

The Next Phase of Islamic Banking

14 November 2018



# **Background of Islamic Finance: Ensuring Shariah Compliance**

- Malaysia, the Islamic finance industry is well supported by comprehensive market infrastructure, robust regulatory framework and dynamic market participants as the industry's key growth drivers.
- Compliance to Shariah has been the focus in ensuring legitimacy of Islamic financial products and services.
- The market share of total Islamic banking assets in Malaysia increased by 7.1% from 2010 to 28% in 2016.
- However, the decline in its annual growth rate from a double-digit 2011 (24.2%) to 8.2% in 2016 signals that the Islamic financial industry needs to explore further new opportunities for sustained growth.



of Islamic financial players

1997

Centralisation of Shariah advisory

Centralised Shariah advisory for Islamic

2007 of Islamic financial business

Developed legal and Shariah foundation and increased number of players to stimulate competition

### First Shariah Committee

Formed by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, the first Islamic bank established under Islamic Banking Act 1983



1980

#### Shariah Compliance Regulation for Islamic Windows

Issued Guidelines of Skim Perbankan Islam to ensure Shariah compliance by conventional banks carrying out Islamic banking services

### finance and enhanced certainty of Shariah via talent and knowledge institutions **Shariah Advisory Council**

Established as apex authority in Islamic finance to harmonise views among Islamic financial institutions



#### **Dedicated Muamalat Court**

Led towards greater efficiency in managing Islamic finance cases

Established IBFIM, INCEIF



ISRA

### Institutions **INCEIF**

and ISRA to nurture talents and generate knowledge. including in Shariah

Talent and Knowledge

Developed legal and regulatory framework to ensure end-to-end Shariah compliance of diversified Islamic financial business

#### CBA 2009

#### Finality of Shariah rulings

Shariah rulings by SAC bind the court and arbitrator



#### Shariah Governance

Strengthened roles and accountability of key functionaries in Islamic financial institutions



#### **Shariah Contract-Based** Regulatory Framework

Enforced legal and regulatory framework for diversified Shariah contracts

Source: BNM Strategy Document on Value-based Intermediation: Strengthening the Roles and Impact of Islamic Finance dated 12 March 2018

Value based Intermediation (VBI) is a Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM)-led initiative in moving the Islamic financial industry to the next level of growth whereby the underpinning thrust would be 'Shariah beyond compliance'



# **VBI: Beyond Profit/ Shariah Beyond Compliance**

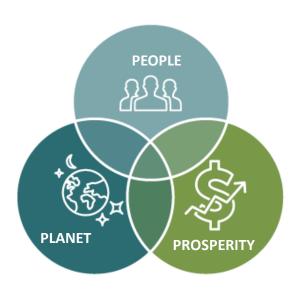
### What is VBI?

Strengthening the roles and impact of Islamic Finance by delivering the intended outcomes of Shariah through

practices, conduct and offerings that generate positive and sustainable impact to the economy, community

and environment, consistent with the shareholders' sustainable returns and long-term interests

Source: BNM Strategy Document on Value-based Intermediation: Strengthening the Roles and Impact of Islamic Finance dated 12 March 2018



### **Emphasis of VBI**

Whilst VBI shares the universal values of **ESG**, **SRI**, **ethical investment**, **etc.**, VBI encapsulates:

Shariah as the moral compass

Focus on the real economy

**Networking and cross-fertilisation** 



# **VBI: Benefits**

# Benefits of VBI

### **Financial Performance**

- Does not compromise financial objectives over the long run
- Generate stable earnings since avoid lumpies
- Attract new market segments (e.g. millennials with increasing consciousness, SMEs)
- Spur product innovation to meet demand

### **Compliance**

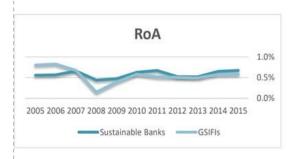
- Behave, since considers stakeholders' interests in decision-making
- Avoid misselling
- · Avoid regulatory action

#### **What Goes Around Comes Around**

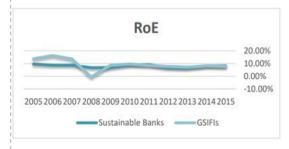
- Islamic banks do not live in a vacuum
- Avoid indirect cost of doing business in the future by minimising negative externalities

Contributes to overall financial and monetary stability

# **Empirical Study**



	Return on Asse	ets	
	5y (2011-2015)		
	Average	St. Dev.	
SFBs	0.64%	0.19%	
GSIFIS	0.53%	0.19%	
	10y (2006-2015)		
	Average	St. Dev	
SFBs	0.65%	0.26%	
	0.53%	0.35%	



	5y (2011-2015)	
	Average	St. Dev.
SFBs	8.0%	2.3%
GSIFIS	7.8%	3.3%
	10y (2006-2015)	
	Average	St. Dev.
	8.3%	4.9%
SFBs	0.370	4.770

SFB: Sustainability Focused Banks

GSIFI: Global Systemically Important Financial Institutions

Source: Real Economy – Real Returns: A Continuing Business Case for Sustainability focused Banking 2016 Research Report by the Global Alliance For Banking On Values

The SFBs generated more resilient financial returns than GSIFIs over the last ten years, with lower levels of volatility



# **AmBank Islamic: Putting VBI Into Practice**











# AmBank Group's current priorities in relation to VBI aspiration











Whilst VBI encompasses inter alia AmBank Group's 10 material sustainable matters,



would

prioritise material sustainable matters 6 and 7 in relation to its VBI aspiration



# AmBank Islamic: Putting VBI Into Practice (cont'd)

**Environmentally and Socially Responsible Investment** 

# **Financial Inclusion and Responsible Lending**

### Offerings:

- Credit card points towards endowment fund
- Collection solution via JomPAY for religious bodies





**Credit Underwriting**: Exploring the incorporation of the VBIAF



### **Sectoral Focus**: Grow SMEs by

- increasing the accessibility of banking solutions
- providing banking solutions which are suitable to customers' needs and financial capability

### **Networking & Cross-Fertilisation**:

- AmBank BizCLUB
- AmBank BizCONFERENCE
- AmBank BizRACE



**Socioeconomic Upliftment**: Affordable Home Financing Scheme



Leadership



Communication



Roadmap



**Capacity Building** 



# Islamic Credit Intermediary >> Value Based Intermediary

# **Islamic Credit Intermediary**

Shariah

To attain legitimacy

Mind-set

Focus on 'bankable' customers vis-à-vis repayment capabilities

**Products &** Services

Shariah-compliant products and services which are free of prohibited elements such as usury (riba) and speculation (maysir)

Customers

Business activities which are Shariah-compliant

Community **Empowerment** 

Leverages on CSR as the means to give back to society

Governance

Governance in practice has been driven primarily by regulations

Conduct

Safeguards bank's interests (e.g. product-push)

Disclosure

Existing disclosures mainly focus on financial performance

# Value Based Intermediary

**Drawing inspiration from Shariah** to create positive impact

Greater involvement in facilitating entrepreneurial activities through holistic offerings, which include financing and proactive support such as advisory and business network

Shariah-compliant products and services which are beyond compliance, but towards positively impact not only banking customers, but the wider stakeholders

Business activities which are Shariah-compliant, and do no harm to stakeholders (e.g. environment, society)

Balanced consideration between commercial and social aspects in navigating strategic decisions, thus creating the practice of giving back to society, beyond CSR

Inculcating organisational discipline (self-restraint) and ensuring meaningful participation of all stakeholders in the governance framework

Best conduct: practices that improve offerings, processes and treatments towards stakeholders (e.g. customers, employees), needs-based sales which minimise misselling

Enhanced transparency to include role and impact to wider stakeholders especially in the non-financial aspects such as facilitation of entrepreneurship and community well-being



# **VBI: What Next?**

### Key VBI Documents by BNM

### VBI Strategy Document 12 March 2018



"Islamic finance has its roots in creating social justice and promoting a values based economy. This initiative championed by BNM will set a new global standard for valuebased banking, and has the potential to create a platform for Islamic finance to lead the financial services industry into a new era."

Arsalaan Ahmed HSBC Amanah Malaysia Berhad



"Islamic finance, with all its ingrained principles, remains relevant in a world that is increasingly focused on societal and environmental wellbeing which operates within systems of clear governance. Islamic finance is well-postioned to lead inclusive growth that leverages on ecosystem of responsible finance."

Khairul Kamarudin Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad



"The time has now come for the Islamic finance to take the leadership role in ensuring all Shariah-compliant financing and solutions are also in line with sustainable development goals which are part of the higher objectives of Shariah. This transformation will further enhance the position of Islamic finance as a value-based financing."

Rafe Haneef
CIMB Islamic Bank Berhad



"Integrating value based principles into Islamic finance strong fundamentals, leadership and platform will complete the equation for an ethical and a more socially responsible banking environment."

Dato' Hj Mohd Redza Shah Abdul Wahid Bank Muamalat Malaysia Berhad



"The inherent principles of fairness and social responsibility which are intrinsically linked to being Shariah compliant, are poised to support the demand for value-based banking. Financial stability, sustainable ecosystem, efficient use of resources and innovation to create new market opportunity resonate with the increase in society's consciousness and thus present an enormous opportunity for Islamic finance."

Eqhwan Mokhzanee bin Muhammad Ambank Islamic Berhad



"Collectively, we have a responsibility to advocate value based governance and make lasting and impactful contributions to the society besides providing opportunities and growth for our business."

Dato' Mohamed Rafique Merican bin Mohd Wahiduddin Merican Maybank Islamic Bank Berhad





### **VBI Scorecard**

## **VBI Implementation Guide**

### **VBI** Assessment Framework

- The VBIAF provides guidance to facilitate the implementation of an impact-based risk management system for assessing the financing and investment decisions by Islamic banks in Malaysia
- The VBIAF also takes into consideration the current landscape and readiness of environmental and social sustainability practices in Malaysia, as well as adoption of national environmental and social regulations and policy priorities in the country



# Thank You

