

NEWS RELEASE

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RHB'S INAUGURAL VENDOR ENGAGEMENT DAY BRINGS TOGETHER 200 KEY VENDORS AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Vendor Engagement Day 2025 underscores RHB's commitment to innovation, value creation, and responsible sourcing across its supply chain

Kuala Lumpur – RHB Banking Group (“RHB” or “the Group”) recently hosted its inaugural Vendor Engagement Day, welcoming over 200 key vendors and strategic partners to build a more collaborative, innovative and sustainable vendor ecosystem that supports the Group’s long-term strategic aspirations.

The event, officiated by Dato’ Mohd Rashid Mohamad, Group Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer of RHB, served as a platform to strengthen collaboration, enhance operational alignment, and explore new opportunities for shared value creation across the Group’s procurement strategy.

“This inaugural Vendor Engagement Day reflects a shift in how we view our vendor relationships - not as transactions, but as strategic partnerships critical to our growth and transformation. As we invest in innovation, digital capabilities, and sustainability, we expect our partners to move with us, to challenge the norm, deliver real value, and drive meaningful impact,” said Dato’ Mohd Rashid.

During the event, RHB shared its PROGRESS27 Strategy, highlighting key procurement and technology priorities that include:

- Robust procurement strategies to unlock greater value;
- IT modernisation to accelerate digital transformation;
- A broader, more resilient vendor base; and
- Deepening ESG integration across the vendor ecosystem.

The Group also outlined upcoming transformation initiatives - from digitalisation to enhanced operational efficiency, and invited vendors to co-create solutions that deliver long-term value.

Embedding ESG in Vendor Practices

A key focus of the engagement was responsible sourcing, with ESG criteria now embedded into RHB's vendor selection and evaluation processes. The Group has enhanced its Supplier Code of Conduct, aligning its commitment to ethical, environmental and social standards.

To further strengthen ESG performance among vendors, RHB partnered with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) to leverage their SME ESG Hub and assessment platform, enhancing the Group's ability to evaluate and improve ESG maturity across its vendor base. As of now, 45% of RHB's critical vendors have achieved Advanced or Leader ESG maturity.

To support vendors on their sustainability journey, RHB offers a suite of sustainable financing solutions tailored primarily for SMEs. These include - SME Green Renewable Financing, SME Green Building Financing, SME Green CAPEX Financing for sustainable equipment and machinery, SME Green Working Capital Financing for sustainable materials and products, and SME Green Technology Financing.

"ESG is not a 'nice-to-have'—it's a business imperative. We are committed to working with partners who share our values and are willing to push boundaries in responsible business. This is a critical step towards our goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050," added Dato' Mohd Rashid.

Empowering Local Vendors

In 2024, RHB conducted 13 virtual knowledge-sharing sessions to equip vendors with greater insights into the Group's products, and services. These sessions aim to enhance vendor capabilities, foster competitiveness, and strengthened alignment with RHB's sustainability-driven agenda. Out of 670 active vendors, 623 (91%) are locally based, accounting for RM676.8 million in procurement spending in 2024, reinforcing RHB's ongoing commitment to local enterprise development.

RHB Vendor Engagement Day 2025 marks the beginning of a more structured, transparent, and strategic approach to vendor collaboration. RHB will continue to host regular engagements to foster alignment, unlock shared value, and build a future-ready vendor ecosystem.