

Malaysia's Leading Experience in Sustainable Development

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Abstract:

The Malaysian experience is considered one of the greatest global experiences in sustainable development and its study is of great importance as it has presented the world with a contemporary development project.

The main point from which Malaysia embarked on the development process is the self-sufficiency policy, and thus the revival of the fundamentals, pillars and peculiarities offered by society in the first place. The study aims to highlight the most important efforts made by Malaysia to embody sustainable development while attempting to evaluate these efforts. The study concluded that Malaysia has achieved a number of positive outcomes for sustainable development, namely its transformation of a country suffering from inflation, corruption, unemployment and declining standards of living. a totally weakened economy dependent on the export of slow commodities to become an economically prosperous country where unemployment and poverty rates have declined. Provides excellent education and health services.

Keywords: Malaysia; Sustainable development; Economic development; Economic growth; Social and environmental development.

Jel Classification Codes: : O1, O2, O13, O15, N3, N5, I25, I15

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Malaysian experience is one of the leading development experiences and is the focus of many economists in the world, where it has achieved world-leading growth rates, adopting policies to make and sustain development on long-term plans that are radically different from other countries.

Malaysia has sought to rely on its human and material potential for development with a focus on the continuity of this development and guarantee the rights of future generations of the country's wealth. (al, 2017, p. 25)

The Malaysian experience in the field of sustainable development is one of the most interesting experiences, because of its great achievements that could benefit the developing countries in general and the Arab countries in particular to get out of stagnation and dependence economic.

Malaysia's development experience has attracted a great deal of attention from various scholars and researchers in the field of development in general and sustainable development in particular, due to the Malaysian State's translation of sustainable development assumptions into the field.

This study focuses on the reality and dimensions of sustainable development in Malaysia, as well as identifying the future challenges of sustainable development.

The problem:

Given the Malaysian interest in development and sustainable development in particular, since the Malaysian experience is an embodiment of the development of theoretical sustainable development on land. In fact, the problem of the study crystallizes mainly on the following main question:

What are Malaysia's efforts to achieve effective sustainable future development ?

To answer this problem, some sub-questions may be asked as follows:

- 1 - What is the concept of sustainable development? and what bases and principles?
- 2 - What are the dimensions of sustainable development? what are the objectives?

3 - What is the reality and dimensions of sustainable development in Malaysia?

4 - What are the most important future challenges for sustainable development in Malaysia?

2. Hypotheses of the study:

To answer the problem of the study, the following hypotheses were formulated:

1 - Malaysia relies on intellectual capital for sustainable development

2 - Malaysia drew attention to intellectual capital as a key driver of development

3- Malaysia has emphasized the idea of combining the values of society with economic performance

3.The objectives of the study:

The study aims to analyze the most important strategies and efforts exerted by Malaysia in the direction of achieving sustainable development, as one of the most prominent economic models in the transformation from the rental economy to the diversified economy.

4. The importance of the study:

The importance of the study is underscored by the importance of adopting sustainable development to achieve economic, social and environmental well-being that developing countries must strive to achieve to improve the current situation while preserving the right of future generations to prosperity and a decent life.

5. Literature review:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a new universal set of development targets which replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), following its adoption by United Nations (UN) member countries, including Malaysia, on September 25, 2015. It targets to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years comprising 17 goals to transform the world by the year 2030

Some studies have investigated Malaysian news media reporting of SDGs in whole or related issues since the declaration of the SDGs in September 2015.

6. Methodology of the study:

The analytical descriptive approach was adopted which focused on the collection and analysis of data and information by addressing the theoretical framework and the reality of sustainable development and analysis of the data contained in tables and statistics, as well as a set of statistical indicators for each dimension of sustainable development.

And for this we treated two axes respectively:

The first axis: The theoretical framework for sustainable development.

The second axis: An analytical approach to the Malaysian economy and its characteristics.

The first axis: The theoretical framework for sustainable development

The economic growth witnessed by most countries in the world was accompanied by the emergence of many negative aspects such as pollution and increasing poverty rates. This has led to the adoption of a sustainable development approach that balances the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development.

1. Concept of sustainable development:

The best definition of sustainable development is contained in the report of the International Commission on Environment and Development, known as the 1987 Brundtland Report, which defines sustainable development as "meeting the needs of the present without abandoning future generations to meet their needs".

This definition shows the future vision to ensure the continuity of natural resource productivity and the preservation of human rights both now and in the future.

Sustainable development has also been defined as a set of objectives to focus on the long term rather than the short term, on future generations rather than on current generations and the entire planet rather than on countries and regions divided and on the satisfaction of basic needs as well as individuals, marginalization.

The concept of development has evolved from being synonymous with economic growth to development that deals with all aspects of economic, social and environmental life, as shown in the following table:

Table N° 01: The stages of evolution of the concept of development since the end of the Second World War

Stages	Period	The concept of development
01	From the end of the second world war to the mid-1960s	Development = Economic Growth
02	From the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s	Development = economic growth + fair distribution
03	From the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s	Global development = attention to all economic and social aspects
04	Since 1990	Human Development = Achieving a decent and healthy standard of living for the population
05	Since the 1992 Earth Summit	Sustainable development = Economic growth + fair distribution of economic growth + Attention to aspects of economic, social and environmental life

Source: Tajasom, A. M. (2015). The role of transformational leadership in innovation performance of Malaysian SMEs. *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*, 23(2) , p172.

2.Sustainable Development Goals:

Sustainable development seeks to achieve a set of objectives that can be summarized below:

- Substantial changes in the infrastructure and metadata of the community without damaging the elements of the environment;
- Improve the quality of life of the population;
- Address human development in society and build a knowledge-based society, including human development, knowledge, information resources, learning and innovation.

3.Characteristics of sustainable development:

One of Edward Barbier's studies in 1987 identified four key characteristics of sustainable development:

- Sustainable development differs from development in that it is more intrusive and more complex, particularly in terms of what is natural and what is social.
- Sustainable development focuses on meeting the needs of the poorest that is, reducing global poverty.
- Sustainable development concerns the development of cultural aspects and the preservation of civilization in every society.
- Les éléments de développement durable ne peuvent pas être séparés les uns des autres en raison de l'intensité du chevauchement dimensionnel et des composants quantitatifs et qualitatifs de ce développement.

4.Dimensions of sustainable development:

Sustainable development has three main dimensions, when sustainable development focuses not only on the environment, but also on economic and social aspects, each of them consisting of a set of elements.

Table N° 02 : Dimensions of sustainable development

Economic dimension	Social dimension	Environmental dimension
- Sustainable economic growth - Capital efficiency - Satisfying basic needs - Economic justice	- Equal distribution - Social mobility - Popular participation - Cultural diversity - Sustainability of institutions	- Ecosystems - energy - Biodiversity - Biological productivity - Ability to adapt

Source: Tajasom, A. M. (2015). The role of transformational leadership in innovation performance of Malaysian SMEs. *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*, 23(2) , p180.

5. Indicators of sustainable development:

The assessment of the degree to which countries adopt sustainable development depends on a range of economic, social, environmental and institutional indicators that reflect the degree of convergence of results achieved with established objectives.

5.1 Economic indicators:

- Gross Domestic Product per capita.
- Total development assistance provided by national product.
- The value of external debt to GDP.

5.2 Social indicators:

- Unemployment rate.
- Population growth rate.
- Illiteracy rate among adults.
- Primary, secondary and higher education enrollment rate.
- Percentage of urban population
- Protection and promotion of human health, represented by the number of people without access to health services and sanitary water to the total population.

5.3 Environmental indicators:

- Per capita agricultural land.
- Change in forest area and agricultural land relative to the country's total area.
- Desertification.

5.4 Institutional indicators:

Access to information through the preparation of students and users of fixed and mobile phones.

- Number of scientists and researchers in the field of scientific research.
- Research and Development expenditure relative to GDP.

The second axis: An analytical approach to the Malaysian economy and its characteristics

Malaysia is a constitutional monarchical federal state located in Southeast Asia consisting of 13 states and three federal provinces, with a total area of 329,845 km².

With its capital Kuala Lumpur, bordered by Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and the Sultanate of Brunei. The economy of this country has been transformed from the rental economy to the diversified industrial economy.

1. Overview of Malaysia's economy:

Malaysia is one of the middle-income countries with huge natural resources. It has succeeded in shifting from an economy dominated by agriculture and exports of agricultural goods to an industrial economy. Industrial exports account for a large share of total exports, diversification and economic growth have also contributed to the reduction of extreme poverty. (Lafaye de Micheaux, 2017, p. 65)

The following are the main advantages of Malaysia's economy:

- Malaysia is the third economic power in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with a gross domestic product of US \$ 310 billion in 2015, after Indonesia and

Thailand. With a population of 30.5 million, this human wealth enabled it to rank second in ASEAN, with a gross domestic product per capita of \$ 10,000 after Singapore. (Bank, 2017, p. 45)

- Malaysia is close to joining the Club of Developed Countries, where it has a diversified economy where agriculture accounts for 9% of GDP, mining accounts for 9%, manufacturing industries 23% and services 55% while total exports and imports are equivalent to 125% of GDP in 2015, Malaysia has achieved growth of 6% in 2014, and 5% in 2015. (Lange, 2018, p. 51)
- Malaysia is the second largest producer of crude oil in Southeast Asia after Indonesia and the second largest exporter of liquefied natural gas after Qatar. But it knew how to diversify from its economic base, where the oil and gas sector represents about 12% of GDP, 22% of exports and 15.4% of imports, and 30% of the income of the state budget for 2014.
- Malaysia has large natural resources, with the agricultural area of Malay in western Malaysia about 3 million hectares, and the handicraft farming employs about 55% of the total labor force.
- Livestock is still limited and needs to be cared for and developed.
- Malaysia is the sixth largest producer of wood in Asia, it also distributes mineral wealth and produces several metals, mainly tin, iron, gold, copper, nickel and phosphate, as well as oil and coal.

2. The stages of development of the Malaysian economy:

Since independence in 1958, Malaysia, which was a commodity-producing economy, has become a diversified economy and a major source of high-tech products. The Malaysian economy has gone through four stages, listed below:

2.1The first stage:

This phase continued during the 1960s and is called the stage of import substitution, however, due to weak domestic demand and tight markets, Malaysia did not benefit from this stage much, which necessitated adopting a second phase and a different plan. (Unit, Malaysian Well-being Report 2013, 2013, p. 36)

2.2The second phase:

This phase covers the second Malaysia Plan (1971-1975) and the Third Plan (1976-1980). The shift in this period was marked by the development of the interventionist role of the state, the expansion of the public sector in Malaysian economic life, the increase in oil revenues has helped finance the increasing volume of public expenditures. The period witnessed the beginning of the export trend in manufacturing operations.

2.3The Third stage:

The period covered by the Malaysian Fourth Plan 1981-1985 marks the beginning of the development process, which was designed under the leadership of Mahathir Mohamad. The development process focused on two axes: a new wave of industries that replace imports, heavy industry within the public sector, this is a period of "heavy industrialization" the stage of deepening the industrial base in the Malaysian economy. (Hutchinson, 2014, p. 85).

2.4The fourth stage:

This period from 1986 to 2000 continued with the completion of three interrelated five year plans : The Malaysian Fifth Plan (1986 – 1990), The Sixth Malaysia Plan (1991-1995) and the Seventh Malaysia Plan (1996-2000) , The period from the mid-1980s to the end of the nineties saw the development of the Mahathir Mohammed project in economic

development that is open to the outside world without abandoning the national economic fundamentals.

This period was characterized by opening up the private sector and encouraging it and giving it more incentives to invest and participate effectively in the development process. (Programme, The Economic Plan Unit, 2016, p. 32).

3.Elements of the Malaysian Development Model:

Thanks to its open development model, Malaysia has achieved good economic and social results, the most important factors that have led to the success of Malaysia's development experience, we find the following:

- Malaysia treated foreign direct investment cautiously until the mid-1980s, allowing it to enter but under conditions mainly calculated for the benefit of the national economy, including that the goods produced by the foreign investor do not compete with national industries that satisfy domestic market needs.
- Malaysia has a vision for future development and economic activity through five consecutive and integrated five-year plans since independence and until now, Malaysia's early readiness to enter the 21st century by planning for Malaysia 2020 and working to achieve what has been planned.
- Malaysia's interest in improving social indicators of human capital through improving the living, educational and health conditions of indigenous people.

4. Strategies and programs for sustainable development in Malaysia:

4.1Malaysia's orientation towards sustainable development:

Malaysia has been on the road to sustainable development since the 1970s, when the new economic policy was introduced in the 1970s to eradicate poverty and restructure social imbalances.

The five successive development plans focused on the elements of sustainable development, namely sustainable economic growth, equitable growth in all sectors of society, access to basic infrastructure and equipment, access to education, health services and the integration of environmental preservation.

In 2009, Malaysia formulated a new business model reinforcing its commitment to pursue sustainable development based on the three pillars of high income, inclusiveness and sustainability, which reflect the three components of the Sustainable Economic, Social and Environmental Development Goals.

The new economic model provides the basis for Malaysia's development plan, the 11th Malaysia Plan for 2016-2020

The main objective of this plan is to stabilize growth in individuals, where individuals are at the center of all development efforts and ensure that no part of society is left to participate and benefit from the development of the country. (Unit, Eleventh Malaysia Plan, 2015, p. 180)

Malaysia's Eleventh Plan included six strategic axes to achieve sustainable development goals, including:

- To promote inclusiveness towards a just society,
- Improving the well-being of all,
- Accelerate the development of human capital for an advanced country
- Continuing green growth,
- Flexibility and enhanced infrastructure to support economic expansion and reengineering economic growth for greater prosperity.

4.2 Programs and Strategies for Sustainable Development in Malaysia:

Malaysia has adopted a range of programs and strategies to achieve sustainable development. These programs have varied between economic, social and environmental.

4.2.1 Strategies with economic dimension:

The most important strategies with an economic dimension are:

- **Work on developing a high industrial base productivity:**

Malaysia has been able to develop its exports by focusing on specific industrial clusters that have led to a technology upgrade.

- **Use of foreign capital to promote technology transfer:**

Malaysia has begun attracting foreign capital through the establishment of free trade zones, the introduction of tax incentives, the reduction of customs and non-tariff barriers.

- **Training to ensure skilled labor:**

Malaysia focused on employment training and skills enhancement, sponsored employment for foreign training, and over time began to reap the benefits of such investments in training, where it managed to create highly skilled labor.

4.2.2 Strategies with Environmental and social dimension :

Pollution is one of Malaysia's major problems, this problem is in the following points:

- **Air pollution:**

Air pollution is a widely recognized problem, a problem that has been worsening for 50 years, farmer flows to urban areas have increased air pollution as a result of increased traffic in cities and the burning of biomass has further exacerbated the problem.

- **Water pollution:**

There are many sources of water pollution in Malaysia, such as sewage, industrial pollution and surface water. Despite the abundance of rainfall in Malaysia, many of these waters become polluted and untreated.

As a result, Malaysia suffers from lack of clean water and fresh water despite the rain. It is estimated that in 2050, the demand for water will reach 18 billion m³ of water.

5. Evaluating the success of the Malaysian experience in sustainable development

Malaysia's experience in comprehensive and sustainable development is worthy of consideration, especially as it is characterized by the provision of many lessons that can be learned or imitated by other developing countries in order to overcome delay and dependence.

5.1 Evaluation of economic results achieved in the light of sustainable development programs:

The World Bank classifies Malaysia as a largely open economy with higher average income and overall economic growth, among the most prominent results achieved are:

- **Economic growth rate:**

The economic growth rate is one of the most important indicators for assessing sustainable development. The following table shows the development of GDP during the period 2007-2016. (Thillainathan, 2016, pp. 51 - 68)

Table N° 03 : Malaysia's GDP growth during the period 2007 – 2016
(Unit: Million ringgits)

The Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
GDP	687,148.0	795184.0	736221.0	821435.0	911733.0
The Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
GDP	971251.0	1, 018,614.0	1, 106,442.0	1, 157,723.0	1, 230,121.0

Source : al, E. G. (2017). *Asia's Middle-Income Challenge: An Overview*. ADB Economics Working Paper Series , p525.

Table N°03 shows the growth of Malaysia's GDP during this period, despite a slight decline due to the global financial crisis in 2008. However, GDP has returned good results compared to the financial crisis prior to the global crisis.

- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita:**

The most important indicator of the level of well-being in society as well as a measure of the size of the market, Malaysia's situation is weak in terms of gross domestic product (GDP) growth per capita. Despite the obvious rise in GDP, GDP per capita has not kept pace, as shown in the following table.

Table N° 04 : Real per capita GDP growth rate in Malaysia

The Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
GDP growth rate per capita %	3,6	4,72	3,34	3,62	4,37	2,95	3,27
The Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
GDP growth rate per capita %	5,48	3,37	3,53	2,80	4,18	3,27	2,71

Source: al, E. G. (2017). *Asia's Middle-Income Challenge: An Overview*. ADB Economics Working Paper Series , p525.

The table N°04 shows the fluctuation in per capita real GDP, and perhaps the most prominent fluctuation since 2008, and in recent years, this highlights the fact that the Malaysian economy is characterized by a strong fragility towards international transformations, evidenced by the decline in the global financial crisis of 2008.

5.2 Evaluation of social results in the light of sustainable development programs:

- **Poverty levels in Malaysia:**

Malaysia is considered to be the best Asian country in this area. Through programs designed to help families and low-income families reduce poverty levels to low levels, Malaysia's poverty line varies from region to region.

Table N° 05: Development of the proportion of people living below the poverty line in Malaysia during the period 2002-2014

The Year	2002	2004	2007	2009	2012	2014
Poverty rate %	6	5.7	3.60	3.80	1.70	0.60

Source: al, E. G. (2017). *Asia's Middle-Income Challenge: An Overview*. ADB Economics Working Paper Series , p525.

The table N°05 shows the rapid and obvious decline in poverty in Malaysia, which proves the success of the Malaysian experience in eradicating poverty.

• **Unemployment rates in Malaysia:**

Through established development frameworks, training and support policies have reduced unemployment rates to levels lower than in the past two decades.

The following table shows the unemployment rate in Malaysia during the period 2002-2016

Table N° 06: Unemployment rates in Malaysia for the period 2004-2016

The Year	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016
Unemployment rate %	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.3	3	2.9	3.5

Source : Tajasom, A. M. (2015). The role of transformational leadership in innovation performance of Malaysian SMEs. *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*, 23(2) , p180.

The table N°06 shows a clear decline in unemployment in Malaysia despite the rise recorded in 2016, it remains within acceptable limits, which highlights the success of the policy of support, accompaniment and diversification adopted by the Malaysian government.

• **Population Health in Malaysia:**

The health aspect is one of the most prominent aspects that governments give prominence to in their strategies for the realization of sustainable development.

Thanks to intensive efforts, Malaysia has been able to reduce the death rate of children under one year of age limits of 6.5%, Malaysia has also achieved good results in eradicating tuberculosis and malaria epidemics.

The mortality rate from non-communicable diseases was also down from 19.3% in 2005 to 17,2% in 2016.

Thus, Malaysia has achieved good results in terms of improving the health of individuals, which is evidenced by the rate of medical coverage of 70% , however Malaysia is called upon to continue its efforts to expand medical coverage further. (Tajasom, 2015, p. 182)

• **Evolution of the level of educational services:**

Malaysia has achieved good results with regard to levels of education. The enrollment rate in primary and secondary schools is more than 85% and 33% for higher education. This is mainly due to government efforts in this area, public expenditure on education according to World Bank statistics in 2011 was about 21% of government expenditure and about 5.93% of GDP. Indicators of Malaysia's success in this area are its ability to provide conditions for learning in schools. (Education, 2015, p. 73)

5.3 Evaluation of environmental results achieved in the light of sustainable development programs:

Degree of trend towards renewable energies:

Ensuring that everyone has access to modern, reliable and sustainable energy services at an affordable cost is one of the most important objectives of sustainable development. The following table illustrates some indicators of the trend towards clean and renewable energies.

Table N° 07: Degree of use of renewable energies and clean

The Year	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2015	2016
Proportion of population dependent on fuel and clean technology %	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %
sustainable energy/ Final consumption	5,17	4,99	4,73	3,82	4,41	4,77	5.19	-

For energy %								
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Source: Tajasom, A. M. (2015). The role of transformational leadership in innovation performance of Malaysian SMEs. *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*, 23(2) , p180.

The table N° 07 shows that the proportion of people who depend on fuel and clean technology is high, while renewable energy represents only a modest percentage of the final consumption of energy, not exceeding the threshold of 6%. (Abdulai, 2015, pp. 3072 - 3082)

6. Challenges of sustainable development in Malaysia:

6 – 1 Economic challenges:

In order to understand the nature and nature of these challenges, we have decided to divide them into two parts:

6 – 1 – 1 Internal economic challenges:

- Increase inflation rates that require the authorities to raise interest rates to absorb the high level of liquidity;
- The lack of employment is due to the demographic nature of Malaysia, where the population is estimated at 20 million, which has contributed to the increase in foreign employment, especially in Indonesia; (Ahmad, 2015, p. 39)
- Malaysia has largely relied on local resources such as rubber, petroleum, palm oil products, and wood products as inputs in its export and manufacturing operations which leads to depletion of the latter, especially if we know how slow the process of re-naturalization, which violates the development policy followed;
- Providing infrastructure is one of the main tasks of the government in Malaysia to create an investment climate conducive to launching domestic initiatives and attracting foreign investment.

6 – 1 – 2 International economic challenges:

Malaysia, like all other countries, is inevitably linked to its external environment, and its international challenges will continue to affect the Malaysian economy.

- Stimulate the dynamics of internal consumption and diversify the national economic structure and not focus solely on the external market, reducing the impact of future potential external economic crises;
- More incentives to attract more foreign investment which is beneficial to the national economy in the medium and long term.
- Addressing the impact of Malaysia's external indebtedness on its sustainable economic growth as the successive governments' plans for sustainable development led to the monitoring of large sums of money that prevented the possibility of avoiding the option of external indebtedness. (Corp, 2012, p. 89)

6 – 2 Social Challenges:

Like other developing countries, Malaysia faces many challenges of a social nature that directly affect its approach to building and sustaining development that will enable it to catch up with developed countries we will briefly present it :

- Ethnic and religious diversity;
- The quantitative decrease of demographic growth and geographical variation; (Hutchinson, 2014, pp. 422 - 442)
- The increase of migration and its impact on the internal social fabric.

6 – 3 Environmental challenges:

We will briefly present it:

- Environmental pollution;
- The decline of natural resources;
- Fresh water shortage; (Programme, The Economic Plan Unit, 2016, p. 95)
- The problem of urban expansion at the expense of agricultural land.

7.CONCLUSION:

The Malaysian experience of sustainable development is one of the most important experiences around the world, as a result of its output, which is the transformation of Malaysia from a country suffering from inflation, corruption, unemployment and deterioration of the standard of living of citizens, as well as the adoption of a weak economy almost entirely on the export of slow raw materials renewed for 30 years ago, to an economically prosperous country almost without unemployment and poverty and citizens have excellent education and health services.

Its economy, which ranks 17th in the world, depends on exports of manufactured materials and tourism.

But like other development experiences of a sustainable nature around the world, this experience has faced many challenges and constraints both internally and externally.

The most important of these challenges, which have had a major impact on the process of experience, those related to the global economic crisis and the decline in exports and the accumulation of goods resulting from the nature of the Malaysian economy based on the external environment, which led to the emergence of the importance of the internal market and the need to take the necessary measures to develop and motivate the latter according to environmental and health standards that ensure continuity of the ocean's suitability for human activity.

The challenge posed by the multi-ethnic nature and religions of Malaysian citizens and the political, social and security threats they posed to the State

The following results were obtained through this study:

- Economies in transition need to move towards more sustainable development from developing countries, especially for rental countries that are transformed into a diversified economy that often leaves negative environmental impacts;
- Malaysia's development model is one of the most prominent models around the world. Malaysia, like other developing countries, has successfully transformed from an economy based on an agricultural economy to a diversified one;
- Malaysia has been able to achieve the health and education goals of the United Nations program on reducing illiteracy and improving the educational level of individuals while strengthening health services for the community;

In the light of what has been reached, Malaysia's sustainable development experience can be commended, where it was able to shift from the economy based on natural resources to the diversified economy with the trend towards increasing the efficiency of the latter by paying more attention to environmental and social aspects.

• Recommendations:

- The need to replace the increased efforts of the Malaysian government with regard to the environmental dimension, so as to make this experience more ideal.

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