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UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

Mattan eyes bigger RE market share in Malaysia, Asean

KUALA LUMPUR: Mattan Engineering Sdn Bhd is eyeing a larger renewable energy (RE) market share in Malaysia and Asean, which offer huge untapped potential for the industry.

Its executive chairman Levin Tan said the company was looking at balancing its portfolio exposure at 50:50 for local and foreign operations in three years.

"As much as there is vast potential in the RE industry at home, we are also looking to enter underserved renewable energy markets, such as Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam in the near future," he said at the launch of Mattan's RM285 million large-scale solar 50MWac photovoltaic generation facility in Rembau, Negri Sembilan.

Citing data from International Renewable Energy Agency, Malaysia ranked third in Asean with a solar capacity of 362 megawatts (MW) by end-2017 and this provides a lot of potential for companies such as Mattan to tap, he said.

Since its corporation in 2012, Mattan, an engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning solutions provider for RE infrastructure, has completed more than 80 projects.

Meanwhile, Tan said the construction of the solar power plant in Rembau, which was partially financed by Malaysia Building Society Bhd, was completed in January this year.

The plant had a 21-year power purchase agreement with Tenaga Nasional Bhd starting from the date of its commercial operations, he added.

Tan said the facility, which has been operational since Jan 30, can generate more than 75,000MW hours' worth of electricity a year.

"The facility is capable of supplying electricity to more than 20,000 households and it is estimated the use of solar energy for these households can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more 1.2 million tonnes over a 21-year period," he said.

Tan added that the plant had more than 170,000 solar panels installed over 68.8ha of land.

"The development of the project opened up more than 400 green job opportunities," he added.