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Putting KL among world's top cities

MOST LIVEABLE: We are making progress, says Think City

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KHAZANAH Nasional Bhd, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Think City Sdn Bhd, plans to place Kuala Lumpur at the top rank of the most liveable global cities in 10 years to be supported by its continuous efforts to emulate culture and arts into the city.

Its executive director Hamdan Abdul Majeed said while Malaysia was still far from the target, the city was making progress as one of the top liveable cities in the world with various societal programmes and activities planned under the 11th Malaysia Plan.

Hamdan Abdul Majeed

"It is a long way but we are making progress in that journey by improving public transportation networks and systems, cleaning up rivers and improving urban infrastructure, among others.

"If we continue to put our efforts, focus and continue to collaborate by bringing different partners together and prioritise this as our agenda, we will definitely make it (at the top rank)," he said on the sidelines of the Corporate Funders for the Arts Conference, here, yesterday.

Think City spearheaded urban regeneration in the George Town Unesco World Heritage Site in Penang.

Consequently, it was given the mandate to expand its initiatives to Kuala Lumpur, Butterworth and Johor Baru.

To deliver long-term holistic solutions, Think City works closely with governments, local and international agencies, and various communities, building effective partnerships and enhancing capacity along the way.

Hamdan said Think City also provided grants to encourage people to implement urban improvement projects every year between RM10,000 and RM20,000 per individual.

He said every year, the company disbursed grants worth RM8 million to RM10 million depending on requirements of different cities nationwide.

Meanwhile, My Performing Arts Agency (MyPAA) director Izan Satrina Mohd Sallehuddin said the conference aimed to emulate the arts and culture programme that has proven to be effective in attracting people to public spaces from the Japanese Association for Corporate Support of the Arts (KMK).

The conference, co-organised by MyPAA, was curated for corporations, cultural practitioners, non-governmental organisations, government agencies, intermediaries, funders, policymakers as well as relevant cultural and creative ecosystem stakeholders.

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