



12TH MALAYSIA PLAN: WHAT IS IT, AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?

WHAT IS THE 12TH MALAYSIA PLAN (12MP)?

The 12MP outlines the **country's developmental goals and priorities for the next 5 years.** It gives us an idea of the sort of policy measures that the government expects to undertake until 2025.

The latest Twelfth Malaysia Plan (2021 - 2025) will be announced on 27th September, 2021. Its key components are as follows:

- Based on the **Shared Prosperity Vision 2030**, a commitment to strengthen political stability, enhance the nation's prosperity, unite and celebrate ethnic and cultural diversity as the foundation of the nation state.
- It focuses on **three main development dimensions:**
 - Economic empowerment
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Social re-engineering

WHY IS THE 12MP IMPORTANT TO ME?

At first glance, the 12MP may not seem relevant to the average Malaysian as it deals with high-level policymaking. But by **providing us with a greater sense of direction in terms of the government's broad spending plans**, the 12MP is important to the rakyat:

- The 12MP will be a litmus test for **how the government responds to the various socio-economic challenges** facing Malaysia today.
- The 12MP will have an **impact on bread and butter** issues, such as cost of living, affordable housing, transport, and social security, so we'll know what's in it for us.
- The 12MP can also be a document for the rakyat to **hold the government accountable** on their plans for the nation. It's one thing to present a policy, it's another to see through it fully.

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK ABOUT THE 12MP?

- **What is the government's plan for living with COVID-19?** How will the 12MP promote long-term recovery and help businesses and lives that have been affected by the pandemic and lockdowns?
- **What is the government's overall spending plan for the next 5 years?** What policies will the gov prioritise? For e.g. developing new industries or strengthening social support?
- **How will the 12MP benefit me and my community?** For e.g, what new training/upskilling programmes under the proposed 12MP can I participate in?

WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN THIS YEAR'S 12MP?

- **A dynamic recovery plan** that addresses the onslaught of business closures, unemployment and reduced incomes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- **Sections that deal with bread and butter issues**, such as, cost of living, social security, and public welfare.
- **Sections that deal with economic empowerment** such as job creation, inclusive development, and opportunities for communities at the margins.

REFERENCES

- <http://rmke12.epu.gov.my/about-us>
- <https://www.malaysia.gov.my/portal/content/31186>