**Achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8**

**Country:** Malaysia

**Committee:** UNDP

The cities and large towns of Peninsular Malaysia were built up during the colonial and postcolonial periods and are distributed mainly in the tin and rubber belt along the west side of the peninsula. The towns are associated with mining, manufacturing and industry, trade, and administrative functions, although each town usually functions in several of these areas. Malaysia's economy has been transformed since 1970 from one based primarily on the export of raw materials (rubber and tin) to one that is among the strongest, most diversified, and fastest-growing in Southeast Asia. Malaysia‘s GNI per capita is at US$11,200 according to latest estimates, only US$1,335 short of the current threshold level that defines a high-income economy.

Protecting human capital from the impact of shocks, such as loss of employment, or family illness and injury through social welfare programs is of key importance. Rigorous evidence from around the world demonstrates the positive role social protection programs can play by providing vulnerable households with the income support to fight poverty for human capital development. Malaysia’s current social protection system could be both expanded and reformed to integrate a mixture of mandates and incentives, thereby helping households better invest in human capital.

As the delegate of Malaysia, we would like to find solutions for the world’s problem.