



Supporting Transformasi Nasional 2050 (TN50) Initiative

AIF International Symposium 2017 provided a platform for government engagement with senior business executives from the financial services industry on its TN50 Initiative

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AIF INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2017

The AIF International Symposium 2017, entitled 'Talent and Innovation: Enhancing Performance and Productivity', was held on 23rd August at Sasana Kijang, Kuala Lumpur. An audience of some 170 senior HR and business leaders heard over 20 speakers and panelists from Malaysia and overseas explore the relationship between innovation and improving business productivity and performance. The Symposium addressed this critical issue from the context of human capital development and talent management with particular focus on the strategic role of HR across the financial services industry.

The Asian Institute of Finance first held the AIF Symposium in 2011 and it is now established as a key industry event. The Symposium retains a central theme relating to talent and human capital development and the majority of the audience are senior HR professionals. It is targeted more towards financial services but has speakers and attendees representing many different industries.

BACKGROUND ON TRANSFORMASI NASIONAL 2050 (TN50)

The Government has embarked on an initiative to chart the direction of Malaysia for the next 30 years until the year 2050. The Transformasi Nasional 2050 (TN50) is a continuation of Vision 2020 with the aim of bringing Malaysia to greater heights. In January 2017, during the launch of TN50, YAB Prime Minister envisioned Malaysia to be a Top 20 nation by the year 2050. In terms of what Malaysia will be in the Top 20 of, YAB Prime Minister wanted this to be a collective collaboration from all segments of society through a bottom-up feedback process. A unique feature of the TN50 agenda is that it is formulated by the people for the people.

In this regard the Ministry of Youth and Sports has started engaging with the youth since early 2017, while engagement with other segments of society started in mid-2017. The engagement format ranges from town hall dialogues to online surveys.

The TN50 national discourse will continue until the end of 2017 to ensure it includes the aspirations of all Malaysians. Following which, the TN50 strategy document will be formulated and targeted for launch by the end of the third quarter of 2018.

The approach of bottom up engagement as initiated by YAB Prime Minister ensures that TN50 will be for the people, by the people. Nevertheless, for Malaysia to achieve its potential for success at a global level and emerge as a Top 20 nation, the TN50 strategy will need to be anchored on Malaysia's strengths and global realities.

AIF COLLABORATION WITH THE TN50 SPECIAL UNIT, ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT ON TN50

As the AIF International Symposium has become an established and well-attended event in the financial services industry calendar, the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) approached AIF to engage with our audience as part of its outreach and engagement programme for TN50 and in particular to seek the input and views of AIF Symposium attendees on several key issues relating to the TN50 initiative.

FINDINGS

The survey consisted of a series of multiple choice questions relating to TN50. On the day delegates could answer the questions either using hard copy evaluation forms or via the AIF Symposium App. We received 115 responses across the five questions in the survey. The survey responses are presented in detail in the Appendix.

In summary, 84% of delegates had heard of the TN50 initiative, although 57% felt they had little understanding of the initiative. In terms of the top priority for Malaysia's financial industry under the initiative, delegates overwhelmingly (70%) stated that this should be a dynamic and agile financial ecosystem that meets the financial needs of Malaysians by providing a full range of financial products and services.

Opinion was much more divided on which megatrend the Malaysian financial industry should focus on to gain a competitive advantage with around a third saying the 'digital revolution' (32%) and a similar proportion indicating 'resource scarcity' (33%). Under the TN50 initiative just under half of the respondents (46%) felt that a move towards a cashless society and leveraging on technology to become a crimeless society should be the top area of focus for Malaysia's financial system in the immediate future. Finally in terms of the vision for Malaysia's economy in 2050 and the trade-offs this might involve based on models from other countries, the majority of respondents (58%) stated that Australia provided the best model with its high income, low job creation and emphasis on work-life balance.

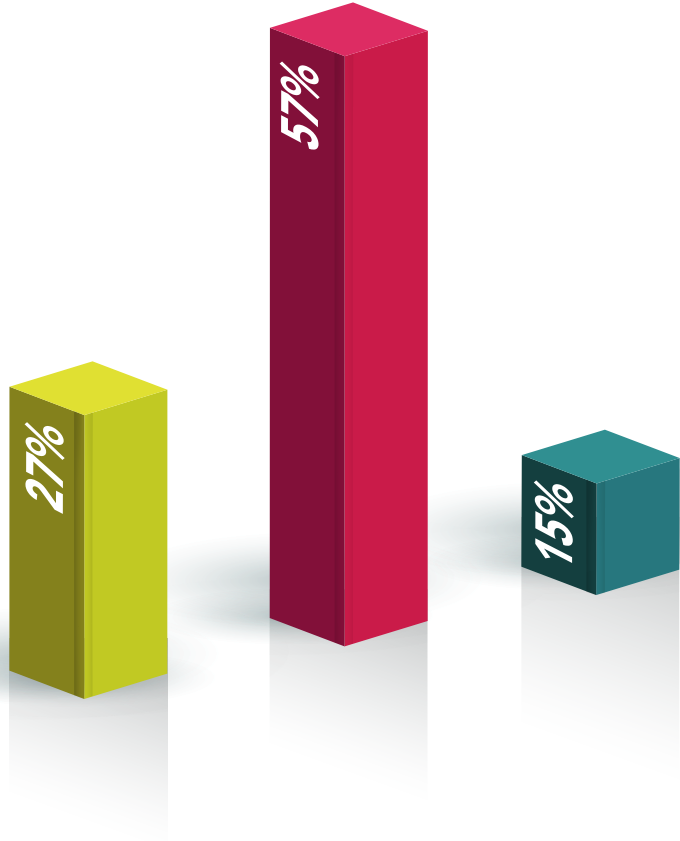
CONCLUSION

AIF is delighted to have been able to support the Economic Planning Unit and the Government with their engagement activities in relation to the TN50 Initiative. We look forward to hearing how the findings will be used and to continue to support this vital initiative for the future growth and success of Malaysia.

APPENDIX - SURVEY RESPONSES



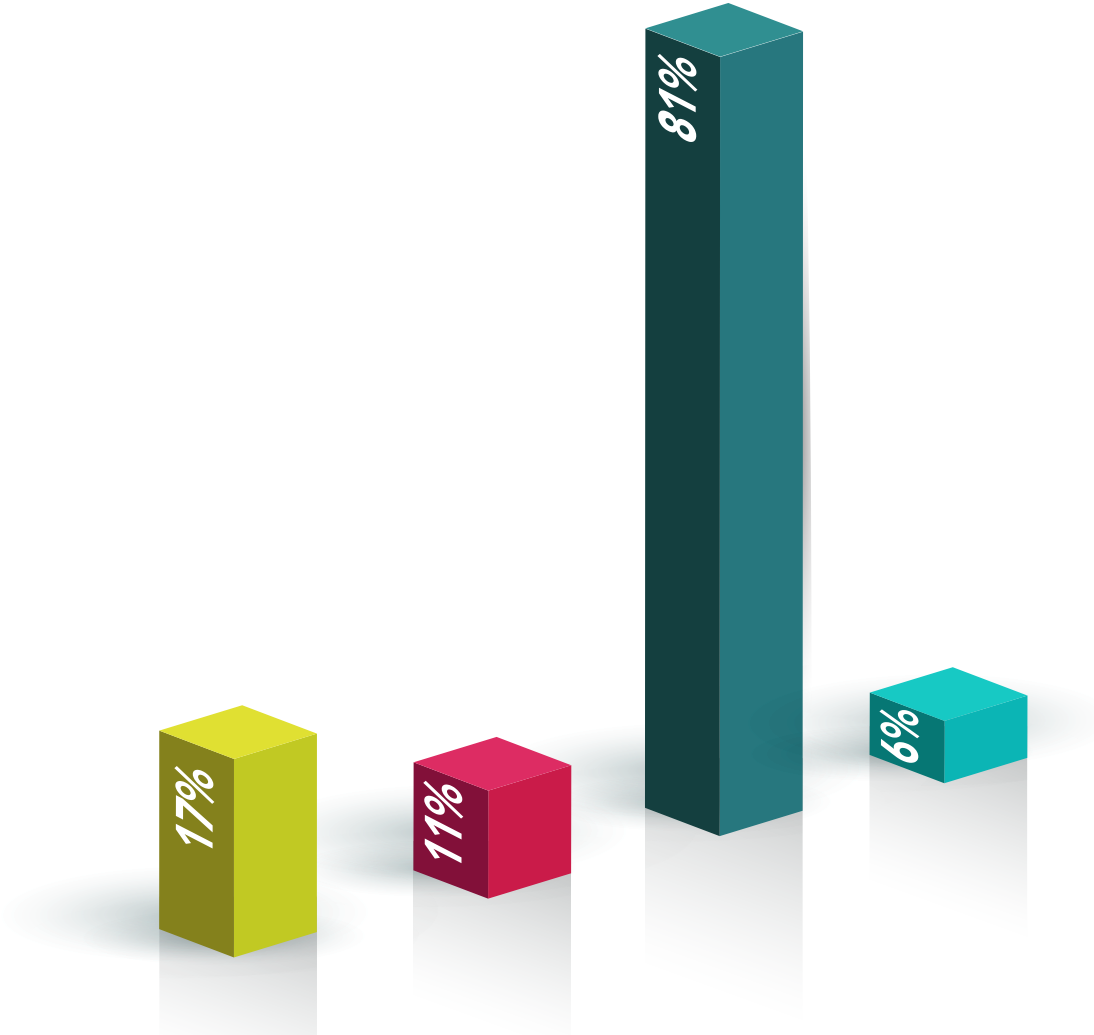
Have you heard of the Malaysian Government's Transformasi Nasional 2050 (TN50) initiative?



- Yes, I have heard of it and understand the Government's intent on TN50
- Yes, I have heard of TN50 but have little understanding of it
- No



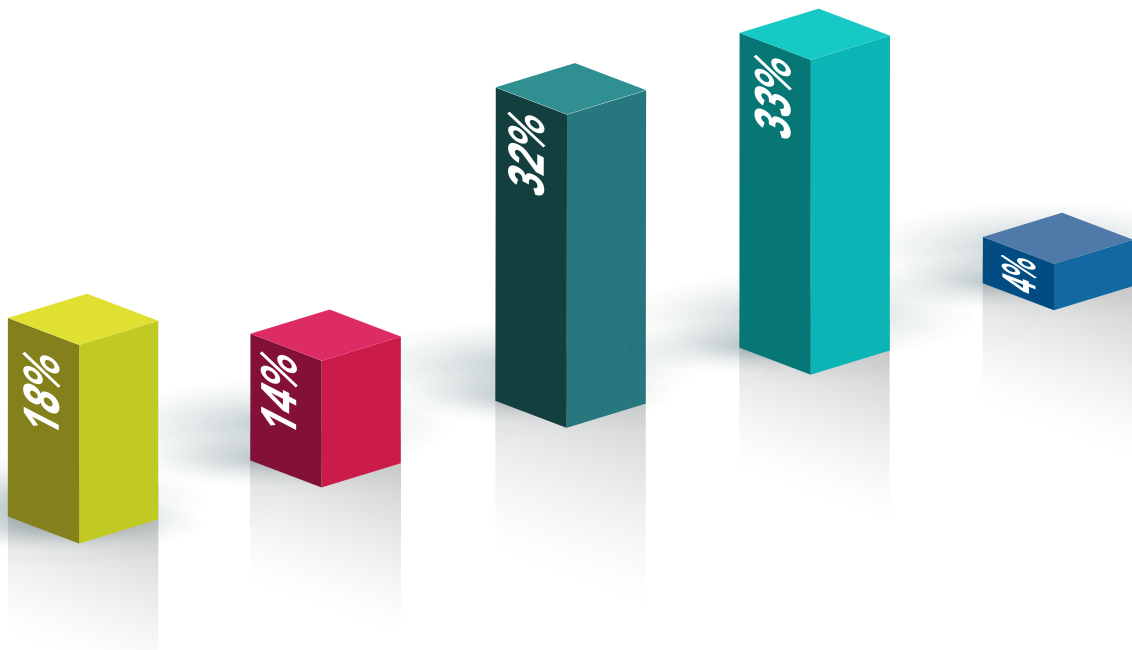
Under the TN50 initiative, in your view, what should be the top priority for Malaysia’s financial industry and system to become by 2050:



- To be a global or regional leader in niche areas like Islamic Finance, fintech and infrastructure financing**
- Strong domestic financial institutions and a financial system resilient to future financial crises**
- A dynamic and agile financial ecosystem that meets the financial needs of Malaysians by providing a full range of financial products and services**
- Don't know/not sure**

Q3

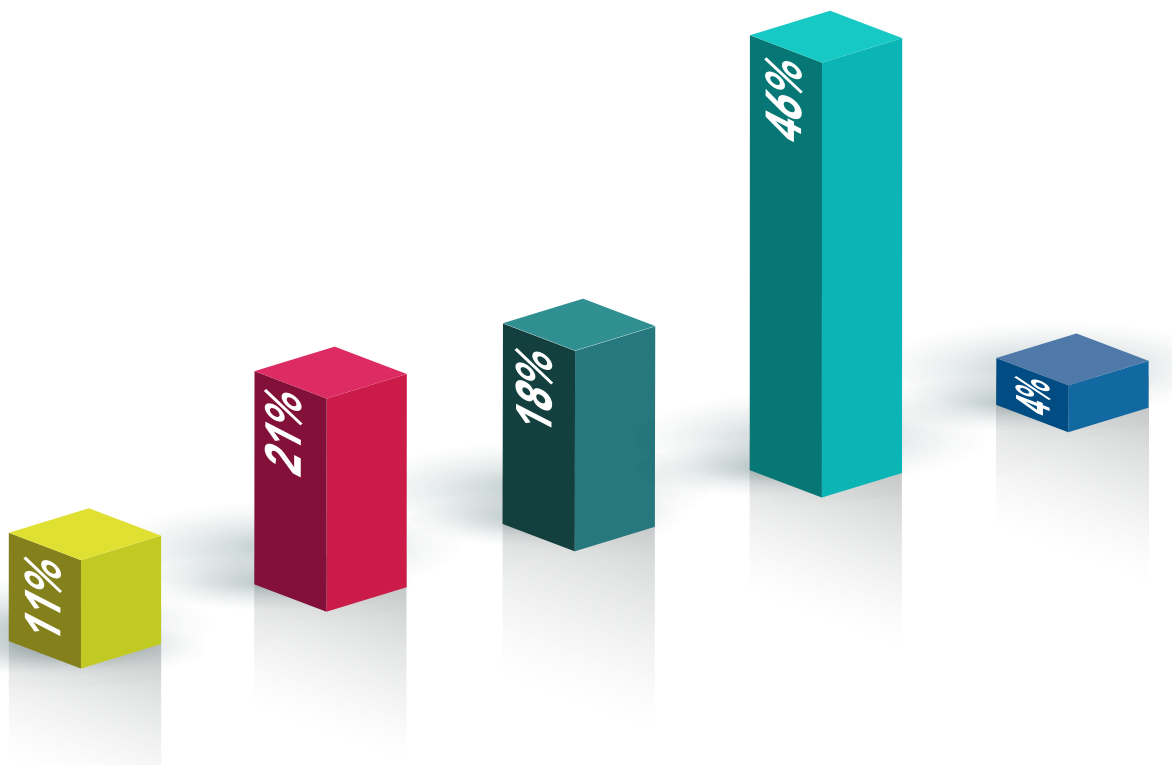
Which of the following megatrends should the Malaysian financial industry focus on to gain a competitive advantage:



- Urbanisation and economic growth in Asia – specifically to strengthen Malaysia’s positioning in terms of infrastructure financing and sukus
- Ageing population – to access the growing wealth among senior citizens in the region by providing services
- Digital revolution – creating a fully digitalised financial ecosystem
- Resource scarcity – to develop Malaysia’s niche in the region for environmental, social and governance and sustainability related financial products
- Don’t know/not sure

Q4

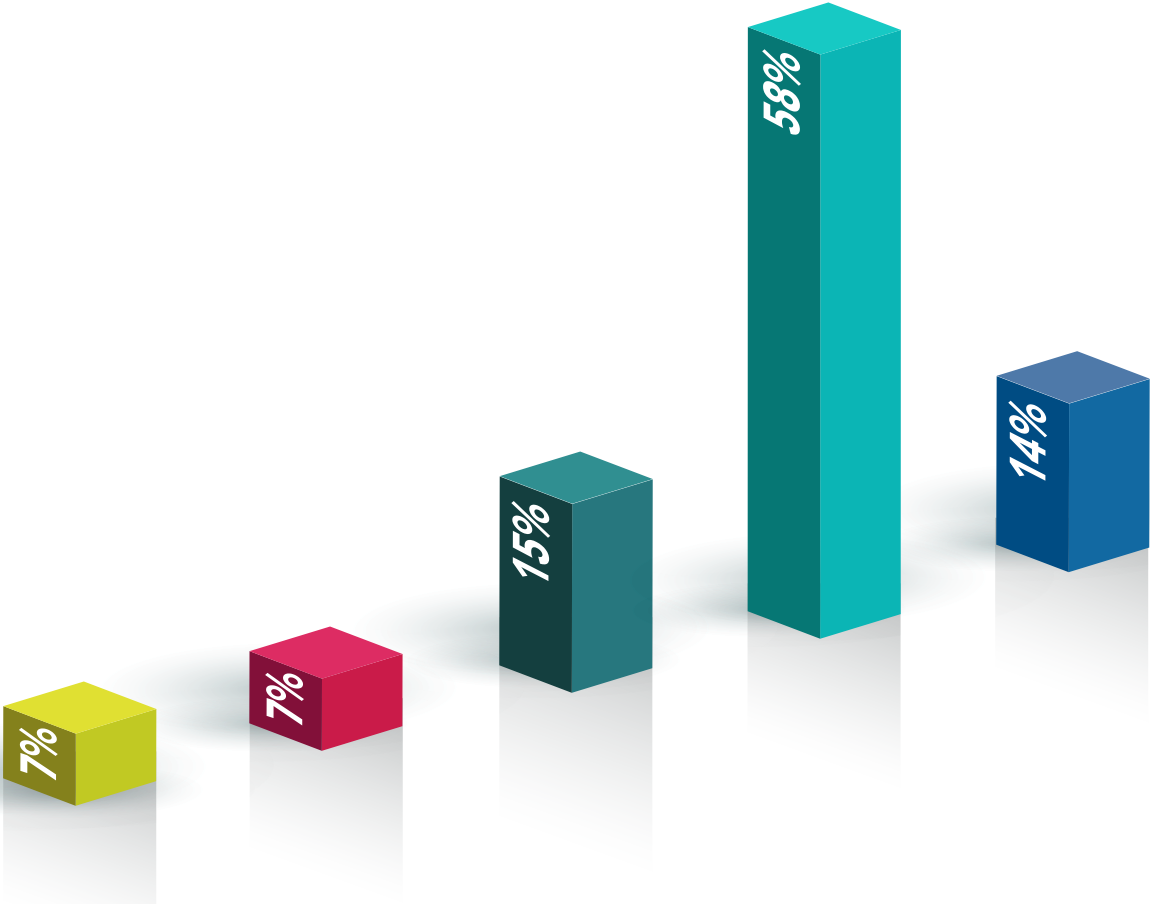
Under the TN50 initiative, in your view, what should be top area of focus for Malaysia’s financial system and industry to develop in the immediate future:



- **Further catalyse the growth of Islamic and ESG niches, such as in asset management, to establish Malaysia as a hub**
- **Move towards being a cash-less society and leverage on technology to become a crime-less society**
- **Focus efforts on enhancing IT infrastructure to enable the development of Malaysian fintechs to emulate the success of Malaysian startups like Grab or Piktochart**
- **Reform the regulatory framework to promote greater innovation, while safeguarding financial stability**
- **Don't know/not sure**

Q5

How do you envision Malaysia as an economy in 2050 and what trade-offs (based on models in other countries) would you find reasonable to achieve the vision?



- Hong Kong (low public services with low taxes)
- Norway (excellent public services with higher taxes)
- South Korea (world leader in electronics and a highly demanding working environment)
- Australia (high income, low job creation with emphasis on work-life balance)
- Don't know/not sure

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