



- **Partnership of paramount importance:** Pahang and UAE sign RM99.8m agreement to protect critically endangered Malayan tigers. **p07**
- **Enhancing digital security:** ASEAN strengthens digital future through collaboration and innovation. **p22**
- **Advancing sustainability:** Malaysia approves National ESG Strategic Plan to strengthen sustainable development. **p28**



Go to Page 2
8



CO₂



Dr Kenneth Pereira

Dead Tide!

- Energy security concerns, especially after geopolitical conflicts, have led some nations to extend coal, oil and gas use.
- Energy Transition 1.0 requires reset. **p12-14**

@AGROBiz says ...

COP in, COP out: Progress, Challenges, and Outlook

THE TIME to act on climate change is now, and the most urgent issue on the agenda is the necessity for rapid emissions reductions to meet global climate targets.

Despite some perceived progress in renewable energy deployment, global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are dangerously approaching record highs.

This unacceptable trend is primarily driven by relentless fossil fuel consumption, industrial activities, and deforestation.

KEY CHALLENGES

- **Delayed emissions peak:** Major economies are still increasing or maintaining high emissions levels, obstructing our ability to restrict global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- **Fossil fuel expansion:** The continued approval of new oil, gas, and coal projects by governments directly contradicts the scientific consensus calling for immediate phaseouts.
- **Climate financing gaps:** Developing nations are facing significant hurdles in securing adequate funding for clean energy and climate adaptation. The international community's failure to deliver on promised aid is a glaring shortfall that underscores the urgent need for global collaboration.
- **Extreme weather impacts:** Escalating temperatures are driving more frequent and severe heatwaves, wildfires, storms, and floods, resulting in humanitarian and economic crises that cannot be ignored.
- **Slow Decarbonisation of industry & transport:** Heavy industries, shipping, and aviation remain disproportionately dependent on fossil fuels, with alternative solutions either underdeveloped or prohibitively expensive.

To meet our climate targets, we must adopt stronger policies, fast-track renewable energy expansion, and ensure substantial financial support for vulnerable regions.

The coming years are critical - this is our moment to rise to the challenge and forge a path toward significant progress.

To meet our climate targets, the world needs to implement stronger policies, accelerate renewable energy expansion, and provide more substantial financial support for vulnerable regions.

The next few years are crucial, but they also hold the potential for significant progress.



P04
Siti Safinah is new EC boss

P05
Clean energy, bold future
A media networking session united industry experts and officials to preview NEA 2025

P06
Google backs biochar

P07
Partnership of paramount importance
Pahang and UAE sign RM99.8m agreement to protect critically endangered Malayan tigers

P08-09
Powering through change
Malaysia to intensify ASEAN green economy

P10-11
Historic decision in Baku
Loss and Damaged fund fully operationalised

Focussed action
Spotlight on tourism, transport and urbanisation

P12-14
Where are we at?
February 2025: The Energy Transition has been postponed!

P15
Fostering a low carbon era
Industry leaders at Eco Expo Asia 2024 discuss innovative pathways to hydrogen production

P16
A costly delay
Poor oversight and unclear accountability have contributed to the project's continued failure

P18-19
Organic and sustainable eating
A path to healthier living and a healthier planet

P20
Where does Malaysia stand?
Country reinforces its CEI reduction commitment to an unconditional target of 45 per cent reduction by 2030

P22 | @DIGITAL
Enhancing digital security
ASEAN strengthens digital future through collaboration and innovation

TheTeam

Kay Mathy | Publisher

kaymathy@revonmedia.com

Law Beng Chee | Chief Executive Officer

bclaw@revonmedia.com

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

► **Dato' Dr Mohamed Razip Hassan**

► **Dato' Fauzi Omar**

► **Prof Dr Yumi Zuharis Has-Yun Hashim**

► **Adi Satria**

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Dato' (Dr) Johnson

Fernandez | Managing Editor

johnson@revonmedia.com

Khirtini K. Kumaran | Editor

khirtini@revonmedia.com

Sheila Rozario | Contributing Editor

sheila@revonmedia.com

Fatihah Manaf | Writer

fatihah@revonmedia.com

Adeline Anthony Alphonso | Writer

adeline@revonmedia.com

Zafirah Zafuddin | Writer

zafirah@revonmedia.com

Fariha Rahman | Writer

farisha@revonmedia.com

a.azam | Creative Director

a.azam@revonmedia.com

SALES & MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Sahana | Media Director

sahana@revonmedia.com

Hash Plus Media | Media Associate

marketing@hashplusmedia.com

Published by:

Revon Media Sdn Bhd

A-5-1, Parklane Commercial Hub,

Jalan SS 7/26, SS 7,

47301 Petaling Jaya,

Selangor D.E., Malaysia.

Tel: +603 7886 6091

Printed by:

Percetakan Osacar Sdn. Bhd.

No. 16, Jalan IDA 1A,

Industri Desa Aman, Kepong,

52200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel: +603 6279 9474,

+6 03 6263 1856

Fax: +603 6280 6802

Disclaimer: The content of this publication aims to inform and educate the public on health issues, developments and news, both locally and globally. In addition to our editorial team, we also invite distinguished medical practitioners and other experts to contribute articles on their respective fields of expertise. The information contained in this publication is for general information only, and readers should always seek independent, professional advice and consultation where appropriate. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that the content is correct, the publisher and editors of @green will not be held liable for any loss or damage resulting from reliance upon any information in this publication, including products and services advertised. Unauthorised reproduction of this publication is strictly prohibited, in whole or in part, without the written consent by the publisher. Statements and opinions expressed by writers, contributors and advertisers are not necessarily those of the editors or publisher.



P23

Collision course

AI and cybersecurity - building the future of digital defense

P24

Judicious for Malaysia

Emergence of new AI technology provides opportunities for neutral data centre hub

P25

The global AI race: The new cold war?

Malaysia is positioning itself as a key player in the region's AI development

P26

The future, at what cost?

AI should not replace our minds, it should be used to strengthen them

P27

Paris AI action summit

Regulatory tipping point
Momentum against US and UK as global consensus on regulation strengthens

P28 | @ESG

Advancing sustainability

Malaysia approves National ESG Strategic Plan to strengthen sustainable development

P29

Increased awareness

Strategic guidance to help the sector differentiate itself in competitive markets

P30

Carbon emissions landscape for 2025

High electricity consumption firms required to commit to a gradual carbon reduction plan to avoid penalties

P31

Green visionaries

Highlighting real-world applications and strategic insights, the workshop emphasised that embracing ESG is key



29



31



A path to healthier living and a healthier planet

IN A world increasingly focused on the impact of human activities on the environment and health, organic and sustainable eating concepts are gaining significant traction.

These practices are not just mere lifestyle trends but essential to addressing pressing global challenges like climate change, non-communicable diseases, and food security. This article explores what organic and sustainable eating entails, why they are critical, and how they align with broader values, including religious principles and ecological stewardship.

WHAT IS ORGANIC EATING?

Organic food refers to produce and livestock grown without synthetic pesticides, chemical fertilisers and or genetically modified organisms (GMOs). This farming method prioritises biodiversity and natural processes to maintain soil fertility and ecosystem health.

Unlike conventional farming, which often relies on monocropping and heavy pesticide use, organic practices aim to work harmoniously with nature.

Organic farming offers several environmental advantages. Studies suggest it can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 40 per cent compared to conventional methods (Mie et al., 2017).

Organic farms are more biodiverse, promoting healthier soil and better water management. They also avoid harmful chemicals, protecting wildlife such as bees, which are vital for pollination (Hazley & Kearney, 2024).

From a health perspective, consuming organic food reduces exposure to



BY NOOR YUSLIDA HAZAHARI

International Institute for Halal Research and Training (INHART), International Islamic University Malaysia

harmful chemicals linked to developmental and neurological disorders (Mie et al., 2017). Organic produce often contains higher levels of antioxidants.

For instance, organic tomatoes have more lycopene, an antioxidant associated with reduced cancer risk. Moreover, organic farming minimises the contamination of water supplies with pesticides and fertilisers, which can have far-reaching effects on ecosystems and human health.

By choosing organic food, consumers indirectly support practices that protect waterways and reduce the burden of cleaning up agricultural pollutants.

WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE EATING?

Sustainable eating encompasses more than just food type; it includes how food is grown, transported, consumed, and disposed of. It reduces environmental harm, conserves resource, supports ethical labour practices, and promotes long-term food security.

Agriculture contributes approximately 25% of global greenhouse gas emissions, with livestock farming and food transportation being significant contributors (Masson-Delmotte et al., 2019). Shifting to a plant-based diet can reduce an individual's carbon footprint by up to 50 per cent, primarily by decreasing meat consumption.

Livestock farming, particularly cattle, is a leading cause of deforestation and methane emissions. By reducing red meat consumption, individuals can help mitigate climate change. For example, replacing one beef meal per week with plant-based

protein can significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions (Masson-Delmotte et al., 2019).

Consuming locally sourced and seasonal foods is the cornerstone of sustainability. Transportation accounts for up to 11 per cent of a food item's total environmental cost (Hazley & Kearney, 2024). Buying local reduces these emissions, supports regional farmers, and enhances food security. Seasonal eating also ensures that food is fresher, tastier, and less resource-intensive to produce.

Additionally, local food systems promote community resilience. Supporting small-scale farmers encourages diverse agricultural practices and fosters stronger local economies. Decentralising food production reduces the carbon footprint and strengthens food security.

One-third of all global food is wasted, contributing significantly to carbon emissions and food insecurity (Pieniak et al., 2016). Quoting the same author, if food waste were a country, it would be the third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases after the US and China.

Simple meal planning, eating leftovers, and composting can drastically reduce this waste. Reducing food waste also has economic benefits. Households save money by purchasing what they need, while businesses can improve efficiency by better managing inventory.

Furthermore, initiatives like food redistribution programmes ensure surplus food reaches those in need instead of ending up in landfills.

BRIDGING ORGANIC AND SUSTAINABLE EATING

While both organic and sustainable eating practices aim to minimise environmental harm and improve human



health, they are often perceived as separate concepts.

However, they share significant synergies, such as promoting biodiversity, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting local economies. To this end, bridging organic and sustainable eating is important to maximise the positive impact on personal health and planetary well-being.

Organic and sustainable eating also intersect in their focus on ethical food production and consumption practices. Organic farming avoids synthetic pesticides and fertilisers, which not only helps protect soil health and water quality but also aligns with sustainable practices by reducing harmful chemical runoff.

Similarly, sustainable eating emphasises minimising food waste and choosing seasonal, locally sourced produce, which often overlaps with organic options. By combining the principles of both, individuals can support agricultural systems that prioritise long-term ecological balance while also fostering healthier dietary choices.

This integrative approach can empower communities to contribute to a more resilient and equitable food system.

FAITH-BASED PERSPECTIVES

Islamic teachings offer a robust framework for understanding our responsibilities toward food and the environment. The Quran emphasises stewardship (khalifah) of earth. The Quran also condemns wastefulness:

"O children of Adam, take your adornment at every masjid, and eat and drink, but be not excessive. Indeed, He [Allah] likes not those who commit excess." (Quran, Al-A'raf, 7:31).

Halal (permissible) and toyyib (pure and wholesome) align closely with organic and sustainable practices. Halal ensures ethical food production, while toyyib emphasises healthiness and

environmental friendliness.

These principles advocate for food grown without harm to the planet, reflecting the values underpinning organic and sustainable eating.

Islam also underscores moderation, a key theme in sustainable eating. Consuming only what is needed and avoiding waste are integral to Islamic ethics, aligning with efforts to reduce food waste and overconsumption.

Meanwhile, the Islamic concept of barakah (blessings) emphasises mindful consumption, encouraging individuals to seek quality over quantity. Muslims can contribute to a more sustainable and ethical food system by aligning dietary practices with spiritual principles.

SCIENCE OF ORGANIC AND SUSTAINABLE EATING

So, what are the sciences behind organic and sustainable eating? This can be seen from several perspectives, including its role in climate mitigation, maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health, and promoting the intake of more plant-based diets.

1. Organic farming in climate mitigation

Organic farming methods, such as crop rotation and reduced soil disturbance, improve soil health and enhance carbon sequestration. According to the Mie et al., (2017), organic practices can sequester up to 44% more carbon in soil than conventional farming. Healthy soil acts as a critical carbon sink, mitigating climate change.

2. Biodiversity and ecosystem health

According to Masson-Delmotte et al., (2019) organic farms support up to 30% more wildlife than conventional ones. This biodiversity is essential for resilient food systems, especially in the face of climate disruptions. Diverse

ecosystems are better equipped to withstand pests, diseases, and extreme weather events.

3. Health benefits of plant-based diets

Sustainable eating often emphasises plant-based diets, which lower the risks of heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers. The American Heart Association (2019), states that such diets can reduce the risk of heart disease by up to 40%. Reducing meat consumption also lessens the environmental footprint of food production, conserving water and reducing emissions. Plant-based diets are also more resource-efficient. Producing one kilogram of lentils requires significantly less water and land compared to the same amount of beef. Transitioning to plant-based protein sources is a practical step toward achieving global food security.

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

Despite the benefits, organic and sustainable eating face barriers like cost, accessibility, and misconceptions. Many perceive these diets as expensive or impractical. However, promoting food literacy - skills for planning, preparing, and consuming food sustainably - can help address these challenges.

Governments and organisations can also contribute by subsidising organic and sustainable farming practices, making these options more affordable and accessible. Public awareness campaigns highlighting the long-term cost savings and health benefits can shift consumer perceptions.

Additionally, framing dietary changes positively, focusing on the enjoyment and social aspects of food, can make these practices more appealing. For example, highlighting the sensory pleasure of fresh, seasonal produce can motivate consumers to choose sustainable options.

A CALL TO ACTION

Organic and sustainable eating is more than a lifestyle choice; it is to be embraced for the best of health of the people and the planet. By opting for food grown without harming the environment, supporting local farmers, and reducing waste, we can contribute to a more resilient and ethical food system.

These practices resonate deeply with Islamic stewardship, moderation, and purity values. As global citizens, embracing organic and sustainable eating is a small yet impactful step toward fulfilling our responsibility to nurture our bodies and the earth.

Every choice matters. Whether buying organic produce, reducing food waste, or supporting sustainable farming, collective actions can drive transformative change. Together, we can create a future where food systems sustain us and generations to come.

—@green

Governments and organisations can also contribute by subsidising organic and sustainable farming practices, making these options more affordable and accessible. Public awareness campaigns highlighting the long-term cost savings and health benefits can shift consumer perceptions."