

Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness

Malaysia's Experiences and Good Practices



OUTLINES

INTRODUCTION







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MALAYSIA'S EXPERIENCES

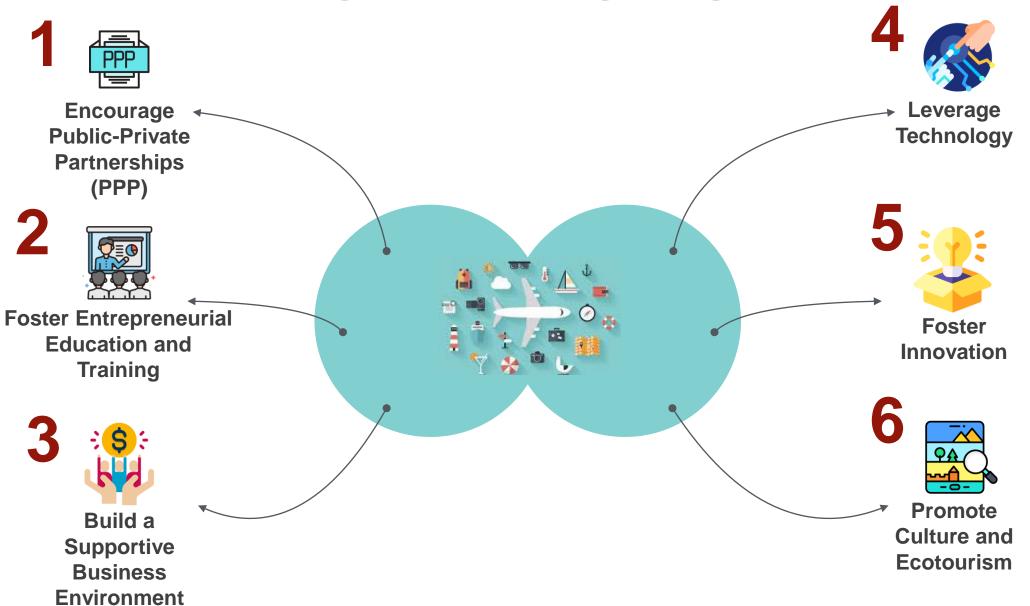
INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship is the driving force behind economic growth and innovation.

OIC countries need to invest in and foster the development of entrepreneurial activities in order to remain ___ competitive and stay ahead of the competition.

Entrepreneurship is crucial in developing a competitive tourism industry.

STRATEGIES





The Malaysian Homestay Experience Programme

- A cultural exchange program that promotes tourism and provides tourists with a cultural immersion experience.
- Managed and operated by homestay entrepreneurs who adhere to MOTAC standards.
- Currently, there are 210 homestays with 450 village communities in Malaysia.
- Government provides assistance such as grants for repairs, package development training modules, and digital marketing training modules.

Islamic Tourism Entrepreneurship and Leadership Seminars (ITELS)

- Promotes Islamic tourism to youths, entrepreneurs, and those in the tourism industry.
- Showcases the possibilities of the industry and provides information and insights into how to sustainably leverage and fit Muslim travel needs.
- Experienced inspiring provide and partners will entrepreneurial information economic and on the Islamic opportunities be pursued in to Tourism/Muslim-Friendly Tourism and Hospitality (MFTH) segment.











Islamic Tourism Social Media Workshop (ITSoM)

- Inaugural workshop organized by ITC to provide guidance and techniques on how to leverage social media platforms to improve business capabilities and competitiveness.
- Focuses on topics such as:
 - ✓ Short writing on social media;
 - ✓ Development of social media channels through advertising; and
 - ✓ Influencer marketing.
- To improve awareness and knowledge about the promotion and marketing opportunities for Muslim-friendly products and services in Malaysia.

Islamic Tourism Week (ITW)

- Week-long festival of events for the public, tourists, and entrepreneurs.
- Showcases Malaysia's rich Islamic tourism experiences.
- Features educational seminars, hotel deals, spa and well-being offers, discounts at retail outlets, and more.
- Aims to increase the interest of industry players to be competitive and meet the demands of the tourism market.









Networking and Capacity Building

- ITC has created multiple platforms to help Islamic tourism entrepreneurs network, share experiences, and collaborate on projects.
- The government has supported these efforts by providing capacity building and business network expansion through workshops, seminars, and networking events.
- ITC has also developed Muslim-Friendly Tourism and Hospitality Recognition (MFAR) and Muslim-Friendly Tourist Guide (MFTG) training to certify/recognise tourism products and services and enhance the skills and knowledge of tourist guides.
- These initiatives help promote entrepreneurship and provide clear guidelines and standards for entrepreneurs.

Research and Innovation

- Research and innovation have led to significant growth in Malaysia's Islamic tourism industry.
- Innovation has enabled ITC to:
 - ✓ Identify new market opportunities
 - ✓ Develop unique and memorable experiences
 - ✓ Enhance sustainability
 - ✓ Improve marketing and distribution
 - ✓ Develop human capital
- Innovation is essential for entrepreneurs to create new products and services to meet the changing needs of consumers.







CONCLUSION

- Entrepreneurship is the creation of new businesses, products, or services. It is important in tourism because it can help to create competitive businesses that meet the evolving needs of consumers while promoting sustainable tourism practices.
- Key entrepreneurial skills include innovation, problem-solving, risktaking, leadership, and adaptation.

