

## TALKING POINTS FOR YB. JAGDEEP SINGH DEO

**PRESS CONFERENCE: 9 MARCH 2021**

### **PENANG BAY INTERNATIONAL IDEAS COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT**

1. The Penang State Government is pleased to announce the outcome of the Penang Bay International Ideas Competition. We announced the competition in Abu Dhabi nearly a year ago at the 10<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum. Although there were delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we officially launched the competition in August 2020.
2. The response was extremely positive. We received over **5,000 downloads** of the competition brief from **94 countries** and had **79 submissions from 20 countries**. 36 were then shortlisted in a blind judging process by a technical committee, and their submissions were then assessed by our international jury. Members of the jury were as follows:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Position</b>
1	YB. Jagdeep Singh Deo	Penang State Government	Penang State EXCO for Local Government, Housing and Town & Country Planning
2	Dato' Azhar Bin Haji Arshad	Penang State Government	Penang Deputy State Secretary (Development)
3	Luis Monreal	Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC)	General Manager
4	Eduardo Moreno	UN – Habitat	Head of Knowledge and Innovation
5	Tpr. Ihsan Zainal Mokhtar	Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)	President

6	Wadzi Katsidzira	Global Development Incubator (GDI)	-
7	Sanda Lenzholzer	Wageningen University	International Landscape Architect

3. The objective of the competition was to invite thinkers and innovators of all disciplines to reimagine the waterfronts of George Town and Butterworth and transform the area into an SDG-City and new economic zone.
4. The submissions went through a rigorous process and were meticulously evaluated, first by a technical committee comprising representatives from CMI, Think City, MBPP, MBSP, PLANMalaysia, World Bank, Cendana, and Reimagining City. The diverse backgrounds and perspectives from the committee members provided a fair and balanced collective assessment in the selection of finalists. Subsequently, **a 7-member jury** from Penang State, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, UN Habitat, Global Development Incubator and the Malaysian Institute of Planners, and an independent landscape architect - selected the **top 3 winners and 5 honourable mentions**.
5. Only the best entries with the most viable, and visionary ideas with high-potential for attractive outcomes and positive transformation for the future of Penang Bay were selected.
6. The quality of the submissions was outstanding. Many innovative ideas have been put forth for us to consider, and we are very proud that there were many Malaysian entries with revolutionary ideas. I must emphasise that this is an ideas competition and not a designs competition; so it is about generating ideas on the ways we can activate the waterfronts of George Town and Butterworth to a create a new economic and SDG City zone.



7. With these ideas, the State will be in a position to leverage our existing assets and optimise them to create a new economic and SDG-compliant zone, fueled by the sustainable, technology and creative industries.
  
8. To the winners and those who entered the contest - Congratulations! To our distinguished technical committee and international jury panel, our partners – MBPP, MBSP and Think City, and all those who worked behind the scenes.

**Thank you.**