



14 MAY, 2024

## Were working to fortify energy links with Asean network, says Fadillah

The Star, Malaysia



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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia is actively engaged with its Asean counterparts to propel regional initiatives such as the Asean Power Grid aimed at fortifying energy connectivity and security throughout the region, says Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof.

Through the exchange of resources, knowledge and technology, he said Malaysia can surmount obstacles and expedite the adoption of green technologies in fostering a collective stride

towards sustainability.

"As we recognise and acknowledge the hurdles ahead, from technological complexities to economic constraints, we remain resolute in our commitment to a flexible and versatile policy framework.

"This framework will ensure an adaptive management and seamless integration of emerging technologies, propelling us forward amid dynamic challenges," he said in a keynote address at the Asean Green Hydrogen Confe-

rence 2024 here yesterday, Bernama reported.

Fadillah, who is also Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister, said Malaysia will continue to engage with its key stakeholders and maintain open dialogue to ensure the strategies remain finely attuned to both local and global trends, as well as steering the country steadfastly towards its shared vision of a sustainable future.

As for the ministry, Fadillah said it will continuously work

together in proactive collaboration with other ministries, notably the Economy Ministry and the Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry, in crafting an environment conducive to nurturing the growth of the country's energy sector.

Speaking at a press conference later, Fadillah said the country needs to explore alternative energy sources such as solar, hydrogen and biomass, all of which are more sustainable, environmentally friendly and affordable clean

energy sources for consumers.

"If we look at the peninsula, the demand for energy is high but our sources may be dwindling, especially when coal is phased out. Currently, we rely on gas but gas is becoming more expensive because we have to import it."

The two-day conference, which began yesterday, offers various programmes, including panel discussions, workshops and exhibitions showcasing the latest hydrogen energy technologies from leading companies and startups.