

**SPEECH FROM ENSEARCH SABAH CHAIRPERSON**

**SUSTAINABLE LIVING IN MALAYSIA SEMINAR**

**26 NOVEMBER 2013 AT NOVOTEL 1BORNEO**

**Mr Nithi Nesadurai, President, Environmental Protection Society Malaysia**

**Mr David Lee, National Coordinator, GEF Small Grants Programme**

**The Guest of Honour, Y Bhg Datuk Abidin Madingkir, Mayor, DBKK**

**Speakers, Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen**

**On behalf of ENSEARCH Sabah, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all present today to the Sustainable Living in Malaysia Seminar in Kota Kinabalu. We would like to thank Mr Nithi, EPSM President for this opportunity to partner them in the organization of this SLiM Seminar. When Mr Nithi first approached us to be the local partner, we accepted without hesitation as we know that this is a good Seminar which will benefit all who attended and beyond. EPSM has done a lot of ground work in conducting the survey on ecological footprints in urban households as well as in getting the experienced speakers for the Seminar.**

**One of the speakers, Prof Dr Phang is a good friend of mine whom I got to know when I was the President of the Sandakan Municipal Council between the years 2000 and 2004, which was like around 10 years ago. At that time she was already speaking on LA 21 and I was impressed with her wealth of experience in LA 21. Today, 10 years later, she will even have more to share on LA 21 and I am sure she will impress us further with new knowledge and experiences in LA21.**

**Back to the organization of this Seminar. On ENSEARCH Sabah part, we were responsible to get the participants and the registration this morning. So it has been a good partnership over the past few months. We are glad that DBKK is the other local partner and would like to thank the Mayor for his kind cooperation and for officiating the opening of this SLiM Seminar.**

**We believe in the importance of sustainable living and we are positive that this Seminar will not only bring awareness on the initiatives used to reduce ecological footprints but will also provide action steps for individuals to reduce their consumption patterns. By reducing our food, water and energy consumption, we are each individually helping to save the environment for our next generation.**

**Later during the day we will hear about carbon footprints used to measure the greenhouse gases which are the cause of the global warming and climate change we are facing now. Owing to global warming and climate change we are faced with catastrophic weather events such as the recent Hai Yuan Typhoon which hit the Philippines two weeks ago. We humans are responsible for producing the greenhouse gases through the use of electricity and the driving of our cars. It is our individual responsibility to use less electricity and to try and recycle as much as possible to reduce the greenhouse gases.**

**ENSEARCH Sabah was formed in 2012 to promote research on the impact of human activities on the environment. Therefore this Seminar is in line with our vision of promoting excellence in environmental management. It is also in line with our motto “ENSEARCH for a Better Environment”. Our activities include trainings on topics such as Social Impact Assessment, Air Pollution, Water Quality Control and Waste Management. We have also conducted a mangrove planting project along the Sulaman Highway together with Novotel Hotel and the Sabah Wetland Conservation Society. Our members consist of EIA Consultants, Engineers, Professionals and People with a Heart for the Environment. If you are a concerned individual who cares for the environment, I would like to encourage you to join us and participate in our trainings and activities.**

**The future of the environment depends on individuals who care and who will take positive steps to make changes for a sustainable future. As participants of this Seminar we believe that you will take personal responsibility to manage and mitigate the impact of your daily living activities on the environment. Every journey begins with one small step and every change begins with one concerned individual who cares to make the difference. We**

**hope that this Seminar will be stimulating and motivating enough for you to make that difference in saving the environment!**

**Have a great day and learn as much as you can from our expert speakers!**

**Datuk Adeline Leong**

**Chairperson, ENSEARCH Sabah**