

ASIA'S LEADING CONFERENCE FOR **NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS**

**LAr.
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ABDULLAH
ZAIDI**
MALAYSIA



**ANTON
SIURA**
INDONESIA



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TENG
PE YANG**
MALAYSIA



**MICHEL
VAN
DRIESSCHE**
NETHERLANDS



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**Assoc. Prof. LAr. Dr.
NOR ATIAH
ISMAL**
MALAYSIA



**LAr.
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**Assoc. Prof. LAr. Dr.
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**DANIEL
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MALAYSIA



**asia
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Nature-based Solutions

**ONE ASIA
CONNECTED
SOLUTIONS**

**AUDITORIUM BANDARAYA
MENARA DBKL 1**
25 OCT 25 8:30AM-6:00PM

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The NBS Asia Conference, organised by the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM), brings together experts, policymakers, and practitioners from across Asia to explore Nature-based Solutions for resilient cities, thriving communities, and sustainable futures. This regional platform fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovative approaches to address shared environmental challenges.

www.mynbs.asia



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Assoc Prof LAr Dr
**NOR ATIAH
ISMAIL**

President,
**Institute of
Landscape Architects
Malaysia (ILAM)**



Designing with Nature, Building Resilience

It is with great pride that I welcome you to the Nature-based Solutions (NbS) Asia Conference 2025 — Asia's Leading Conference for Nature-based Solutions, organised by the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM).

This milestone event brings together thought leaders, researchers, and practitioners from across the region, uniting under one vision: to shape a more resilient, sustainable, and liveable Asia through the power of design rooted in nature.

In recent years, the impacts of climate change, urbanisation, and ecological degradation have grown increasingly visible. Communities across Asia are facing rising temperatures, flash floods, biodiversity loss, and deteriorating living environments.

As landscape architects, we recognise that the solutions lie not in resistance but in collaboration with nature. Nature-based Solutions (NbS) present a holistic approach — one that harmonises ecological systems, restores natural processes, and brings measurable benefits to both people and the planet.

Through this conference, ILAM continues its mission to champion innovation, research, and collaboration across sectors. We aim to strengthen partnerships between government, academia, and industry to advance NBS as a practical framework for climate resilience and community well-being. Let these dialogues inspire new action — in policy, design, and mindset — so that every development becomes an opportunity to regenerate our natural capital.

Together, let us design with nature, build resilience, and create landscapes that nurture life, culture, and hope for future generations.

Dato' Seri TPr (Dr.)
**Maimunah binti
Mohd Sharif**
Mayor of Kuala Lumpur



**Kuala Lumpur:
A City Shaped by
Nature-based Vision**

On behalf of Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), I am honoured to welcome all delegates to the NbS Asia Conference 2025, held in the heart of our capital city — a metropolis where tradition meets transformation. It is especially meaningful for Kuala Lumpur to host this distinguished regional platform as we embark on our journey to become a climate-resilient and people-centred city.

Our city has long recognised that green infrastructure and urban nature are not luxuries, but necessities. From the creation of KLCC Park and Titiwangsa Lake Gardens to recent initiatives like the KL Park Festival and the Green and Blue Connectors, we have witnessed how public spaces, when planned with ecological sensitivity, can uplift communities, improve public health, and fortify the city's natural defences against climate change.

The NBS Asia Conference amplifies this mission by spotlighting real-world examples of how cities across Asia are embracing Nature-based Solutions to mitigate floods, enhance biodiversity, and reimagine urban living. It provides a platform for exchange — where knowledge meets innovation, and where ideas transcend borders to shape sustainable futures.

As Kuala Lumpur continues to evolve, we remain committed to integrating NBS and placemaking into our planning agenda, ensuring that every green space serves not only as infrastructure, but also as a shared cultural experience that connects people to nature and to one another.

I invite all delegates to explore our city's parks and landscapes — living testaments to how a city can grow hand-in-hand with nature.

YB
**Nik Nazmi
bin Nik Ahmad**

**Member of Parliament
for Setiawangsa**

**Former Minister of
Natural Resources
and Environmental
Sustainability**



Nature as the Foundation for a Sustainable Future

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to the organisers and participants of the NbS Asia Conference 2025.

As Member of Parliament for Setiawangsa and a firm believer in sustainability and climate action, I view this gathering as a powerful statement of regional commitment — one that reaffirms our shared belief that the path to progress must be anchored in nature.

Malaysia, like many nations in Asia, stands at a crossroads. We are confronted with the dual challenge of sustaining economic growth while safeguarding our natural heritage. In this context, Nature-based Solutions (NbS) represent a crucial bridge — uniting innovation, policy, and community action to address pressing urban and environmental challenges.

From restoring river corridors to creating sponge parks and reforesting urban edges, NbS allows us to tackle flooding, heat, and pollution while revitalising ecosystems and strengthening social bonds.

The NbS Asia Conference offers more than technical discourse; it is a call to action. It is a platform where we exchange lessons, forge collaborations, and align our aspirations for a greener Asia. It reminds us that nature is not a constraint to development, but its greatest ally.

I commend the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) for spearheading this regional dialogue. May this conference inspire lasting partnerships and bold policies that empower every city, township, and community to move towards a nature-positive future — where sustainability is not a slogan, but a way of life.

OPENING SESSION

8:30am - 9:00am

Registration & Light Breakfast

9:00am-9:20am

Arrival of Guest of Honour: YB Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad

Member of Parliament for Setiawangsa

Former Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability

- **National Anthem:** Negaraku
- **Doa Recitation**
- **Moment of Silence** in Honour of Prof. Kongjian Yu
- **Video Showcase:** My Nature-based Solution



9:20am - 9:45am

**Breakfast Talk with Dr Khayla
& Julien Hodson-Walker**

Start the day with an engaging breakfast talk that introduces the fundamentals of Nature-based Solutions through interactive sharing. This session provides an accessible overview of NBS concepts, real-world examples, and their relevance to Asia's urban and environmental challenges, setting the stage for deeper discussions throughout the conference.

9:45am - 10:20am

Keynote Feature: NBS in Focus

Michiel Van Driessche

Felixx Landscape, Rotterdam, Netherlands



A co-author of the World Bank/GFDRR Catalogue of Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience, Michiel shares actionable frameworks—from urban forests to sponge-city retrofits—covering site selection, co-benefit valuation, and implementation pathways drawn from projects across Europe and Asia.



10:20am-10:30am

Welcoming Remarks

Assoc Prof LAr Dr Nor Atiah Ismail

President, Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM)



10:30am-10:40am

Opening Remarks

YB Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad

Member of Parliament for Setiawangsa

Former Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability

OPENING SESSION



10:40am-10:45am
Book Launch: MyNBS Digest 2025

MyNBS Digest 2025:

Malaysia's 20 Leading Nature-based Solutions in Landscape Architecture celebrates twenty exemplary projects that embody the nation's commitment to designing with nature. Curated by the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM), this publication highlights how Malaysian landscape architects are advancing climate resilience, biodiversity restoration, and community well-being through innovative Nature-based Solutions. Each featured project showcases a unique integration of ecology and design-reflecting Malaysia's leadership in shaping sustainable, living landscapes for the future.



10:45am-10:50am
Opening Video: Merbau's Fable

Merbau's Fable is an inspiring shadow play by LAr. Dr. Mustafa Kamal Mohd Shariff, Fellow Landscape Architect and storyteller, in collaboration with the Plasticity Theatre Troupe.

Using powerful words and evocative visuals, it gives voice to Mother Nature's plea, transforming discarded materials into art. Created during the 2021 pandemic lockdown, this Penang-Kuala Lumpur collaboration celebrates creativity, resilience, and the beauty of renewal through reuse.



 BLOCK 1: CLIMATE ADAPTATION

BIG IDEAS



10:50am - 11:30am

Nature Climbs the Skyline

LAr. Phua Chin Eng, Landart Design

Nature Climbs the Skyline explores the transformative role of roof gardens in advancing Nature-based Solutions within dense urban environments. As cities grapple with rising temperatures, stormwater challenges, and limited ground space, roof gardens emerge as living infrastructures—cooling micro-climates, retaining rainwater, enhancing biodiversity, and offering restorative spaces that reconnect people with nature above the skyline.



11:30am - 12:10pm

Urban Water Resilience

Liu Huei Lyn, PUB, Singapore

The ABC Waters Programme is an example of Singapore's commitment to sustainable development and stormwater management. Launched nearly two decades ago in 2006, projects like Kallang River Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park and most recently, Alkaff Lake incorporate blue-green infrastructure that function as recreational community space and enhance flood protection in the area. This talk showcases multifunctional water infrastructure projects that seamlessly integrate urban liveability with resilient design.

SHOWCASE



12:10pm - 12:25pm

Designing Bangkok Sponge Park

K. Chatchanin Sung,

Arsomsilp Community & Environmental Architect Company, Thailand

Benjakitti Park in Bangkok showcases the sponge city principle at scale. Once a tobacco factory site, it was transformed into wetlands, retention ponds, and green corridors that hold stormwater during monsoon floods while offering recreational space in the dry season. This talk shares its design journey and Nature-based Solutions.



12:25pm - 12:40pm

Pinji River Sponge Basin, Ipoh, Malaysia

LAr. Meor Abdullah Zaidi, Ipoh City Council

The Pinji River Sponge Basin in Tanjung Rambutan, Perak, reimagines a former mining site into a multifunctional floodable park. Anchored by dual retention and detention ponds, the design applies Nature-based Solutions to restore ecology, enhance stormwater management, and provide inclusive recreational amenities for community health and resilience.

BLOCK 1: CLIMATE ADAPTATION

SHOWCASE



12:40pm - 12:55pm

Tebet Eco Park, Jakarta, Indonesia

Anton Siura, SIURA Studio, Singapore

Tebet Eco Park, Indonesia, is a model of urban regeneration guided by Nature-based Solutions. Once a degraded green space, it has been transformed into a resilient park that restores biodiversity, manages flooding, and reconnects communities with nature. The talk explores its design strategies, ecological functions, and community-driven outcomes.

12:55pm - 1:00pm

End of Block 1

Speakers' Appreciation & Photography Session

1:00pm - 2:10pm

LUNCH BREAK

BLOCK 2: ECO-SOCIAL WELLBEING

BIG IDEAS



2:10pm - 2:50pm

NbS in the City

LAr. Teng Pe Yang, Permata Green

This session explores how Nature-based Solutions can be woven into George Town's UNESCO heritage fabric to address urban climate challenges. By integrating green infrastructure, stormwater management, and biodiversity strategies with heritage conservation, the project aims to safeguard cultural identity while enhancing resilience, liveability, and sustainability in dense urban settings.



2:50pm - 3:30pm

Urban X Biodiversity

Matthew Mackay, ASPECT Studios, Australia

Urban x Biodiversity examines how cities can be designed to coexist with and enrich nature. This session discusses strategies to weave biodiversity into urban landscapes—through native planting, ecological corridors, and sensitive planning—while balancing growth and conservation to create healthier, more resilient, and life-supporting environments.

BLOCK 2: ECO-SOCIAL WELLBEING

SHOWCASE



3:30pm - 3:45pm

Discover Pulai Trail

LAr. Carolyn Lau, Free Tree Society, Malaysia

The Pulai Trail represents a powerful example of urban conservation in action—a regenerating forest, a wildlife sanctuary, a wellness refuge, and a community hub all rolled into one. It's a living example of how well-planned urban nature initiatives can deliver rich ecological, social, and environmental benefits.



3:45pm - 4:00pm

PTT Metro Forest Bangkok

Tawatchai Kobkaikit, TK Studio, Thailand

Bangkok's Metro Forest is a dense urban Miyawaki forest established on formerly abandoned, dump-filled marshland. With 60,000 native saplings planted across bermed terrain, it rapidly develops canopy and biodiversity. Elevated walkways and educational exhibits immerse visitors in a regenerative landscape that restores ecology while inspiring urban resilience and awareness.



4:00pm - 4:15pm

NBS in Urban Green Connectors

Daniel Lim, Think City

This session explores how urban green connectors integrate Nature-based Solutions and placemaking strategies to link parks, streetscapes, and heritage zones. By weaving ecological corridors into dense city fabrics, these connectors enhance stormwater management, cool microclimates, enrich biodiversity, and transform public spaces into vibrant, inclusive places that strengthen community connection and cultural identity.



4:15pm - 4:30pm

Gamuda Gardens Park

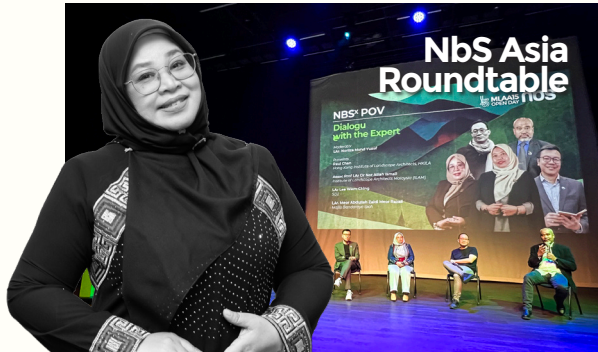
Julien Thomas Hodson-Walker, Walrus Design

Gamuda Gardens Park anchors a new township designed around Nature-based Solutions. The park integrates lakes, wetlands, and green corridors to manage stormwater naturally, cool the microclimate, and enrich biodiversity. As a central recreational hub, it balances ecological functions with community well-being, setting a model for resilient township living.

4:30pm

Tea Break

BLOCK 3: NBS ASIA ROUNDTABLE



4:45pm - 5:45pm
Nbs Asia Roundtable

Moderator:

- Assoc. Prof. LAr. Dr. Nor Atiah Ismail (ILAM)

Panelists:

- Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL)
- Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)
- Felixx Landscape (Netherlands)
- Landart Design (Malaysia)

5:45pm
End of Programme

EXCURSION (Optional)



6:00pm - 9:00pm
Excursion
KL Park Festival 2025

Join an immersive excursion to the biennial **KL Park Festival**, where Kuala Lumpur's urban green spaces come alive. The 2025 edition, held during Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship, embraces the theme **"ASEAN Unity in Diversity"**, showcasing creative garden installations and cultural exhibits from across the region. Expect interactive competitions—including the KL Balcony Showdown and Environmental Arts—alongside "Mystical Titiwangsa," a multi-sensory plant experience. Discover community gardens, student showcases, an ASEAN sculpture garden, marketplaces, and sessions on urban sustainability, all within a vibrant festival celebrating nature, culture, and collective creativity.

www.klparkfestival.com

KLPF Excursion Programme
6:00pm
Departure from Kuala Lumpur City Hall

6:30pm
Arrival at Hospitality Marquee, KL Park Festival

- Welcome Briefing on KL Park Festival 2025
- Light Refreshments

7:20pm Free & Easy

8:15pm
Assemble at Mystical Titiwangsa
Malaysia's First Immersive Trending Plant Showcase

- Briefing on Mystical Titiwangsa Showcase
- Live Performances on Malaysian Folklore

9:00pm
End of Programme

Special Thanks To

YB Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad
Dato' Seri TPr (Dr.) Maimunah binti Mohd Sharif
LAr Puteri Khairul Fathiah binti Fahimudin
LAr Khairul Amri Adam
LAr Khairul Amin bin Mirsa Hussain
Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL)
Perbadanan Putrajaya
Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)
NBS Asia Speakers
ILAM Council Member 2024/2026
KL Park Festival 2025 Organising Team
Mystical Titiwangsa Crew

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EUPE Corporation Berhad
Lakecraft Ecosystem Sdn Bhd

Speakers & Moderators

Assoc. Prof. LAr. Dr. Khalilah Zakariya (UIA, Malaysia)
Michiel Van Driessche (Felixx Landscape, Netherlands)
LAr. Phua Chin Eng (Landart Design, Malaysia)
Liu Hwei Lyn (PUB Singapore)
K. Chatchanin Sung
(Arsomsilp Community & Environmental
Architect Company, Thailand)
LAr. Meor Abdullah Zaidi (Ipoh City Council, Malaysia)
Anton Siura (SIURA Studio, Singapore)
LAr. Teng Pe Yang (Permata Green, Malaysia)
Matthew Mackay (ASPECT Studios, Australia)
LAr. Carolyn Lau (Free Tree Society, Malaysia)
Tawatchai Kobkaikit (TK Studio, Thailand)
Daniel Lim (Think City, Malaysia)
Julien Thomas Hodson-Walker (Walrus Design, Malaysia)
Assoc Prof LAr Dr Nor Atiah Ismail (ILAM)
LAr Puteri Khairul Fathiah binti Fahimudin (DBKL)
TPr Hjh Mazrina binti Dato' Abdul Khalid (MIP)

Organising Team

NBS Asia Chairman

Assoc Prof LAr Dr Nor Atiah Ismail

Event Director

LAr Fong Jeng Jong

Treasury

LAr Anith Ahmad Rosli

Curation

LAr Tammy Wong Wei Ting (Lead)
LAr Fong Jeng Jong
LAr Charles Teo

Committee Members

LAr Mohd Zulazri bin Ismail
LAr Megat Alif Reza bin Megat Akbarruddin
Ho Jia Er
Muhammad Afif Abidi bin Mat Ghazi
Nurul Aiman Izaini binti Zulkipli
Daniel Yusuf Darnish bin Mohamed Sazali
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LAr Khairul Amin bin Mirsa Hussain

Venue and Logistic

LAr Khairul Amri Adam

Food & Beverage

Haizah Mahsuri binti Hj Hamdin



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