

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IGBIS Transforms Campus with Solar Energy, Fostering Sustainable Education

Kuala Lumpur, 25 May 2023 – IGB International School (IGBIS) has taken a remarkable step towards sustainable energy consumption with the recent installation of a cutting-edge solar panel system. This initiative is revolutionising the school's energy consumption, showcasing its commitment to embedding sustainability in all aspects of the programme.

Covering an expansive area of 18,000 sq. ft., the 341kWp solar array is projected to generate approximately 43MWh of clean electricity annually. This sustainable energy source will offset 25% to 33% of the school's electricity needs, substantially reducing its reliance on conventional power sources.

Jason McBride, Head of School at IGBIS, emphasised the importance of the solar panel installation, stating, "This milestone marks a significant step in our sustainable journey. By harnessing the power of solar energy through our partnership with Energy Depot, our school actively reduces its carbon footprint, inspiring students to embrace environmentally responsible practices."

The annual reduction of approximately 27.477 tons of carbon emissions is equivalent to the environmental benefit derived from planting 942 trees. This further solidifies IGBIS's commitment to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs): Goal 13 (Climate Action) and Goal 17 (Affordable and Clean Energy).

The installation of the solar panel system was not without challenges. The installation was carefully planned and only managed to take place during the school holidays due to the logistical hurdles of the crane usage and temporary closure of a portion of the school driveway. This is also to ensure minimal disruption to students' education while prioritising safety and efficiency.

In addition to the environmental benefits, the successful integration of the solar panel system is projected to save IGBIS RM1.8 million over 25 years, with an annual cost-saving of RM70,000.

"The carbon reduction was vital and the cost savings are welcome, but we also felt that we needed to ensure that as adults we were 'walking the talk' with sustainability. If we talk to students about the need for them to make a difference — to have a positive impact — and we aren't acting as role models ourselves, then it is only a matter of time before they stop listening to what we have to say. Our hope is that this is one of many more project-based initiatives that align with the UNSDGs that further empowers our students to become responsible global citizens," said McBride.

IGBIS's transformational journey towards solar energy is cultivating a sense of responsibility and actively engaging students in the pursuit of a greener, more sustainable future.

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Media Contact:

Cheryl Sim
Group Corporate Communications, IGB Berhad
018-9886533
Cheryl.sim@igbbhd.com

About IGB International School (IGBIS)

IGBIS is the only school in Malaysia offering all four programmes in the International Baccalaureate's (IB) continuum, from early years to pre-university level. Since 2014, IGBIS has embraced the IB framework because of its alignment with our educational philosophy. IGBIS believe that the goal of education is to empower young people to be curious, open-minded and caring so that they can use their knowledge and critical thinking skills to respond to complex local and global challenges.