

# KERATAN AKHBAR

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Petroliaam Nasional Bhd (Petronas) and its Petroleum Arrangement Contractors (PAC) recorded a total of 10 hydrocarbon discoveries in Malaysia in 2022, following an increase in exploration activities in the country.

Eight oil and gas discoveries were made off the coast of Sarawak, and one each off the coasts of Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. The largest oil discovery was made by Petronas Carigali at the Nahara-1 well in Block SK306 within Sarawak's Balingian Province.

Discoveries were also made in Sarawak's Central Luconia, Western Luconia and Baram provinces, which are among Malaysia's most prolific basins and home to many gas fields in the country.

Within Central Luconia, Shell had discoveries at the Inai-1 and Temu-1 wells in MLNG Block, while

Mubadala Energy found more gas in Block SK320 at the Cengkih-1 well. In the emerging province of Western Luconia, ConocoPhillips drilled three exploration wells in Block WL4-00 and discovered gas at the Gagau-1 well while the Salam-3 and Benum-2 wells confirmed the extension of oil and gas accumulations in adjacent fault blocks. In the matured Baram province, PITEP made another gas discovery in Block SK410B through the Paprika-1 well, where the giant Lang Lebah was discovered in 2019.

In ultra-deepwater Sabah, TotalEnergies made oil and gas discovery at the Tepat-2 well in Block N within the emerging Sabah Trough province, further proving the extent of the earlier oil and gas discovery of Tepat-1 in 2018.

Off the coast of Peninsular Malaysia, Hess found a new gas reservoir at the Bergading Deep-4 well in Block PM302 within the North Malay Basin.

Apart from the exploration success, there was an increased uptake in the Malaysia Bid Round (MBR) 2022 where investors responded strongly to the call for greater exploration investments. The Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signings for the successful MBR 2022 bids are planned for February next year, followed by the launch of MBR 2023.

MBR 2022 was launched on Jan 27, 2022, with 14 exploration blocks, six clusters of Discovered Resource Opportunities and one cluster of Late Life Assets offered in the bidding round.



**PETRONAS**