN BOND & SUKUK CONFERENCE

(MMBS 2024)

“CHARTING THE COURSE FOR
MALAYSIA'S ECONOMY”



21- 22
AUGUST

9.30AM- 11.30AM

KEY DISCUSSIONS **AND INSIGHTS**



OPPORTUNITIES AMID STRONGER GROWTH AND
MONETARY EASING



FACTS AND FICTIONS OF FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY



DATA CENTRES BOOSTING THE PROPERTY AND TELCO
SECTORS



LARGE-SCALE SOLAR ENERGY EXPANSION IN MALAYSIA

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RATINGS**

MMBS 2024

DAY 1
AUGUST 21, 2024
9.30AM - 11.30AM

CHARTING THE COURSE FOR MALAYSIA'S ECONOMY

PRESENTATION

Economic and Market Outlook: Opportunities Amid Stronger Growth and Monetary Easing



Dr Ray Choy

Chief Economist,
MARC Ratings Berhad

PANEL DISCUSSION

- Fiscal Sustainability: Facts and Fictions



Moderator

Dr Ray Choy

Chief Economist,
MARC Ratings Berhad

Panellists:



Dr Runchana Pongsaparn

Group Head and Principal Economist,
ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic
Research Office (AMRO)



Amar C. Ramachandran

Director / Head of Investment,
Manulife Insurance Berhad



Nurhisham Hussein

Senior Director of Economics
& Finance,
Prime Minister's Office (PMO)

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MMBS 2024

DAY 2
AUGUST 22, 2024
9.30AM - 11.30AM

CHARTING THE COURSE FOR MALAYSIA'S ECONOMY

PRESENTATIONS

APAC Data Centres – Rapid Expansion Offers Benefits for Property and Telco Sectors



Nidhi Dhruv, CFA

Vice-President, Senior Credit Officer,
Moody's Ratings



Sean Williams

Analyst, Corporate Finance,
Moody's Ratings



Saranga Ranasinghe

Vice-President - Senior Analyst,
Corporate Finance,
Moody's Ratings

PANEL DISCUSSION

- The Future of Renewable Energy: Large-Scale Solar Expansion in Malaysia



Moderator

Sharidan Salleh

Senior Head, Ratings Portfolio,
Oil & Gas and Power,
MARC Ratings Berhad

Panellists:



Gan Boon Hean

Group Chief Executive Officer,
Leader Energy Group Berhad



Yeoh Phee Leong, CFA, CAIA

Managing Director and Head,
Debt Markets,
CIMB Investment Bank Berhad



Direshkumar Padmanathan

General Manager,
Ranhill Renewables Sdn Bhd

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CHARTING THE COURSE FOR MALAYSIA'S ECONOMY

PROGRAMME

Day 1: August 21, 2024

09.30 am	Welcome note and housekeeping by emcee
09.35 am	Welcome remarks by Arshad Mohamed Ismail Group Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad
09.45 am	Presentation: Economic and Market Outlook: Opportunities Amid Stronger Growth and Monetary Easing
10.20 am	Moderator and panellist introductions
10.25 am	Panel Discussion: Fiscal Sustainability: Facts and Fictions Q&A Session
11.30 am	Key takeaways and closing remarks

Day 2: August 22, 2024

9.30 am	Welcome note and housekeeping by emcee
9.35 am	Presentations: APAC Data Centres – Rapid Expansion Offers Benefits for Property and Telco Sectors
10.10 am	Moderator and panellist introductions
10.15 am	Panel Discussion: The Future of Renewable Energy: Large-Scale Solar Expansion in Malaysia Q&A session
11.30 am	Key takeaways and closing remarks

For more information, please contact:

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SPEAKER/PANELLIST PROFILES

Dr Ray Choy

Dr Ray Choy is Chief Economist at MARC Ratings Berhad. Prior to MARC, he headed the research offices of banking groups CIMB and RHB across Southeast Asia, following a leadership role in global funds management, accumulating over two decades of experience. Dr Ray has earned top rankings by Alpha Southeast Asia, The Asset, and Lipper, among others. He has published in top-tier, peer-reviewed journals and authored "Essays in Bond Market Economics".

Additionally, he is a corporate trainer, an adjunct academic at Monash University, and was admitted to the Directors' Registry of the Institute of Corporate Directors Malaysia. Dr Ray holds a BA in Business and Finance (Distinction) from Heriot-Watt University, a BSc in Politics and International Relations (1st Class Honours) from the University of London (LSE), an MSc in Finance (Economic Policy) from the University of London (SOAS) and a PhD focusing on sovereign credit ratings from the University of Nottingham.

Dr Runchana Pongsaparn

Dr Runchana Pongsaparn joined the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) as Group Head and Principal Economist in 2022, leading macroeconomic and financial system surveillance for Japan, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

Prior to AMRO, Dr Pongsaparn spent 18 years at the Bank of Thailand (BOT) in roles encompassing monetary policy, exchange rate policy, macroeconomic modelling, financial stability, and crisis management. She coordinated BOT's cooperation with international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and lectured at several Thai universities from 2006 to 2022.

Dr Pongsaparn has also served at the IMF, specialising in monetary policy and financial stability, and acted as an advisor to the National Bank of Cambodia. She holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Cambridge, and a PhD in Economics from the University of Bristol.

Amar C. Ramachandran

Amar C. Ramachandran is the Director and Head of Investment at Manulife Insurance Berhad, with 25 years of experience in investment and treasury, particularly in the insurance and contingent liability industry. His background includes seven years at a development financial institution and a stint in investment research.

Since joining Manulife in 2019, Amar has developed alternative investments and private market assets to address low yields and market volatility. He has published and presented research on investment and macro-policy issues in Malaysia.

Amar holds qualifications in accounting and finance and is an Affiliate of the Association of Corporate Treasurers (UK), a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment (UK), a Fellow of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia, and a Fellow of CPA Australia.

Nurhisham Hussein

Nurhisham Hussein is the Senior Director of Economics & Finance at the Prime Minister's Office, advising on the economy, investments, capital markets, and social protection.

He was the Chief Strategy Officer at the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) from January 2020, having joined EPF in 2014 and serving in various roles, including Head of the Economics and Capital Markets Department. Prior to EPF, he worked at Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad and Permodalan Nasional Berhad.

Nurhisham is on the Board of Directors of ProtectHealth Corporation Sdn Bhd and was an EPF nominee on the Boards of Axiata Group Berhad and Astro Malaysia Holdings Berhad.

He holds a BSc in Monetary Economics from the University of London School of Economics and Political Science, and a Master's in Economics from Universiti Malaya.

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SPEAKER/PANELLIST PROFILES



Sharidan Salleh

Sharidan is the Rating Portfolio Senior Head for Oil & Gas and Power. He has been with MARC for 12 years. He has spent about 20 years working in the local financial services industry in the areas of credit, investment research and private equity investment.

Sharidan has Bachelor and Master's degrees in finance from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.



Yeoh Phee Leong, CFA, CAIA

Yeoh Phee Leong is the Managing Director and Head of Debt Markets at CIMB Investment Bank Berhad. He oversees the bonds/sukuk origination business and co-heads the loan markets and syndication desk. With over 20 years of experience in both ringgit and non-ringgit, as well as the conventional and Islamic debt capital markets, Phee Leong has been instrumental in numerous landmark transactions. These include bonds/sukuk issuances by sovereign and quasi-sovereign issuers, government projects, project financing, and corporate and convertible/exchangeable bond transactions.

He holds a Master of Finance and a Bachelor of Business (Economics & Finance) with Distinction from RMIT University, Australia. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst charterholder, a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst charterholder, and a certified Financial Risk Manager. Phee Leong also serves as the Chairman of the Debt Capital Markets Committee of the Malaysian Investment Banking Association.



Gan Boon Hean

Gan Boon Hean is the Group Chief Executive Officer of Leader Energy Group Berhad. He is a registered Professional Engineer with a Practising Certificate, and a corporate member of the Institution of Engineers Malaysia. Gan holds a High Voltage Electrical Competent Engineer Certificate from the Energy Commission of Malaysia in addition to the APEC Engineer and International Professional Engineer Certificates. Gan graduated with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from the University of Technology Malaysia.

Gan has over 40 years of experience in the power sector across Asia. He began his career at Tenaga Nasional Berhad's Power Transmission division and later served as Vice President of ABB Malaysia Sdn Bhd's Power Division. Since 2009, he has been an integral part of the team at Leader Universal Holdings Berhad, managing significant projects including large-scale solar farms, rooftop solar projects, hydro plants, coal-fired plants, and high voltage substations. His broad expertise covers business development, project management, engineering, operations, and maintenance.



Direshkumar Padmanathan

Direshkumar Padmanathan is a Chartered Engineer and Certified Project Management Professional with over 10 years of experience in engineering and project management. He has served in roles ranging from owner's advisory to project developer for Large Scale Solar projects. His diverse background encompasses business development, design, testing, and commissioning in various power projects across Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand.

Currently, as the General Manager at Ranhill Renewables, Diresh oversees projects from inception to completion, with a primary focus on renewable energy solutions. He leverages his robust engineering and project management expertise to lead diverse projects, particularly in renewable energy.

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SPEAKER/PANELLIST PROFILES



Nidhi Dhruv, CFA

Nidhi Dhruv is a Vice President and Senior Credit Officer at Moody's Ratings, working within the Corporate Finance Group. Based in Singapore, she covers a portfolio of issuers across the telecommunications, telecom towers, mining, construction and airline industries in South and Southeast Asia. Nidhi also has expertise in environmental, social and governance risks and scores in the APAC region.

Before joining Moody's in 2007, Nidhi was an analyst with Citigroup Investment Banking in India and Singapore for three years.



Saranga Ranasinghe

Saranga Ranasinghe is a Senior Analyst in Moody's Corporate Finance Group, based in Sydney. She covers mainly the Australian Real Estate Investment Trusts (A-REITs) and corporates in the construction, building products, and mining sectors. Saranga previously worked in Moody's Singapore office, focusing on property developers, IT companies, and real estate investment trusts across Southeast Asia. She returned to Sydney in mid-2019.

Before joining Moody's, Saranga spent five years as a credit analyst in Sri Lanka. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst charterholder and earned her Bachelor of Business (Hons) from the University of Wisconsin-Superior in the US.



Sean Williams

Sean Williams is an Analyst in Moody's Corporate Finance Group, based in Sydney. He focuses on corporate clients in the mining sector, as well as consumer goods retailers and Australian Real Estate Investment Trusts (A-REITs), with a particular emphasis on alternative investments.

Before joining Moody's, Sean worked with AMP Capital's Public Markets business in Sydney. He is a member of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, and holds a Bachelor of Accounting degree from the University of Technology, Sydney.