

Projek sungai untuk mentransformasikan KL

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River project to transform KL

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KUALA LUMPUR: With the launch of a RM4 billion river cleaning up and beautification project, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak today said Kuala Lumpur will eventually become one of the great cities in the world.

However, he said the project required not just physical development but a change in the people's thinking and attitude, especially towards rivers.

The RM4 billion project along the river through the city is an urban renewal project aimed at transforming the river into a vibrant and beautiful waterway with high standards.

Initiated as an Urban Policy Project under the Greater Kuala Lumpur (GKL) Vision, the RM4 billion project aims to transform the Klang and Sungai Gombak into an urban waterway of the city with the vision for London, Paris, Melbourne and Amsterdam in 2020.

Apart from bridges being damaged over the years, Najib said about 120 tonnes of garbage also found to be dumped along the river annually, but the authorities managed to strip up only 25 tonnes.

To realise the Klang-Gombak river project to best capacity, the project is the first example of the transformation of a polluted and dirty river into a world-class waterway with beautiful walkways, bridges and facilities, he said, when launching the River of Life project last year.

The River of Life project comprises three components, which are the cleaning up, beautification and river water development along the river corridor. The cleaning up will be completed along a 120km stretch throughout the Klang river basin.

The beautification project entails, from the upstream Klang River to the downstream Klang River, which would make the river suitable



RM4-billion project to transform the Klang-Gombak river into a world-class waterway with beautiful walkways, bridges and facilities, he said, when launching the River of Life project last year. (Photo: Bernama)

for recreational activities by 2020.

A sum of RM2 billion had been allocated for the clean-up and beautification works.

The beautification of rivers and waterways is one of the key projects from Vision2020 to RM4 billion.

The Kuala Lumpur City Hall held a River of Life project competition that started on June 22 and they have shortlisted two of the 22 entries.

There are three international firms

partner with two local planning companies.

The winning plans are available for the public to view and vote at www.riveroflife.com.my — from 6pm to 10pm July 28.

A panel of expert jurors have also been appointed to assess the plans. The winning plans will be based on a combination of votes from the public and the jurors. The plans will be announced on July 29.