

**PERSIDANGAN KEBANGSAAN MENGENAI MASYARAKAT BERMAKLUMAT
NATIONAL SUMMIT ON INFORMATION SOCIETY (NASIS)
7 – 8 SEPTEMBER 2005
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

Date of issue: 7th September 2005

Doc. S2-5

Session 2: Enabling Environment and Policies

Investment in ICT related industries - Is it a priority?

**by Pg Sufian Pg Omar,
Brunei Economic Development Board**

(Thursday, 8th September 2005, 8.15am – 10.00am)

Investment in ICT related industries – Is it a priority?

Nasis, 7th - 8th September 2005

Pg Sufian Pg Omar
Brunei Economic Development Board

Foreign Direct Investment in ICT related industries – Is it a priority?

“Identified **Business Services** as a prioritised clusters which has FDI potential”

“Brunei should focus on **Software Development** as it represent a growing segment and a lucrative niche for Brunei Darussalam”

Monitor Group Findings

Strategic Fit

- E-Government initiative – during implementation and post implementation wave
- Ethnically diverse market creating a suitable environment for testing new products
- Multilingual population – Malay, Chinese, Arab and English speaking population

Why Software Development?

Economic Opportunity

- Market size for BPO and other IT enabled services estimated US\$1 trillion in 2006
- India's software and services sector generated 92,000 new jobs in 2003
- Second largest recipient of FDI from OECD countries (US\$91 billion in 1999)

What are the drivers?

- Small market enables efficient product development
- Suitable location for small software developers who plan to enter the ASEAN or Chinese market
- Comparatively low operational costs appeal to software firms

What are the barriers?

- Wage levels in Brunei higher than competing countries in the region
- Quantity and quality of expertise in software development is limited to basic skills
- Quality of Brunei Darussalam's communications infrastructure and flight connectivity are limited
- Intellectual property protection is ineffective

4 key issues

- Accreditation – *CMM*
- Capacity Building – *New Syllabis*
- Policies – *IP protection*
- Infrastructure – *Last mile, Innovation centre*

Issues are being discussed in NASIS

BEDB Infrastructure
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- Innovation Centre
- Eco Cyber Park

“ Is it a Priority? ”

BEDB BEDB Priorities
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- SME Innovation Centre
- Eco Cyber Park – Feasibility Study

Thank You