

The Seventh ASIA KLEMS Conference

20-21 August 2026, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Enhancing Regional Productivity and
Competitiveness*

The 2026 KLEMS conference will focus on "Enhancing Regional Productivity and Competitiveness", bringing together experts, policymakers, and researchers to discuss strategies for strengthening regional economic performance. The conference will explore key drivers of economic competitiveness within the KLEMS framework with more oriented towards overcoming structural gaps in capital investment, labor market dynamics, innovation, digitalization, and supply chain efficiency.

Discussions will center on best practices, emerging trends, and policy recommendations to improve productivity at the regional level and foster economic resilience. By encouraging collaboration and knowledge-sharing, the conference aims to address productivity gaps, enhance regional competitiveness, and drive sustainable growth across Asian economies.



SAVE THE DATE



**20-21 AUGUST
2026**



**HOTEL ROYAL
SIGNATURE, KL**



**09:00AM
05:00PM**

Co-organised by:



Secretariat Asia KLEMS Conference 2026

Malaysia Productivity Corporation
East Wing, Menara Matrade,
Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah,
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The
Seventh ASIA
KLEMS Conference

20 August 2026, Hotel Royal Signature, Kuala Lumpur

Enhancing Regional Productivity and Competitiveness

Agenda

Time	Program
08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:10	Welcoming Remarks YBhg. Datuk Kamaruzzaman Johari Chairman of Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) / APO Director for Malaysia
09:10 - 09:30	Opening Remarks YB Datuk Seri Johari bin Abdul Ghani Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI)
09:30 - 09:45	Launching Productivity Report 2026 “Advancing Structural Change for Sustainable Productivity Growth”
09:45 - 10:15	Break
10:15 - 10:45	Keynote 1 YBhg. Dato’ Sri Mustapa Mohamed Former Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department (Economy)
10:45 - 11:15	Keynote 2 Prof. Bart van Ark Managing Director and Principal Investigator and a Professor of Productivity Studies at The University of Manchester
11:15 - 13:00	Parallel Session 1 Room 1 - Labour, Human Capital & Emerging Productivity Drivers Room 2 - Productivity Growth, Structural Change & Convergence Room 3 - State Productivity Divergence (Local participant)
13:00 - 14:00	Networking Lunch
14:00 - 17:00	Parallel Session 2 Room 1 - Labour, Human Capital & Emerging Productivity Drivers Room 2 - Productivity Growth, Structural Change & Convergence Room 3 - State Productivity Divergence (Local participant)
17:00 - 17:30	Break
19:30 - 21:00	Gala dinner and cultural night

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21 August 2026, Hotel Royal Signature, Kuala Lumpur

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Time	Program
08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:30	Keynote 3 Dr. Mohd Yusof Saari Chief Executive Officer of Centre for Future Studies Berhad (THE FUTURE)
09:30 - 10:00	Break
10:00 – 12:00	Parallel Session 3 Room 1 - Labour, Human Capital & Emerging Productivity Drivers Room 2 - Productivity Growth, Structural Change & Convergence
12:00 - 12:30	Closing Ceremony
12:30 – 14:00	Networking Lunch End of programme