

Faster administration processes make Malaysia more competitive

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA // 16 May, 2017: Malaysia is leading the way for emerging countries in reforms to boost its infrastructure sector, the Global Infrastructure Hub has found.

The GI Hub's new tool, InfraCompass, shows the reform of land registration in Sarawak triggered a major improvement across Malaysia. Streamlining application processes and other efficiencies in Sarawak led to an improvement in processing times for land titles across Malaysia.

According to the World Bank's Quality of Land Administration Index (which scores countries between 1 and 30), at 27.5 Malaysia is currently exceeding not only the emerging country average, but also the developed country average (22.4). It is also exceeding the developed country average for the number of days to register a property (13 days for Malaysia, as opposed to an average of around 20 days).

Malaysia has also improved its overall competitiveness, with an average annual improvement of 2% between 2011 and 2015, and increased its total spend on infrastructure by 39% over the same period (from US\$8.5 billion in 2011 to US\$11.8 billion in 2015).

InfraCompass, launched by the Global Infrastructure Hub today, provides comprehensive data across 49 countries including Malaysia, identifying best practices for infrastructure markets, across six categories, **Institutions and governance; Regulatory and competition frameworks; Permits, licences and land acquisitions; Plan and select; Procurement; and Delivery and operations.**

The new online tool will guide governments across the globe on creating the best conditions for infrastructure delivery. The website and an accompanying report can be accessed at: **Infracompass.gihub.org**

Malaysia performed well in the category of **Permits, licences and land acquisitions.**

GI Hub Chief Executive Officer Chris Heathcote says Malaysia's improvements showed how reform can start simply.

"Reforms might appear small, and piecemeal but they can be impactful, like this example in Malaysia," he said. "And that's really important for creating liveable communities. This is about people and helping to improve their lives."

InfraCompass will assist governments and development agencies identify leading infrastructure practices and the reforms that will have the most impact in their market. "This is a really important compilation of data all in one online resource that will shine a light on best practices, and show governments where they need to improve," Mr Heathcote said.

“All of these factors contribute to the best possible environment for infrastructure markets.

“InfraCompass is a key part of the GI Hub’s body of work which is aimed at helping to deliver more quality public infrastructure across the globe and creating more liveable communities.”

The leaders, across both developed and emerging countries, for each category were:

Institutions and governance:

New Zealand, Germany, Canada, Malaysia, Colombia, and Kenya

Regulatory and competition frameworks:

United Kingdom, Ireland, Singapore, Peru, Colombia, and South Africa

Permits, licenses and land acquisitions:

Singapore, New Zealand, Korea, Rwanda, Malaysia, and Turkey

Plan and select:

United Kingdom, Korea, Canada, South Africa, Mexico, and Kenya

Procurement:

Austria, Denmark, Australia, South Africa, Mexico, and Vietnam

Delivery and operations:

Spain, Austria, USA, Malaysia, Russia, and Nigeria

The GI Hub, established by the G20, has been in full operation from Sydney for the past 18 months, with the aim of promoting reforms and practices to unlock higher levels of investment in infrastructure. Other GI Hub projects include:

- **Global Infrastructure Outlook**, a new online tool that will be released soon, which shows infrastructure needs now and into the future across 50 countries.
- **Project Pipeline**, a free online platform detailing early-stage information on government infrastructure projects across the globe to help the private sector make decisions on investment and participation: pipeline.gihub.org
- **Allocating Risks in Public-Private Partnerships**, advice for governments and the private sector in conjunction with Norton Rose Fulbright: ppp-risk.gihub.org

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About Global Infrastructure Hub

The Global Infrastructure Hub (GI Hub) was launched in 2014 with a G20 mandate to increase the flow and the quality of opportunities for public and private infrastructure investment. We work to facilitate a better supply of quality, bankable government infrastructure projects to the private sector, identifying reforms, planning approaches and risk management strategies that drive public-private partnership and investment into infrastructure. We aim to be a leading reference on infrastructure best practices, providing innovations that enhance the market’s ability to finance, build and secure the best returns from infrastructure projects.

For more information about GI Hub, visit: www.gihub.org