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## Envisioning Sustainable Energy Beyond Borders: ISES 2026 as a Platform for Impact and Partnership

The Edge, Malaysia



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Since its inception in 2012, the International Sustainable Energy Summit (ISES) has steadily grown into a premier platform for knowledge exchange and cross-sector collaboration in renewable energy and energy demand management. Held biennially, ISES has evolved from a national gathering into a respected regional forum—bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, investors, innovators and academics to advance the sustainable energy agenda in meaningful and measurable ways.

#### ISES: A Decade of Driving Regional Energy Dialogue

*As we reflect on the journey of ISES, it is remarkable to witness how the summit has strengthened its role in connecting perspectives, aligning priorities and translating ideas into action. The last edition in 2024 was a resounding success, underscoring the strong collective commitment to accelerate sustainable energy development. Each ISES has consistently delivered valuable insights and partnerships that help shape the energy landscape—not only in Malaysia, but across the region and beyond,* said Dato' Hamzah Bin Hussin, CEO of SEDA Malaysia.

At the heart of ISES is SEDA Malaysia's mandate and mission. Established in 2011, SEDA Malaysia was formed with a clear purpose: to drive the growth of renewable energy and increase its contribution to the national electricity generation mix. Over the years, we have implemented pivotal programmes including the Feed-in Tariff (FIT), Net Energy Metering (NEM), Nikmat Untuk Rakyat (NUR) and the latest Solar Accelerated Transition Action Programme (Solar ATAP). These initiatives have catalysed adoption of sustainable energy solutions and empowered individuals, communities and businesses to be active participants in the nation's energy transition.

#### Malaysia's Energy Transition: Balancing the Energy Trilemma

In a rapidly shifting global context, energy transition is no longer a distant aspiration—it is an urgent national and regional priority. Yet, while the world accelerates decarbonisation efforts, we must also confront the realities of the energy trilemma: ensuring electricity supply remains reliable and resilient, maintaining affordability for households and industries, and safeguarding environmental sustainability. This balance requires not only sound policy, but also innovation, investment readiness and regional cooperation.



By **Dato' Hamzah Bin Hussin**  
 Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Malaysia

The 7th ISES 2026 will continue to address critical issues shaping the future of energy. These include scaling up renewable energy deployment, advancing demand-side management and energy efficiency, strengthening grid flexibility in the era of high solar PV penetration, enabling energy storage solutions, expanding rural electrification initiatives, and unlocking innovative financing mechanisms to sustain long-term investment in clean energy infrastructure. ISES remains a dynamic platform for industry voices and policymakers to share experiences and foresight—creating a stronger narrative of progress and accountability.

#### A Regional Agenda: Collaboration Beyond Borders

This year, the 7th ISES 2026 carries the theme "Envisioning Sustainable Energy Beyond Borders"—a timely call to strengthen regional and global collaboration in accelerating the transition to a sustainable and inclusive energy future. This theme is aligned with the 43rd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) and reflects the direction of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026–2030, particularly in key programme areas such as strengthening the ASEAN Power Grid, accelerating renewable energy deployment, advancing energy efficiency and conservation, and enhancing regional energy policy planning and interconnectivity.

Over two days, the summit is expected to convene more than 5,000 participants, including decision-makers and practitioners who are shaping the next phase of sustainable energy development across Asia and beyond.

Beyond technical excellence and policy leadership, ISES also reflects our commitment to inclusive energy transition. In ISES 2024, we introduced a dedicated youth session to elevate the role of young innovators and future leaders in the sustainable energy ecosystem. Building on this momentum, the 7th ISES 2026 will feature a dedicated plenary session on "Energy Transition Through Women Leadership", recognising the importance of diverse leadership and stronger representation in advancing meaningful and lasting progress.

The 7th ISES 2026 and SEDA Malaysia's organisational initiatives share a common direction: progress through partnership, innovation through collaboration, and sustainability through long-term commitment. As we move forward, the energy transition must be guided by collective responsibility and purposeful action. We must continue to create platforms for dialogue, invest in innovation and strengthen cooperation across borders—not only to transform energy systems, but to build resilient communities and sustainable economies.

As the 7th ISES 2026 approaches, we invite strategic partners—locally and internationally—to join us in shaping the next chapter of sustainable energy progress. Through our partnership packages, organisations will have meaningful opportunities to engage decision-makers, showcase solutions and contribute to regional collaboration.

*"We also welcome delegates, professionals, industry players, researchers and students to participate in ISES 2026 through our delegate passes, and be part of impactful discussions, knowledge-sharing and high-value networking with stakeholders across the sustainable energy ecosystem."*

*"For more information on partnership opportunities and delegate registration, please visit [www.ises.gov.my](http://www.ises.gov.my) or contact [ises@seda.gov.my](mailto:ises@seda.gov.my)."*

*"Together, we can accelerate the energy transition and build a resilient, inclusive and sustainable future for Malaysia and beyond," Dato Hamzah concluded.*

*Dato' Hamzah Bin Hussin is the CEO of the SEDA Malaysia.*