Majlis Bandaraya Seberang Perai
Menara Bandaraya, Jalan Perda Utama, Bandar Perda
14000 Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia
www.mbsp.gov.my
Aduan : MyMBSP
+604 - 549 7555
+604 - 538 9700
Bebas Tol : 1-800-88-6777
Call Centre: +604-2 69 69 69

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**MBSP REPAIR HUB INITIATIVE**

**Progress Update Following the IURC Study Visit to Bologna, Italy**

## 1. Introduction

Following the study visit to Bologna, Italy, under the International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC) programme, the Seberang Perai City Council (MBSP) has taken practical steps to promote a culture of repair, reuse and circular economy practices within the local community.

Through MBSP's Local Agenda 21 (LA21) Environmental Sustainability initiative, several activities have been introduced to encourage resource efficiency, extend product lifespans and reduce waste through community participation and strategic collaborations.

## 2. Activities Implemented and Developed

### 2.1 Monthly Pop-Up Repair Hubs

MBSP has introduced monthly Pop-Up Repair Hubs at different locations across Seberang Perai to make repair activities more accessible to local communities.

The initiative aims to:

- Encourage residents to repair household items rather than discard them.
- Extend the lifespan of everyday products and reduce unnecessary waste.
- Promote circular economy principles and sustainable consumption.
- Provide accessible repair opportunities within local communities.
- Foster community participation and establish a long-term culture of repair.

### 2.2 Transforming Discarded Plastics into Souvenirs

MBSP is also exploring initiatives to transform discarded plastics into useful and attractive products, such as keychains and souvenirs, through collaboration with the Malaysia Plastic Manufacturers Association (MPMA), Penang.

This initiative promotes the recovery and reuse of plastic materials while demonstrating the potential to convert waste into value-added products. It also serves as an educational platform to raise public awareness of plastic waste reduction, recycling and circular economy practices.

### 2.3 Repurposing Discarded Clothing into New Products

Another initiative focuses on repurposing discarded clothing and textile materials into practical products, including patchwork blankets, bags and herb pouches.

By giving unwanted textiles a second life, this initiative helps reduce textile waste, encourages creative reuse and demonstrates how discarded materials can be transformed into useful products for everyday life.

The initiative also provides opportunities to engage local communities in hands-on activities that promote sustainable living and responsible resource consumption.

## 3. Key Outcomes and Expected Impact

Through these initiatives, MBSP aims to:

- Reduce the volume of household, plastic and textile waste sent for disposal.
- Promote repair, reuse and resource recovery as practical circular economy solutions.
- Strengthen community engagement in environmental sustainability programmes.
- Encourage collaboration with industry partners and relevant stakeholders.
- Translate knowledge and best practices gained from the Bologna study visit into practical local initiatives.

## 4. Photographic Documentation

The following photographs illustrate the activities carried out under the MBSP Repair Hub Initiative, including community repair activities and initiatives to repurpose discarded plastics and textiles into useful products.

## 5. Conclusion

The MBSP Repair Hub Initiative represents an important step towards translating the knowledge and experiences gained from Bologna, Italy, into meaningful local action.

By introducing community-based repair activities and exploring innovative ways to repurpose discarded plastics and textiles, MBSP continues to strengthen its commitment to circular economy practices, waste reduction and environmental sustainability.

Through continued community participation and strategic partnerships, MBSP aspires to build a more sustainable and resource-efficient city.

**From a culture of disposal to a culture of repair, reuse and resource recovery.**