

**MALAYSIA**

Sarawak/Kuching
Council of the City of Kuching South, Kuching, Sarawak

 	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Sarawak/Kuching</h2>  <p style="text-align: center;">www.dbku.gov.my</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Population : 212,200 People (2013)</li> <li>- Number of households : 8,656 Households (2013)</li> <li>- Area : 369.48 km<sup>2</sup> (2013)</li> <li>- Major industries and special products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential = 6.97 %</li> <li>Commercial = 0.14 %</li> <li>Industries = 4.44 %</li> <li>Public facilities = 2.34 %</li> <li>Infrastructure = 4.72 %</li> <li>Areas not yet developed = 33.30 %</li> <li>Waterways = 19.20 %</li> <li>Miscellaneous = 28.89 %</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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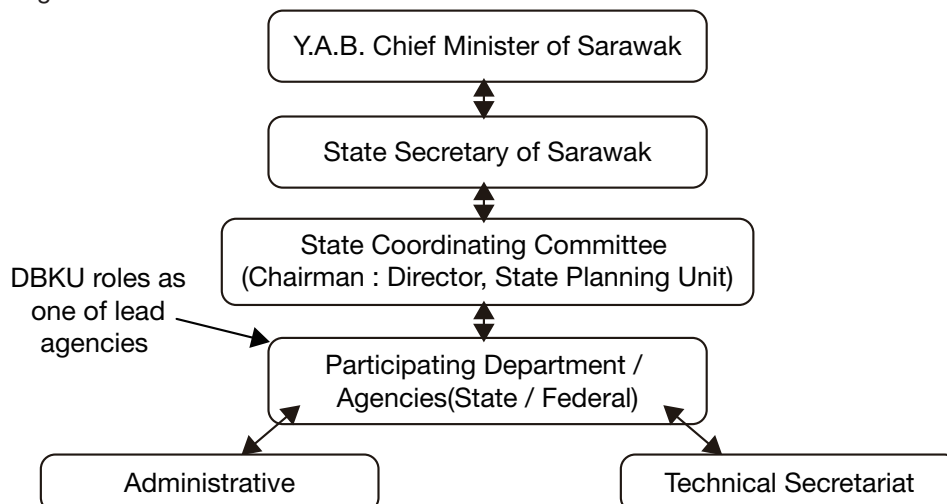
## Vision

Vision for Kuching Healthy City are towards well-planned, vibrant, landscaped garden city that is literate, cultured, safe and secure. It offers a standard of living that is affordable by all strata of its talented, responsible, disciplined, and dedicated citizenry. It has efficient management and delivery systems employing state-of-the-art communication, information and rapid mass transportation technologies that provide and facilitate access to essential services, utilities and recreation areas. It is blessed with a dynamic and people-oriented society that is caring and allows the exercise of constitutional democratic rights. The City has a flourishing arts and science culture and is endowed with educational institutions of excellence. Its resilient economy sustain a fully industrialised, bustling, pollution-free metropolis.

While the goals are enhancement long life and good health, promotion of goodwill among all, comfortable and liveable city, promoting safe, peaceful and prosperous place and enhances environmentally-sustainable city.

## Overview

Organisation Structure :



DBKU as one of lead agencies had roles included :-

- a. Help to organize Kuching Healthy activities in Kuching,
- b. Keep up-to-date on the latest developments, research and any publications on Healthy Cities, Healthy Settings program and Healthy Urbanisation,

- c. Together with other core-team members and brainstorm to produce new ideas and identify projects to be carry out by Healthy City program.

Factors resulting success of Kuching Healthy City are :-

- i) Prime mover(s) to initiate program,
  - ii) Commitment and support from the top,
  - iii) A shared vision,
  - iv) Secretariat to drive and coordinate,
  - v) Programs and activities to sustain movement,
  - vi) "Glue" to maintain group cohesion,
  - vii) Widening participation for strength,
  - viii) Networking for sharing of experience and intellectuals,
  - ix) Recognition and results for encouragement.
- x) Multi-sectoral approach combined with community participation and volunteerism to improve conditions or solve problems which no single agency -- alone -- can solve. e.g., traffic jam, crime, & community safety

Some major projects, activities and programs plans are :-

1. Healthy Village,
2. Healthy School program,
3. Healthy Street,
4. Healthy Toilet,
5. Healthy Shopping Complex,
6. Healthy Market.

Some major progress from these programs or projects are expansion of communities based projects such as EM (effective microorganisms) Home Composting projects, Healthy Toilets and Toilet Star Rating, sustainability and involvement of Healthy Schools.



Household involvement in Home Composting using EM technology facilitate by DBKU



Distribution of EM Home Composting Kit manages by the communities themselves after proper briefing and training from DBKU



Participating agencies are involved in the awareness campaign through exhibitions



Participating agencies are involved in the awareness campaign through exhibitions



One of the participating agencies in the exhibition corner promoting cycling activities



Children coloring competition, word puzzle competition are parts of the activities organised



## Scenes of community group activities



Group discussion and meeting between relevant government agencies and local communities representative at Kudei Village during the recent World Environmental Day celebration on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014



River cleaning activities by the communities group and village folks during the preparation of World Environmental Day



Cleaning of residential areas with all village folks



Morning exercise together with all village folks



Cleaning of residential areas with all village folks (construction of waste bin centre)



After cleaning of areas for waste bin centre



Collection and sales of recyclables under DBKU Buy Back Campaign (weekly)



Household involvement in Home Composting using



Environmental health talks conducted by DBKU

## History

Kuching Healthy City was started when an invitation from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1994. WHO wrote to Sarawak Health Department asking whether we want to participate in Kuching Healthy City in July 1994, Kuching North City Hall (DBKU) and The Council of Kuching City South (MBKS) agreed to

participate. Dr. Hisashi Ogawa, a WHO consultant, came to brief the Mayors, staff of the City Councils, and Heads of relevant Departments on 11 August 1994. Following that briefing, a Committee was formed. It was jointly chaired by the two City Councils with the State Health Department acting as technical advisor. Starting initially as a project scheduled to run from 1995 to 2000, it is envisaged that the concept of Healthy City Kuching will become a way of life and the way to plan the City.

The Honourable State Secretary was informed about the Project via official memorandum prior to the First Conference. He was briefed personally about the Project on 03 February 1995. He gave his wholehearted support to the Project and identified problem areas (squatters, beggars, drainage, workers staying in shacks at construction sites, facilities for development of children, more greens and trees) as the priority areas to be tackled first.

A two-hour briefing and discussion session was also held with the Right Honourable Chief Minister on 14 February 1995. He was very supportive of the project and wanted the concept to be extended to the other towns in the State. He also instructed the State Planning Unit to coordinate the Project.

Since the programme started in 1994, various programmes and activities related to the Healthy City Programme have been carried out.



The Rt. Hon. Chief Minister of Sarawak Launching the Kuching Healthy City Programme

 	<p><b>Council of the City of Kuching South, Kuching, Sarawak</b></p>  <p><a href="http://www.mbks.gov.my">www.mbks.gov.my</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Population : 280,000 People (2010)</li> <li>- Number of households : 45,017 Households (2013)</li> <li>- Area : 61.54 km<sup>2</sup> (2010)</li> <li>- Major industries : Tourism, Oil, Aluminium, Metals, Glass, Fishery, Aquaculture, Livestock, Forestry, Ship Building, Palm Oil and Agriculture</li> </ul>
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## Vision

“Advancing the Quality of Life of the People of Kuching City South”

## Overview

### (1) Organizational structure of your Healthy City (secretariat, steering committees, planning process, evaluation mechanisms, if any).

The organizational structure of Kuching City South Council's Healthy City is headed by YBhg. Dato James Chan Khay Syn, the Mayor of Kuching South. He is assisted by the Councillors, the Divisional Heads of the Council, the Community Leaders, Non-Governmental Organizations and some of the prominent private companies of Kuching City South areas. All matters pertaining to Healthy City will be discussed in the Healthy City's Sub-Committee when needs to improvise and to implement a project or a community's activity that would benefit the communities arise.

### (2) Example of major activities, projects, plans

Some of the examples are like the Neighborliness Program, the programs that involve residents and neighbors who play significant role in building and creating a friendly neighborhood which is interdependent, unified, peaceful and safe. It is initiated to enhance the true values of mutual cooperation and social interaction among the people, particularly the local communities and the local authorities and the people they serves.

As Kuching City moves towards becoming a developed City, health cost in the city increases tremendously and to reduce these costly health problems, efforts was made to organize health talks, free



health screenings and fitness programs such as “Mayor Walk with Community” with healthcare providers, community associations and the NGOs. The result is remarkable and the realization of the Kuching people to keep healthy lifestyles is thriving as well.

In addition, a series of Environmental Programs are also being organized to encourage members of the public to deposit unwanted disposal waste by providing recycling and composting centres. Through 3Rs Talks and Recycling Awareness, the residents can trade in or exchange their recycled items for household goods. Enzyme Making and Bio Mate Talks are also being held to re-educate the people on how to turn the food waste into fertilizer through composting method. These activities will provide them with recycling ideas which they can put into real practice. To enhance the City’s cleanliness, we have made our efforts to get Kuching folks to participate in city sweeping activities or “gotong-royong”.

As part of crime prevention program, dialogue sessions and activities are organized in collaboration with the police, grassroot organizations and other partners. We also adopted effective youth outreach activities which encompass spreading crime prevention messages in schools, engaging youth in activities that raise their feeling of belonging to a community family as well as helping them to focus on doing well for themselves by using their talents and capabilities.

Modern sanitation keeps our water resources clean and pollution-free and is crucial to ensure the optimum public health for the people. For this reason, Kuching City Centralized Sewerage System, under the purview of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and upon completion, the new system is set to transform the management of wastewater in Kuching City. It will improve water quality of the rivers and thus making it workable for further waterfront development in the future.

To be able to sustain the healthy city status, we also adopted Integrated Solid Waste Management System (ISWMS), a management of both municipal and hazardous waste in a holistic and integrated manner from Germany. A core element of the ISWMS is the Kuching Integrated Waste Management Park (KIWMP); South East Asia’s first and only integrated waste management facility. KIWMP receives, treats and disposes of waste from across east Malaysia, with one of the facility’s main components being a world-class sanitary landfill.

### **(3) Major strengths of your Healthy City (some strong points of your Healthy City, based on your judgment).**

During 20 years of its continuous journey as a Healthy City, Kuching City has amassed many characteristics that owe to its steady social and economic developments. Among the major strengths the City exudes as a Healthy City is the ability to provide almost all the basic amenities, facilities and infrastructures to its residents without fail, the existing harmony that is well-preserved between the various ethnics groups and religious beliefs has owed it to the dedicated, disciplined, caring, and peace-loving communities.

The orderly and well-planned cityscape that takes safety, security efficient management and service delivery system into consideration has created a dynamic and vibrant with resilient economy and employment opportunities to the city folks. In addition to the above, the City also sees an adequate and accessible recreational facilities, effective transportation, communication and information systems.

The success of the Kuching Healthy City is due to the strong participation and collaboration of key players from various sectors such as community members, community-based organizations, community service providers, non-governmental organizations, consumers groups, local government authorities, educational institutions, private enterprises, community media and so forth. In short, it is the spirit of Corporate Social Responsibility that every members of the public practice that has strengthened the many aspects of the City.

### **(4) Major progress your city has made by using the Healthy Cities approach or some difference you have observed in your city since you have worked to create a Healthy City.**

From the observation of Kuching City South Council, the major progress that the City has made through the Healthy Cities approach so far is the economic development in terms of the blooming of commercial centres. The building of the commercial centres have steadily brought in endless new ventures, branded businesses, job opportunities and better shopping experiences for the communities living within the vicinity.

This progress is the result of the ample provision of public facilities and amenities such as good

transportation, communication and sewerage systems etc. as well as the quality services offered by the Council to the members of public. Another tangible major progress that we could see is the continuous success of greening and landscaping projects carried out by the Council to make the City a healthy, liveable place with options of better relaxation, clean and pollution-free environment. The landscapes in and around the city too have evolved for the better with more embellishment and aesthetic appeal to brighten up the gray and the concrete of the City.

These interminable efforts have paid off when Kuching City South was awarded Tourist City Award in Chengdu, China from World Cities Scientific Development Alliance in August 2011, WHO Recognition for Healthy Cities Best Practice (Public Sanitary Convenience Category) and AFHC Awards for Pioneers in Healthy Cities (Dato James Chan Khay Syn) during the 5th Alliance for Healthy Cities Global Conference, Brisbane, Australia in October 2012 and other important national and state awards. These recognitions have brought Kuching City South a step further when the Council inked the MoU with cities such as Zhanjiang, Kunming, Zhenjiang and Chongzhou from China and Guro City from South Korea. Collaboration in terms of cultural and economic aspect with these cities has gradually taken shape in recent years. – 1055 words

Scenes of your activities



Scenes of your activities







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## History

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Kuching Healthy City project was initiated in 1994 by the local councils with the full support of the State Government and the Chief Minister of Sarawak. Priority areas targeted then were the eradication of squatters and poverty, assisting the lower income groups, improving drainage system, establishing development facilities for the young and increasing green lungs, trees, parks and gardens. The healthy city concept also extended to other towns and cities in Sarawak and it has been the continuous commitment of all the involving government agencies in State.

## Media publication information, if relevant

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Please refer to the website of Kuching City South Council – [www.mbks.gov.my](http://www.mbks.gov.my)