

# TRANSFORMING MALAYSIA

## Transforming Malaysia

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Malaysia is at a crossroads. Despite the economic and socio-political achievements of the country since Merdeka, there is a very real risk that the country must change if it is to reach its lofty goals of Vision 2020 or otherwise remain stagnant, similar to what it is today. The Government recognised this risk three years ago

and thus implemented the Government Transformation Programme (GTP), which aims to fundamentally transform the country into a high-performing nation.

The initiatives of the GTP aim at ambitious goals, but these ambitions are not borne out of unwarranted idealism

or hopeful aspirations. Neither are they pie in the sky political machinations designed to placate the rakyat, but are ambitions borne out of necessity – out of a clear and present danger that the dreams of Vision 2020 may slip away from our grasp. The GTP, from this context, is crucially important.

## The Roadmap

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The GTP Roadmap 2.0 is similar to the first roadmap, which lays out the bold and unprecedented programme to transform government. The contents of this roadmap have been developed in partnership with all stakeholders, be they from government or the private sector because the days of ‘Government knows best’ are over. The government recognises that there are pragmatic

considerations and areas of expertise that must come from non-government sources, and they have been duly considered in the production of this document.

This roadmap serves as a performance contract between the government and the rakyat, and serves as a benchmark to determine the success of the

transformational plan. The targets are ambitious, but are necessarily so if Malaysia is to remain on track for achieving Vision 2020. They are also very necessary in building public trust in the GTP, which is why the government is absolutely committed to delivering the changes contained in this document despite the challenges that will crop up.

## The GTP 1.0 (2010 - 2012): Transforming the Government

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Transformation is difficult, and even more so when the various stakeholders – in this case, all Malaysians – are not entirely convinced of the merits of the plan. In order to marshal the rakyat together behind this cause, the Government realised that it had to lead the charge and itself be transformed in order to better serve the rakyat, and to set an example for the transformation that needs to happen in this country.

Thus, the first three years have seen numerous initiatives implemented on all levels of government in various

sectors of governance that the GTP has termed the National Key Result Areas. The GTP 1.0 saw the Government take a long, hard look at its own practices, and prescribed aggressive remedies and changes to manifest a self-transformation. As the NKRA chapters have shown, the great majority of these initiatives have enjoyed much success.

But the work is not complete. The transformation process thus far has mostly been guided by the theme of reform in hopes that by reforming, the country will meet its true potential. The

GTP has made progress towards that, but Vision 2020 requires that we not only meet our potential, but that we raise the very bar of potential itself. In other words, Vision 2020 can only be a reality if we are able to take Malaysia – the Government and everyone else therein – to the next level, and this is the ultimate goal of the GTP.

## The GTP 2.0 (2013 - 2015): Enhancing the Transformation

The first phase of the GTP is complete. Over the next three years, the Government will implement the second phase, also known as the GTP 2.0. At this stage, the Government is looking to further deepen and broaden the transformation already begun in the GTP 1.0 by expanding the scope of earlier initiatives and introducing new ones to address obstacles identified in the first phase.

The Government is also looking for greater buy-in from the private sector in the GTP 2.0, and has thus focused on a number of initiatives that will require the cooperation of corporates and other non-governmental organisations. The GTP 2.0 will also address some of the shortfalls of the GTP 1.0 and to further expand existing initiatives to catalyse a holistic transformation of the civil service.

In so doing, the GTP 2.0 will lay the foundation upon which the GTP 3.0 – the third phase of the GTP that aims to bring the country to the next level – can be built. By the end of the GTP 2.0, all Malaysians will enjoy equitable levels of service and infrastructure, leakages in government will be plugged, and the civil service transformed to be more responsive and dedicated. Such are the hopes of the Government.

## The GTP 3.0 (2016 - 2020): The Final Hurdle

The final phase of the transformation will see Malaysia taken to the next level. It is still too soon to say what will be contained in this third horizon, but the Government envisions initiatives that focus on innovation that are rakyat-centric. With a strong foundation established in the first two phases of GTP, the hope here is that the rakyat have developed sufficient confidence

in the plan and will participate in the transformation process.

Vision 2020 is a plan for all Malaysians, and while the Government will ensure that each and every Malaysian regardless of race and background will be given every advantage possible, it will also be up to each individual to seize those opportunities as they arise.

The GTP is, by design, a plan for all Malaysians. It is a process that we must undergo together – in trust and in spirit – if it is to come to fruition. There will be disputes and challenges along the way, but the Government is committed in seeing the plan through all the way, and the hope is that other Malaysians will feel the same.

