



PRESS RELEASE

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**PNB KNOWLEDGE FORUM 2023 EXPLORES POTENTIAL
COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN COPORATE AND EDUCATION SECTORS**

*Themed “Education Reimagined”, the forum is a timely reflection as Malaysia Education
Blueprint 2013-2025 approaches its conclusion*

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 November 2023: Permodalan Nasional Bhd’s wholly owned research arm, PNB Research Institute Sdn Bhd, has organised the second installment of PNB Knowledge Forum 2023 (PKF II), underlining the importance of education and investing in nurturing the young minds, future talents and changemakers.

The forum is aimed at providing invaluable insights to help establish a new lifelong-learning model and education ecosystem that would prepare the population for the future. It is a platform to inspire collaborative actions and greater engagement of private sector beyond traditional corporate social responsibility contributions.

The theme of this forum, **“Education Reimagined”**, is timely and opportune as Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025 is coming to the end of its term in the next few years. The blueprint’s achievements, transformative impacts as well as future challenges and complexities in education ecosystem would be the new base and reference for the national education growth trajectory for the next blueprint cycle.

PNB Group Chairman, YM Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda said, “Our society is fast becoming a digital society with new economic opportunities and value created based on digitally-enabled business models. As technological innovations happen, 44% of workers’ skills will be

disrupted in the next five years, underlining the need for new learning approaches and reskilling of existing workforce.”

“Many nations have responded to this with technology driven response and accelerated the digital shift in education, albeit with different results and educational outcomes. The disparity in digital literacy level and uneven access to affordable, reliable internet connections and devices have further deepened disproportions in educational outcomes,” he added.

PKF II featured four panelists from different institutions, namely Bank Negara Malaysia, Capital A - Air Asia Academy, Arus Academy and Teach For Malaysia, which have made significant and transformative impacts on the education, human capital and talent development ecosystem.

In the pivot session on **“Education Reimagined”** the four panelists shared their visions of the future education system and expounded on key issues and imperatives for the ecosystem. The themes included technology and humanities; equity and access; collaboration between private sector including NGOs and businesses; inculcating a lifelong learning culture; skills for the future; teaching innovations; global trends; and measurement of success.

PKF II was attended by over 400 participants, comprising senior policy makers, key leadership, and senior management of Government-linked Investment Companies (GLICs), Government-linked Companies (GLCs), public listed companies, education agencies and scholarship foundations. Also present were economists, fund managers, along with institutional investors and regulatory authorities.

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About Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) exceeding RM300 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments and real estate. For more information, please visit www.pnb.com.my.

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QUOTES FROM PANELLIST

“The forum is the first of its kind, providing the avenue for people from the education and corporate sectors to understand the gaps and the strengths of each other. It also explores the possibilities for us to work together.”

“It is very important particularly for the corporate side to understand the struggles that the Ministry of Education has in terms of trying to have a good programme for children and students in the country.”

“We are not in tuned of what’s happening on the ground so the opportunities for corporates to basically work together with the Ministry is there, and also the opportunity for the corporates to re-think how we want to develop talents for the country.”

- ***Bank Negara Malaysia People Director, Nurashikin Md Sharif.***

“The forum is a great place to have industry leaders meet, network, and pick on each other’s brains on what are the latest news, trend or business development.”

“Education should not just be very specific to the age where you should be getting formal education. It should easy and flexible and should be able to help you enhance and optimise your capabilities. It should be nurturing at every stage of your life, not just the first 17 to 20 years.”

- ***Capital A President (Investments & Ventures), Aireen Omar.***

“It is important that we are bringing together people from across the industry to understand the challenges in education.”

“Transforming and reimagining education is such a complex issue. Each of us have a role to play in transforming education, no matter who you are in the society.”

- ***Teach for Malaysia Chief Executive Officer, Chan Soon Seng.***

“It is really important to have a sharing session that we had today to hear from different point of view and diverse group of people, especially on important topics that are often converse within a bubble.”

“It is very important to just looking at the current issues at the moment to focus on building our childrens’ characters skills as much as we do on their cognitive skills so that they can grow up and be more empathetic, resilient, motivated and uphold humanity, regardless how the future unfolds.”

- ***Arus Academy Co-Founder, Alina Amir.***