

## **MAIN PLENARY - ENERGY LEADERS DIALOGUE: ACCELERATING ENERGY TRANSITION THROUGH INNOVATION**

The Main Plenary session of ISES 2024 focused on accelerating the energy transition through innovation, featuring discussions from leaders of Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sarawak Energy Berhad and Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd. The session centered on Malaysia's National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR), which aims to achieve 40% renewable energy by 2035, with Sarawak already reaching 70% primarily through hydropower. Sabah, facing energy generation challenges, is pursuing significant energy transition projects with government support.

Key technological innovations, such as AI and IoT in power management, were highlighted, alongside Sarawak's Digital Power Plant program and Dynamic Water Management Systems. Sabah is planning Southeast Asia's largest battery energy storage project. Financial incentives, sustainable practices, and carbon trading were discussed as crucial elements for supporting the decarbonization of industries.

Education and workforce preparation were emphasized, with initiatives from TNB and Sarawak to develop talent in new energy technologies. The importance of regional cooperation within ASEAN was underscored, particularly in harmonizing regulations and leveraging each country's unique renewable energy strengths.

Action items from the session included advancing large battery storage projects, exploring large-scale floating solar energy generation, investing in educational initiatives, and continuing studies on pump hydro energy storage.