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Navigating the New Climate Order: Sustainable Development in Malaysia's Real Estate Sector Between East and West

Wong Kian Foong , Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rashad Yazdanifard

Kings University College, Malaysia

Abstract

Navigating the New Climate Order: Sustainable Development in Malaysia's Real Estate Sector examines how the Malaysian property sector has developed a distinctive, adaptive approach. This review paper addresses the evolving global climate politics and changing policy alignments, particularly involving the United States, China, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the BRICS countries. This study adopts a systematic literature review that follows the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) methodology. It analyses 75 recent publications and synthesizes both quantitative and qualitative evaluations of the policy, finance, and corporate sustainability practices from 2020 to 2025. The central argument is that Malaysia's multi-alignment strategy balances Western environmental, social, and governance (ESG) requirements, technology transfer from China, and regional governance standards. This balanced strategy helps create more resilient sustainability outcomes and enhances national agency. The findings highlight diversified adoption of corporate sustainability frameworks, the integration of green finance mechanisms, and strong resilience in climate policy. This resilience is supported by adaptive governance and stakeholder collaboration. This analysis offers strategic guidance to developing countries seeking sustainable urban growth while preserving policy autonomy.

Keywords: Adaptive Governance; Climate Diplomacy; Corporate Sustainability; Green Finance; Policy Integration.