



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



MALAYSIA UNESCO

COUNTRY PROGRAMMING DOCUMENT

2013-2016



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MESSAGE FROM

Director and Representative, UNESCO Office, Jakarta



UNESCO Office, Jakarta is pleased to present the first Malaysia-UNESCO Country Programming Document 2014-2017 (M-UCPD).

This is our blueprint of action in working with the Government of Malaysia and other key stakeholders to support national development goals and objectives along UNESCO's areas of competence in education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and communication & information. A consultative process was adopted during the preparation of the document and this ensured that the proposed programme is relevant to the needs of the government and people of Malaysia and enjoys the support of all key stakeholders in the country. While this M-UCPD is largely concerned with sectoral perspectives, it is also an important step in identifying opportunities for further intersectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation in accordance with UNESCO's cooperation philosophy.

The programmes and projects included in the M-UCPD are consistent with Malaysia's commitments to the UN Millennium Development Goals as well as the international cooperation priorities of Malaysia. Furthermore, the M-UCPD has been developed to support the country's national priorities as expressed in the Tenth Malaysian Plan (2011-2015) and Vision 2020, the culmination of a 30-year national development process to make Malaysia a fully developed country by the year 2020. The excellent collaboration between UNESCO and Malaysia is entering a new stage of stronger cooperation, notably, via the agreement of the Malaysia – UNESCO Cooperation Programme (MUCP) and the corresponding Malaysia-UNESCO Funds-In-Trust. UNESCO is committed to working closely with the government of Malaysia, the Malaysia National Commission for UNESCO, and the people of Malaysia in order to ensure the realization of the programme.

UNESCO Office, Jakarta is grateful to the Government of Malaysia for providing valuable inputs in the preparation of this M-UCPD 2014-2017. The projects and programs developed will be created with a strong partnership with the Government of Malaysia and its people and we believe will help realize the development goals of the country.

Hubert Gijzen, Ph.D

Director and Representative, UNESCO Office, Jakarta

MESSAGE FROM

The Government of Malaysia

The Malaysian Government welcomes the drafting of the Malaysian-UNESCO Country Programming Document 2013-2016 (M-UCPD) initiated by the UNESCO Office, Jakarta and prepared in cooperation with the UNESCO National Commission of Malaysia.

Proposed M-UCPD interventions are aligned with internationally-agreed development priorities to which Malaysia is committed. The cooperation between UNESCO and Malaysia will be strengthened substantially through Malaysia-UNESCO Funds-In-Trust, in particular as regards to the mobilization of expertise and services of Malaysian Category II Centres (ISTIC, International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation and the HTC, Humid Tropics Centre) and South-South cooperation for the benefit of the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region as well as for Africa, with particular emphasis on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDSs). The importance of cooperation with UNESCO has been highlighted through the launch of the "Hari UNESCO" (UNESCO Day) on November 18, 2011 by the Malaysian Government, which is now a regular event. The M-UCPD, a systematic approach to program planning and development, will serve as the overall framework in defining areas of partnership between UNESCO and various sectors of Malaysian society.

The National Commission envisions itself as playing a key role in the planning, management and evaluation of the programs and projects included in the M-UCPD. With its steadfast commitment to sustain the fruitful partnership between Malaysia and UNESCO, the National Commission looks forward to working closely with UNESCO in ensuring that the programs and projects under the M-UCPD are pursued and their development goals and objectives attained.

Hon. Tan Sri Muhyiddin Bin Yassin
UNESCO National Commission of Malaysia



ABBREVIATIONS

ADDRESS	: Adopting Disaster Risk Reduction in Education for Safer Schools
AIDS	: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
(AP) FRIEND	: (Asia Pacific) Flow Regimes from International and Experimental Network Data
ASEAN	: Association of South East Asian Nations
ASM	: Academy of Sciences Malaysia
BREES	: Biosphere Reserve for Environmental and Economic Security
CBD	: Convention on Biological Diversity
CCE	: Climate Change Education
COMPETENCE	: COMprehensive Program to Enhance Technology, Engineering and Science Education
CONNECT-Asia	: COLlaboration for Network-eNabled Education, Culture, Technology and Science
DESD	: Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
DRR	: Disaster Risk Reduction
ECCE	: Early Childhood Care and Education
EFA	: Education For All
ESD	: Education for Sustainable Development
EST	: Engineering Science and Technology
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
GER	: Gross Enrolment Rates
GHG	: Greenhouse Gases
GMR	: Global Monitoring Report
HDI	: Human Development Index
HIV	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HTC	: Humid Tropics Centre
IADG	: Internationally Agreed Development Goals
ICG/IOTWS	: Intergovernmental Coordination Group on Indian Ocean Tsunami Early Warning System
ICH	: Intangible Cultural Heritage
ICHARM	: International Centre for water Hazard And Risk Management
ICSU	: International Council for Science
ICT	: Information and Communication Technology
IHP	: International Hydrological Programme
IFI	: International Flood Initiative
IGC	: International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks
IOC	: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
ISTIC	: International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation

ABBREVIATIONS

LDC	: Least Developed Countries
MAB	: Man and the Biosphere Program
MARP	: Most at Risk Populations
MDG	: Millennium Development Goals
MOSTI	: Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
MUCP	: Malaysia-UNESCO Cooperation Programme
M-UCPD	: Malaysia-UNESCO Country Programming Document
MYREN	: Malaysian Research & Education Network
NBSAP	: National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NIED	: National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention
NPAS	: National Protected Areas System
NRE	: Natural Resources and Environment
NWRR	: National Water Resources Policy
OECD	: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OER	: Open Educational Resources
PISA	: Programme for International Student Assessment
RSC SEAP	: Regional Steering Committee for Southeast Asia and the Pacific
S&T	: Science and Technology
SCS	: Sciences for Society
SEAMEO	: Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization
SHS	: Social and Human Sciences
SIDS	: Small Island Developing States
SOP	: Standard Operating Procedures
SRA	: Situation and Response Analysis
STI	: Science, Technology and Innovation
SWITCH-in-Asia	: Sustainable Water Management Improves Tomorrow's City's Health in Asia
TEI	: Teacher Education Institutions
UN	: United Nations
UNESCO	: United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNITEN	: Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Malaysia
WB	: World Bank
WHC	: World Heritage Convention

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Purpose of the M-UCPD

The UNESCO Country Programming Document for Malaysia (M-UCPD) sets out the framework of the Organization's multi-sector cooperation strategy with Malaysia covering the period 2013-2016. The UNESCO Office in Jakarta prepared this M-UCPD with the Government of Malaysia to serve as a consolidated basis for UNESCO's support and cooperation with the country in accelerating the realization of its nationally set goals and its commitments to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in collaboration and harmony with a range of key stakeholders.

The excellent collaboration between UNESCO and Malaysia is entering a new stage of stronger cooperation, notably via the agreement of Malaysia-UNESCO Funds-In-Trust (where the Government of Malaysia will provide the financial contribution for supporting the implementation, through UNESCO, of projects jointly selected under the "Malaysia-UNESCO Cooperation Programme" (MUCP). This programme was launched by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the 35th session of the General Conference, pledging 5 million US\$ (plus 1 million US\$ per year). With this Fund, the cooperation between UNESCO and Malaysia will be strengthened substantially, in particular with regards to the mobilization of expertise and services of Malaysian Category II Centres (ISTIC, International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation and the HTC, Humid Tropics Centre) and South-South cooperation for the benefit of the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region as well as for Africa, with particular emphasis on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDSs). Further recognition of the important mandate of UNESCO was the launch of the "Hari UNESCO" (UNESCO Day) on November 18, 2011 by the Malaysian Government, an event now celebrated yearly.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Preparation process

The present M-UCPD was prepared based on the analysis of Malaysia's major issues and challenges and the national priorities and strategies as spelled out in various national reports, country assessments and other relevant publications. A desk study analysis was further enriched by the consultative and collaborative process, which was necessary to ensure that the elements contained reflect as much as possible the real "demand" side for UNESCO's support and the priority areas of cooperation.

Structure of the Document

This document is an overview of UNESCO's past, present and future action in Malaysia and is divided in three main parts: (1) Challenges and opportunities in Malaysia in UNESCO's fields of competence are examined and background information is provided, (2) UNESCO's past and present cooperation with the government of Malaysia is described, and (3) A proposed cooperation framework is outlined giving an indication of potential activities for UNESCO in Malaysia.

1 SITUATION ANALYSIS



Malaysia country profile

Located in the South-East Asia region, Malaysia shares its borders with 4 countries: Brunei, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. The country is characterized by its diversity with a 29 million multilingual population including Malays (49%), Chinese (23%), Indians (7%), other Bumiputera (11%) and others cultures (10%)¹.

Considered as an upper-middle-income country², it has experienced a remarkable economic growth for the last 40 years with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (current USD) from 468 USD in 1972 to 9 656 USD in 2011³. Malaysia is an open economy which has shifted from being an agricultural producer in 1970s to an industrial and services provider. Despite the shock of the 1997 Asian financial crisis, the country's economy has recovered and is growing at an annual average rate of 5% for the last ten years. It aspires to become a high-income country by 2020.

Over the last few decades, the country has improved its social development by experiencing progress in human development with its Human Development Index (HDI) today ranked 61 out of 187 countries⁴.

Table 1. Selected Key Indicators For Malaysia

Indicators	Data	East Asia and Pacific country average ⁵	Year
Population growth rate (annual %)	1,6	0,7	2011
GDP per capita (current USD – 2011)	9,656	4,713	2011
Inflation (GDP deflator) (annual %)	5,9	5,5	2011
Rural population (% of total population)	27	51	2011
Life expectancy (years)	74	72	2010

Sources: Data retrieved on October 16, 2012 from the World Bank

website: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/malaysia>, and International Human Development Indicators

website: <http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/mys.html>

1. UN (2011), Malaysia – The Millennium Development Goals at 2010 report, Kuala Lumpur, UN Country Team Malaysia
2. The World Bank classifies as upper-middle income those countries with Gross National Product per capita income between \$4,036 to \$12,475 in 2011.
3. Data retrieved on October 16, 2012 from the World Bank website: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/malaysia>
4. <http://hdrstats.undp.org/images/explanations/MYS.pdf>
5. American Samoa, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Korea Dem. Rep, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia Fed. Sts, Mongolia, Myanmar, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

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PERTINENT DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Background

Malaysia is on course to achieve most of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. It has dramatically reduced poverty with a national poverty rate that has fallen from 17% in 1990 to 4% in 2009 in both rural and urban areas, as well as nationally⁶. The country has also widened coverage of essential services such as healthcare and education. Primary school enrolment reached 98% in 2009 and achieved gender parity at all levels of education. Child mortality has been halved both under-five and infant mortality. These achievements were supported by innovative policies and strategies focusing on investments in physical infrastructure, primary education and primary healthcare services over the last four decades⁷. With regards to environmental sustainability, Malaysia is on track achieving MDG 7.

Despite these advances, Malaysia will face difficulties to achieve some MDGs. Although the country has made efforts to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary schools, women are still under-represented in political area. From the latest election in 2013, the proportion of seats held by women in national parliament is only 10.36%⁸. Health issues remain important, especially concerning maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis spread. Inequalities at poverty, income and other human development indicators levels still characterize the country at national level as GINI⁹ reveals it (increase from 37,9 in 2004 to 46,2 in 2009). Indeed, even if the poverty has been reduced, rural poverty remains, especially among the indigenous communities of Sabah and Sarawak.

Table 2 - Remaining MDGs to achieve in Malaysia

Goal 3	Promote gender equality and empower women	
	Target 3A	Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015 (more specifically female political representation)
Goal 5	Improve maternal health	
	Target 5A	Reduce, by $\frac{3}{4}$, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio
Goal 6	Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	
	Target 6B	Achieve by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it
	Target 6C	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases (tuberculosis still)

6. UN (2011), Malaysia – The Millennium Development Goals at 2010 report, Kuala Lumpur, UN Country Team Malaysia

7. UNDP (2012), Country Programme for Malaysia, 2013-2015

8. Data retrieved on November 13, 2013 from Inter Parliamentary Union website: http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2197_E.htm

9. The Gini index measures the extent to which the distribution of income among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Gini index of zero represents perfect equality and 100, perfect inequality (OECD)

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The Tenth National Plan (2011-2015)

“The Tenth Malaysian Plan sets another historical milestone as our nation embarks on an important mission towards a progressive and high-income nation, as envisioned in Vision 2020. We have achieved great strides in economic and social development in the past 53 years of nation building, but today we face a different dimension of new challenges.”

DATO' SRI MOHD NAJIB BIN TUN ABDUL RAZAK, Prime Minister, Malaysia¹⁰

The Tenth Malaysia Plan 2011-2015 is the key development strategy and planning instrument of the government which aspires to make Malaysia a high-income country as part of the “Vision 2020” concept. It designs appropriate policies that contribute to a rapid economic growth and to human development. In order to realize and even exceed the MDGs, the government is committed to the MDG-Plus agenda through this Plan, with 30% of the five-year development expenditures allocated to the social sector .

However, the country is still facing many development challenges in order to be the developed country it aspires to emulate. Therefore, in line with the “Malaysia: People First, Performance Now” concept, the government confirms its will to reduce socio-economic inequalities through the Tenth Malaysia Plan which emphasizes efforts on the vulnerable households categorized as the bottom 40%, especially on women, youth and indigenous communities. It focuses on enabling equitable opportunities for all Malaysians as well as on providing a social safety net for disadvantaged groups, including equitable access to health, education and basic infrastructure like water supply and road infrastructure.

UNESCO's commitment is to support Malaysia in reaching national priorities in connection with its mandate including education, science, and culture.

10. The Tenth Malaysian Plan 2011-2015 (2010)

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CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Education

Although the 1999-2008 period was marked by high economic growth, the middle income country of Malaysia has reduced the share of national income spent on education by 1.5 percentage points (while between 1999-2008 the world on average increased their share of national income invested in education by 5%, and the East Asia and Pacific region by 4.6%). Aid allocations for basic education in Malaysia is US\$2 or below per primary school age child . Nonetheless, pre-primary gross enrolment rates (GER) in Malaysia grew from approximately 55% in 1999 to approximately 65% in 2004 in Malaysia . Indeed, the government has shown its commitment to education by abolishing lower secondary school fees in order to improve access for children from disadvantaged group as an example. The implementation of education policy led to a gender gap in educational participation as results from the 2009 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) show an even stronger pattern in favor of girls in reading than earlier surveys, with girls performing significantly better than boys. In Malaysia, one in three girls and one in two boys on average failed to reach level 2, deemed the level at which students demonstrate reading skills that will enable them to participate effectively and productively in life (OECD, 2010). Malaysia is expected to meet the goal of halving their adult illiteracy rate by 2015 – with a literacy rate very close to 90% . Malaysia still has to enhance its education sector, especially in ensuring education for those who need it most and in providing high-quality education.

11. UN (2011), Malaysia – The Millenium Development Goals at 2010 report, Kuala Lumpur, UN Country Team Malaysia
 12. UNESCO (2011), Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2011
 13. UNESCO (2011), Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2011 East Asia and the Pacific Regional Overview
 14. UNESCO (2012), Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2012

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Table 3. Trends in basic or proxy indicators to measure EFA goals

EFA Goal 1		EFA Goal 2		EFA Goal 3				EFA Goal 4			
Early childhood care and education		Universal primary education		Learning needs of all youth and adults				Improving levels of adult literacy			
Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) in Pre-primary Education		Net Enrolment Rate (NER) in Primary Education		1985-1994		2005-2010		1985-1994		2005-2010	
School year ending in		School year ending in									
1999	2010	1999	2010								
Total (%)	Total (%)	Total (%)	Total (%)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)
54	67	95	...	96	0.99	98	1.00	83	0.87	93	0.95
EFA Goal 5								EFA Goal 6			
Gender parity in primary education				Gender parity in secondary education				Educational quality			
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)				Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)				Survival rate to grade 5		Pupil/Teacher ratio in primary education	
School year ending in				School year ending in				School year ending in		School year ending in	
1999		2010		1999		2009		1999	2009	1999	2010
Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	GPI (F/M)	Total (%)	Total (%)		
95	0.98	66	1.08	68	1.07	87	98	20	13

Source: 2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report: Youth and skills: Putting education to work (UNESCO, 2012)

A system/mechanism for regular monitoring and evaluation of the National EFA Action Plan needs to be strengthened and implemented to support EFA by 2015 and beyond. In addition, there is a need to improve utilization of data to strengthen evidence-based educational decision and policy making. There should also be a one-stop data collection centre that is able to fully capture educational data and eliminate duplication of identical data by different divisions across the federal, state and district levels.

Surveys, analysis and research revealed that Malaysia's students lack Higher Order Thinking Skills. The Ministry of Education strongly believes that Higher Order Thinking Skills should be incorporated in the teaching-learning process through implementation of various teaching and learning tools and methods.

Malaysia is on its mark to achieve the sixth goal of the MDGs concerning HIV and AIDS. Malaysia Ministry of Health reported a steady decline of new reported new HIV cases since 2002. The notification rate of HIV decreases from 27 cases per 100,000 population in 2003 to 23.4 in 2005 and 12.8 cases in 2010. As the epidemic mostly occurs among Most at Risk Populations (MARPs), the National Strategic Plan 2011-2015 focuses on service coverage among MARPs.

15. UNESCO (2012), Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2012

16. Malaysia's Country Report for the "13th Regional Meeting of National EFA Coordinators" (26-27 February 2013, Bangkok, Thailand)

17. idem

18. Malaysia National Strategy Plan on HIV and AIDS 2011-2015 http://www.moh.gov.my/images/gallery/Report/NSP_AIDS_2011_2015.pdf

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Natural Sciences

Science and Technology. Malaysia is well known for its achievements, capacity and expertise in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), as reflected in their universities, research centres, and in their academic outputs in terms of scientific publications, patents, etc. Under the current national plan, information technology infrastructure will be substantially extended in order to facilitate connectivity to the global knowledge network. The Malaysia Research and Education Network (MYREN) will be further promoted to allow Malaysian researchers to connect to the global research community.

Environmental Sciences. Malaysia, under the leadership of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) has made considerable progress towards achieving MDG 7 and is expected to achieve this millennium development goal.. The proportion of the country's land areas covered by forest has reached 62,4% in 2010 , aligning with its commitment to achieve this MDG, as pledged in the Rio Summit in 1992. Malaysia has committed to adopt an indicator of a reduction up to 40% of emissions intensity of GDP by 2020 relative to 2005 levels on condition of financial and technology transfer from Annex 1 parties. However, these achievements in environmental management, based on the National Environment Policy, the Climate Change Policy and the National Environmental Quality Act 1974, still have to be intensified as the proportion of land areas covered by forest has decreased since a decade falling from 65,8% in 2000 to 62,4% in 2010. Moreover, the flora of

Malaysia is very rich and estimated to contain about 15,000 species of higher plants with over 1,100 species of ferns, many of which are endemic. The National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) aims at ensuring that biodiversity in Malaysia will be conserved and utilized in a sustainable manner. Its vision is to transform Malaysia into a centre of excellence for conservation, research and sustainable use of tropical biodiversity by the year 2020. In addition to the NPSAB, Malaysia has also developed a number of sectoral policies and laws governing biodiversity, such as the National Forestry Policy, National Environment Policy, 3rd National Agriculture Policy, National Wetlands Policy, Forestry Act 1984, Wildlife Protection Act 1972, National Park Act 1980 and Fishery

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Act 1985. At a sectoral level, agencies have also identified priority areas, including developing policy for protection of plant genetic resources, inventorying poorly-known groups of biological organisms such as lower plants and insect diversity, increasing the number of Virgin Jungle Reserves and implementing the National Policy for Integrated Coastal Zones Management. Malaysia made a commitment to maintain at least 50% of its forest cover and trees in perpetuity at the Rio Summit in 1992.

Malaysia attaches great importance to establishing protected areas for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and geodiversity. At least 7 out of the 87 actions listed in the NPSAB are related to protected areas. In recent years, there has been a positive response to declare state lands as national protected areas, resulting in an increase in the number of National Parks. Despite progress in the establishment of protected areas, there are still habitats that are under-represented, such as limestone hills and coastal dipterocarp forests. Tasik Chini, the only Biosphere Reserve existing in Malaysia consists mainly of lowland dipterocarp forests and a freshwater lake. The National Committee on the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme is chaired by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Malaysia was the first Asian country outside China to create a Global Geopark and since 2007, Langkawi Global Geopark has been instrumental in building capacity for Global Geopark development not only in south-east Asia but also across the world. In 2010 Malaysia created a national committee on Geoparks, and in 2013 Malaysia sought advice from UNESCO Headquarters on creating a Malaysian fund for Geoparks to empower developing country participation.

Water Sciences. Located in a humid tropical area, Malaysia is endowed with abundant water resources. In support of Vision 2020 towards achieving developed-nation status, Malaysia will conserve and manage its water resources to ensure adequate and safe water for all. In 2010, the proportion of the population using improved drinking water sources reached 100% and 96% of the population had access to improved sanitation facilities. Although Malaysia has succeeded in achieving the MDG target of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, many people in the states of Kelantan, Terengganu, Sabah and Sarawak remain without access to either or both. The government needs to take actions to meet their needs and more generally to ensure an efficient provision of public utilities and services. During the Plan period, the National Water Resources Policy (NWRP) will outline measures to ensure efficient and effective water management in an era of rapid economic development, growing cities and population growth.

The areas of actions are listed in the Table 4 below.

1. Managing water endowment and supply
2. Developing a Long-Term Strategy for Water Resources Management to Achieve Water Security
3. Continuing Efforts to Restructure the Water Services Industry
4. Protecting Rivers from Pollution

Source: The Tenth Malaysian Plan 2011-2015 (2010): http://www.pmo.gov.my/dokumenattached/RMK/RMK10_Eds.pdf

20. WHO-UNICEF (2012) Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, Estimates for the use of Improved Drinking-Water Sources
 21. Data retrieved on October 16, 2012 from the World Bank website: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/malaysia>

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In addition to flood issue, Malaysia has also to address river water quality and pollution since 98% of the total water used originates from rivers. Domestic and industrial sewage as well as palm oil mills effluent among others contribute to the degradation of river water quality. For this purpose, the Plan includes the expansion of the implementation of the Integrated Water Resources Management and Integrated River Basin Management approaches in planning, managing, protecting and rehabilitating water resources. The Government will provide RM5 billion for flood mitigation programmes which includes the application of the Integrated Flood Management approach to manage the risks of flood damage through forecasting and warning facilities and flood hazard maps. In addition, research and development efforts will be intensified in area of conservation of water resources to support efforts to develop a sustainable water sector for the national economy.



Despite these commitments towards a sustainable environment, the country has still to address the implementation part of environmental policies which has to be improved including better coordination, monitoring and evaluation at the federal and state levels. Stronger institutional and technical capacities as well as an appropriate legislative framework for environmental and resource management and climate change are needed.

Disaster Risk Reduction. In order to face the growing challenges due to climate change, the government ensures through the Plan that it will increase the national budget for the development of disaster preparedness and community awareness programmes.

Social and Human Sciences

Youth participation is a critical driver of the nation's growth as a key source of capable talent to support the human capital needs of the economy. In 2009, the youth population constituted 41.5% of the population and the number of youth employed stood at 7.1 million. The Government recognizes the vital importance of youth in the economy, therefore the Tenth National Plan aims

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to better prepare them to undertake their roles in contributing towards national development. A Cabinet Committee on Youth Development chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister has been established to coordinate and update the delivery system for youth development programmes. The objective of these programmes is to produce a youth population that is capable in the areas of skills, entrepreneurship and leadership. Besides, the Government will nurture positive attitudes towards volunteerism and promote the spirit of solidarity amongst all Malaysians. The Government will also strengthen and develop youth associations through leadership and management courses to ensure the associations are financially independents.

Culture

Culture and tourism are two main areas that are categorized as key national strategies for growth. The cultural and tourism industry has played an important role in the economic development of Malaysia, especially since the country is a signatory to the 1972 UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Since then, four Malaysian World Heritage Sites were inscribed under this Convention including two World Cultural Heritage sites: Melaka and George Town, Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca and the Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley. The two natural heritage sites are Kinabula Park and Gunung Mulu National Park.

2 PAST AND PRESENT COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP



EDUCATION

The activities of the Education unit of UNESCO Jakarta have contributed to the achievements of the thrust 2 of the National Mission: “Raising the capacity for knowledge and innovation and nurture ‘first class mentality’”.

Principal UNESCO activities

In supporting *promotion of the Education for All (EFA) goals*, the country continues to actively participate in various EFA coordination meetings to discuss with other countries and EFA partners progresses towards meeting the six EFA goals and review strategies to accelerate achievement of the EFA goals. Information gained are shared with relevant agencies and stakeholders, who will be encouraged to use them in their policy planning and direction. In addition, together with all UNESCO Member States, Malaysia is currently undertaking and developing their National EFA 2015 Review. Using the National reports, UNESCO will then systematically analyze the EFA process and progress at the regional and global levels, which will be used to prepare the 2015 global conference in Seoul (Republic of Korea) aimed to establish the post-2015 global education agenda.

The Ministry of Education of Malaysia is implementing their newly developed “Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025 Programmes and Activities”. The Education Blueprint includes 11 identified shifts that need to occur to deliver change in outcomes envisioned by all Malaysians. Notably these shifts are to:

- Provide equal access to quality education of an international standard;
- Develop values-driven Malaysians;
- Transform teaching into a profession of choice;
- Leverage ICT to scale-up quality learning across Malaysia; and
- Strengthen and widen partnerships with parents, communities, and the private sector.

UNESCO Office, Jakarta has assisted the country in *strengthening Inclusive Education*, particularly through development, adaptation and adoption of a “Standards, Guidelines and Indicators for Strengthening School-to-Post-School Transition Programmes for Students with Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairments”. The document covers 6 domains: (1) Raising awareness of the right to education and the right to employment; (2) Strengthening policies; (3) Strengthening personnel involved in transition; (4) Strengthening educational services for students with disabilities; (5) Strengthening cooperation; and (6) Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and accountability. Support has also been provided to assist the Ministry of Education in strengthening the country’s transition support programmes for learners with disabilities, in cooperation with Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In *strengthening HIV Preventive Education*. UNESCO Office, Jakarta Office supported Government of Malaysia to develop a “Situation and Response Analysis (SRA) of the Education Sector’s Response to HIV, Drugs and Sexuality in Malaysia” in 2011. The SRA maps the sector’s current response and planning of future policy and programming. This was followed by a workshop on “Reviewing the Education Sector’s Response to HIV, Drugs and Sexuality in Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Timor-Leste” on 12-13 April 2011 in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) which was attended by writers of the SRAs and National Commission for UNESCO representatives from selected countries. In addition, to raise awareness on HIV and AIDS through sexual reproductive health education, UNESCO Office, Jakarta supported media professional to participate in a “Workshop on Socializing HIV Prevention through Journalism and Social Media with Opportunities in Non-Formal Education in Timor Leste, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines” in September 2011. The event also lightly focused on enriching the UNESCO Tertiary HIV e-Learning Distance Course for Malay-speaking countries, launched in February 2012.

In *strengthening Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)*, UNESCO Office, Jakarta has supported Malaysia in assessing progress and in strengthening provision of ESD, Climate Change Education (CCE), Education for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), as well as in developing capacities of their Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) in reorienting teacher education to address sustainability. Through sharing of experiences and good practices, country representatives have gained deeper knowledge to improve the quality and relevance of their social studies curriculum based on the framework of ESD in Southeast Asia and the green school concept. Teachers from Malaysia can now better exchange of concepts, practice/experience, knowledge, skills regarding the implementation of ESD/CCE at the regional level through their participation in a *Green School Action Project Network* has been established. Policy maker responsible for ESD have enhanced their awareness on ESD’s potential in making education more relevant, and have strengthened their capacities in providing advice when implementing ESD.

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Opportunities and challenges for cooperation

Malaysia is on the way to achieving universal primary education with 96,3% gross school enrolment. This success is partly attributed to the government's commitment to education as "human capital development is an economic imperative and lies at the foundation of transforming Malaysia from a middle-income to a high-income nation" (the Tenth Malaysia Plan – 2011-2015). Besides, the gender gap in educational participation has been eliminated at primary and secondary levels, while women now exceed men at tertiary level. In order to improve access to high-quality education, the Tenth Malaysia-Plan includes a complete reform of the human capital development from upgrading early childhood education to up skilling the existing adult workforce. It comprises, among others, the enhancement of the quality of teachers, the upgrade of tertiary education and equitable access to opportunities for upgrading skills and supporting those that need help the most.

Although Malaysia has mostly exceeded the six EFA targets, close attention still needs to be put on the following issues²³:

- Attention needs to be paid to issue of under-performing boys at the basic education level.
- More attention needs to be paid to improve the quality of both formal and non-formal education provided.
- There are still a small percentage of children who are not in primary school.
- There is a need to continuously strengthen Information and Communication Technology (ICT) literacy and 21st century skills to keep up with the rapid global technological changes.
- There is a need to strengthen student abilities in mastering English, which is critical for graduates to find jobs.
- Difficulties are faced in reaching the unreached or the least served, due to financial constraints, geographical distance, poverty, and/or conditions that impede proper modes of transportation.
- There is a need to bridge the generation gap between teachers and students who have different mindsets and communication styles.
- Collection of data is also an obstacle. Among the data that need to be collected and updated are the exact numbers of school-aged children; unregistered and undocumented children (citizens and non-citizens); and unregistered centers, schools and religious schools that are currently operating in the country.
- Certain ethnic groups in the country do not see the importance of education in ensuring a better future. Therefore, they sometimes refuse to allow their children to attend school, or attend on a regular basis.

The above issues need to be addressed as we approach the 2015 goal, as well as be included in the post-2015 education development agenda for the country.

23. Extracts from report of Ms. Zaleha Binti Abdul Hamid and Ms. Mazlin Binti Mazlan for participation in the "13th Regional Meetings of National EFA Coordinators: The Big Push" (Bangkok, Thailand, 26-27 February 2013).

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Lessons learned

Sharing of knowledge, good practices, and publications serve as effective means to strengthen capacities of the Cluster Countries in improving their education programmes. Close communication needs to be continually strengthened and maintained with the Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO.

NATURAL SCIENCES

Principal UNESCO activities

Science and Technology. During the Ninth Malaysia Plan, higher investment in information and communication technology has contributed to the improvement of higher total factor productivity. UNESCO has been working with MYREN (Malaysian Research & Education Network), the Malaysia's national research and education ICT network under the Ministry of Higher Education, through the COLlaboration for Network-eNabled Education, Culture, Technology and science - Asia (CONNECT-Asia) initiative. It is a partnership of national, sub-regional, and regional ICT networks, created in June 2009 to share experiences on information and communication technologies and work together for education and research. Within the framework of "Mobilizing Science Knowledge for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific through Information and Communication Technologies," Jakarta Office has organized many educational events since 2008 with MYREN. The events include international seminar on "Harnessing Technology for Global Collaboration," and a variety of e-learning courses on Science, Engineering and Energy. Besides, Jakarta office has been maintaining close partnerships with Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy institutions and organizations in Malaysia including the International Council for Science (ICSU) Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation Malaysia (MOSTI), the Center for South-South Cooperation for Science, Technology and Innovation (ISTIC) and Academy of Sciences

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Malaysia (ASM). Science and Technology unit also organized a variety of STI policy conferences such as the Rio+20 Regional Workshop for Asia and the Pacific, and 22nd Pacific Science Congress. Finally, together with Albukhary International University of Malaysia and International experts, COMPETENCE program developed a review and conceptual paper on sustainability science and proposed recommendations on the integration of Sustainability Science in UNESCO programming.

Environmental Sciences. The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme has established Tasik Chini catchment as a biosphere reserve focusing on the monitoring of tourism management of the natural ecosystem of the lake and the surrounding areas. Similar efforts have been made in the Langat River basin and the Putrajaya Lake to conserve biodiversity and manage water resources for sustainable development. Malaysia regularly participates in sub-regional and global MAB events, including the South-East-Asian Biosphere Reserve Network and World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

Water Sciences. The Malaysian National Committee for International Hydrological Programme (IHP) has shown active collaboration in the IHP activities in the Asia Pacific region. Indeed, Malaysia has hosted many events related to IHP UNESCO's activities in the region such as international seminar "Flood Forecasting and Warning System for tropical regions" held at the campus of the University Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) in Kuala Lumpur in May 2010, as well as two IHP Regional Steering Committee for Southeast Asia and the Pacific meetings (RSC SEAP) in 2002 and 2012. Besides, as part of UNESCO's regional network, Malaysia has also produced comprehensive studies and research activities on catchments with particular focus on communities and major stakeholders in terms of relations/interactions between people and water in the Asia Pacific region.

Within the framework Asia Pacific Flow Regimes from International and Experimental Network Data (AP FRIEND), the Malaysian National Committee for IHP has contributed to the development of the Catalogue of Rivers. Five river basins in Malaysia were incorporated in the Catalogue of Rivers, i.e. Rajang Batang River, Sungai Johor, Kelantan River, Chalok River and Pahang River. Within the framework of AP FRIEND and the International Flood Initiative (IFI), an assessment on flood forecasting and warning system for Asia Pacific regions was developed by UNESCO Office Jakarta with two UNESCO's category II centres, International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management

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(ICHARM) and Humid Tropics Centre (HTC) Kuala Lumpur as well as UNITEN. The study is also interlinked with the Disaster Reduction Hyperbase, developed by National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) Japan, which will be the web dissemination platform for IHP projects in SEAP. UNESCO Jakarta has supported HTC to perform its roles as clearing house for sharing of information within the region and strengthen experimental hydrology research as well as science policies at basin level management through series of workshops and training courses. UNESCO Jakarta has also been supporting the participation of Malaysian scientists and government officials to the IHP Nagoya Training Courses which are held annually in Japan.

Earth Sciences. In 2007, the Langkawi archipelago became the first area in Asia outside China to join the Global Geoparks Network. IN 2008, Langkawi hosted a regional workshop on Global Geopark development and in 2010 it was host to the 4th International Conference on Geoparks. In partnership with UKM (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia), the Langkawi Global Geopark continues



to play a leading role in the development of Global Geoparks across the region.. Members of the Global Geoparks Network get together biannually and fully benefit from their membership of a global network of exchange and cooperation on national geological heritage initiatives

Disaster Risk Reduction. There were no UNESCO disaster risk reduction programmes and/or activities executed in 2009-2013. However, Malaysia always attended the UNESCO/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Intergovernmental Coordination Group on Indian Ocean Tsunami Early Warning System (ICG/IOTWS) and sent participants to training organized by ICG/IOTWS.

Science for Society. UNESCO Jakarta's Sciences for Society (SCS) Unit's mandate is to promote traditional ecological knowledge of local and indigenous peoples as essential to the conservation of biological and cultural diversity, and thus an integral building-block for sustainable development. The SCS Unit works at the ground level together with communities and local knowledge holders to promote recognition of their expertise on the natural environment, to protect their knowledge and to reinforce their contribution to a more equitable governance policy for natural resources management. For 2009 – 2013, however, SCS Unit has not implemented activities in Malaysia.

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Opportunities and challenges for cooperation

Science and Technology. Malaysia is no longer a developing country and keenly aware of her increasing leadership role among Southeast Asian region particularly in Science and Technology Policy area.

Environmental Sciences. Remarkable economic growth in Malaysia linked with industrialization over the past three decades has resulted in deforestation, soil erosion, endanger species, and a whole range of other problems of the natural environment and ecosystems. River pollution by mine wastewater and sludge began with the rapid development of tin mining, a traditional industry that started at the turn of the century about 100 years ago. In later years, other traditional industries such as natural rubber and palm oil production caused further pollution of rivers and seas. The government has begun applying a preventive approach rather than the curative effort undertaken previously. Short-, medium- and long-term environmental policy objectives now guide environmental management in Malaysia. Those policy objectives are enshrined in the five-year development plans, the Tenth Malaysia Plan (2011-2015), and the First Malaysia Statement: the Way Forward Towards Vision 2020. During the Plan period, Malaysia will adopt a dual strategy in addressing climate change impacts: firstly, adaptation strategies to protect economic growth and development factors from the impact of climate change; and secondly, mitigation strategies to reduce emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs).

Through the establishment of a National Protected Areas System (NPAS) protected areas increased in numbers in recent years. However, several habitats are still under-represented in the NPAS, such as limestone hills and coastal dipterocarp forests. Biosphere Reserves, which consist of representative ecosystems are tools to reconcile conservation with sustainable development. To date only one Biosphere Reserve has been designated in Malaysia. The strengthening of the MAB programme and Biosphere Reserves in Malaysia constitutes an opportunity to meet national development and conservation targets.

The MDG assessment has shown that Malaysia faces coordination challenges around MDG 7. While legislation and regulations are in place for moving towards sustainable development, the institutional, human, and financial resources to enforce these measures act as constraints. This is particularly evident where, for example, national-level legislation has to be implemented by

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state agencies. The MAB-programme through national MAB committees constitutes an opportunity to strengthen inter-institutional coordination, including between central and decentralized government structures towards meeting sustainable development and conservation goals. The Malaysian MAB committee has the potential to become a stronger actor in improved coordination.

Challenges also remain in the area of meeting targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on implementation of access and benefit sharing. The National Biodiversity-Biotechnology Council is coordinating the management of Malaysia's biodiversity resources. However, legal requirements to ensure that there is access to, and benefit sharing of these resources, including equitable benefits for traditional knowledge are not achieved, yet. UNESCO's MAB promotes the conservation of genetic resources and traditional knowledge and encourages the role of genetic resources and traditional knowledge in sustainable development. Biosphere Reserves can serve as tools to further this objective.



Water Sciences. Through the Tenth Malaysia Plan, the government shows its will to continue to promote an optimal balance between development and environment. Measures will be implemented for an Integrated Water Resources Management and Integrated River Basin Management approaches in planning, managing, protecting and rehabilitating water resources. More efforts will be put on water quality monitoring and on measures to minimize pollution, especially in rivers. With 189 water basins and an average annual rainfall of over 2,500 mm, Malaysia is prone to significant floods, not only due to natural phenomena but also to uncontrolled development activities in the river catchment area which increase the river runoff and decrease the river capacity. The Department of Irrigation and Drainage has promoted flood mitigation measures to reduce flood damage such as flood control dams, detention storages, river improvements, diversion channels and drainage pumps.

Science for Society. As one of the twelve "mega diverse" countries in the world, Malaysia's rich biological resources have given rise to a wide range of local and indigenous knowledge, which has been instrumental in the sustainable use of natural resources in Malaysia. Indigenous people of Malaysia represent 12% of the 28.6 million people in the country, with a total of 53 indigenous ethnic groups. Over the centuries, these peoples have developed unique systems to safeguard and establish a peaceful existence for their communities, which in turn have resulted in sustainable

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livelihoods and use of resources within their surroundings. Such knowledge systems can also be used to build local and indigenous peoples' resilience to global changes, including climate change. To protect and strengthen such local and indigenous knowledge and practices, the Government of Malaysia has recognized Customary Law as a legal system in the country, besides Common Law and Islamic Law.

Lessons learned

Science and Technology. Malaysia has already developed excellent mechanisms to strengthen institutional research capacity through networked centers of excellence, South-South and North-South partnerships and university – industry alliances. In addition, as Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO has been working with UNESCO Headquarters more closely than Jakarta office as a regional science bureau, UNESCO should have a clear system to indicate member states how they collaborate with UNESCO HQ, regional office and cluster office for future programming.

Environmental Sciences. There is a great opportunity to apply scientific conservation methods using the lessons learnt from the global network of biosphere reserves under the MAB Programme which is an Intergovernmental Scientific Programme aiming to set a scientific basis for the improvement of the relationships between people and their environment globally. Such an approach has demonstrated benefits MAB has established Tasik Chini catchment as a biosphere reserve focusing on the monitoring of tourism management of the natural ecosystem of the lake and the surrounding areas. Similar efforts have made in the Langat River basin and the Putrjaya lake to conserve biodiversity and manage water resources for sustainable development. The experience gained by collaborating partners can be useful to other countries for knowledge transfer through South-South cooperation between Malaysia with other Asian countries and Africa.

Water Sciences. Malaysia has been an active member of UNESCO's regional network by participating in regional programmes and publications led by the Water Sciences unit of UNESCO Jakarta within the Asia-Pacific region such as the RSC SEAP, APFRIEND, HELP, Ecohydrology and the Catalogue of River For Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Within the framework of Malaysia Vision 2020, the country could be a pilot site for innovative projects that could be replicated in other countries of the Asia Pacific region.



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2nd Country
Report Meeting
on Education
for Sustainable
Development
(Jakarta, 20-21
June 2011)

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Principal UNESCO activities

The Social and Human Sciences (SHS) unit has a vital role to play in helping to understand and interpret social, political and economic environment. SHS Jakarta is established at a time of important steps toward social and political changes in the South-East Asia region. SHS Jakarta program strategy aims to develop a coherent and consolidated programme with two large initiatives: youth civic engagement, and social dimension of global environmental changes. It aims to support and guide nationally owned development policies and programs, and address the needs of the most vulnerable, marginalized and disadvantaged groups. UNESCO in collaboration with Malaysian research institutions has for instance initiated policy research on developing a common understanding of the concept of “sustainability sciences”.

Opportunities and challenges for cooperation

Malaysia's National Youth Policy dates from 1985. It was amended as a Youth Development Policy in 1992 and, after a participatory review process, converted into the Youth Societies and Youth Development Act in 1997. As of 1996, the Malaysian national development plans also include chapters on young people. Moreover, volunteerism is one of the strategies outlined in the Youth Societies and Youth Development Act, and the government is generally supportive of volunteerism.

Lessons learned

While Social and Human Sciences sector has not yet implemented activities in Malaysia it is envisaged that this Malaysia-UCPD will be the catalyst for greater cooperation in the future.

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CULTURE

Principal UNESCO activities

One key area of UNESCO's activities has been facilitating Malaysia's participation in numerous international meetings and capacity-building activities in regards to the implementation of UNESCO's Conventions. Considering that Malaysia did not yet ratify the 1970 Convention concerning the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property, it is strongly encouraged to rapidly become party to this treaty as well as to the UNIDROIT 1995 Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (Rome, 1995), its complement in international private law. These two conventions are the basic international treaties for the fight against illicit traffic and restitution of cultural objects that have been stolen or illegally exported from their country of origin.

In 2010, Malaysia participated in the International Workshop on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) through International Cooperation which was held in Bangkok. Despite the country's status as a State not party to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH, Malaysia continued to participate in international meetings dealing with ICH such as the Training Course for ICH Safeguarding in Brunei Darussalam and the ICHCAP Sub-Regional Meetings for the Safeguarding of ICH in Asia Pacific in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

In regards to the implementation of the 1972 Convention of the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, as a signatory state, Malaysia has also been actively involved in international events related to the protection and conservation of the World Heritage Sites such as the Regional Meeting on 2nd Cycle Periodic Reporting of World Heritage Sites in Asia Pacific which was held in Suwon, Republic of Korea in 2011. Malaysia has been elected as a member of the inter-governmental World Heritage Committee since November 2011.

A further area of collaboration between UNESCO and Malaysia is the 2012 UNESCO Award of Excellence for Handicrafts in South and Southeast Asia. This event was organized by the UNESCO

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Office in Bangkok in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, Communications, and Culture of Malaysia, Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation (Kraftangan Malaysia), and with the support of the Crafts Council of Malaysia and Society Atelier Sarawak. From the 23-26 of October 2012, the UNESCO Award of Excellence expert panel examined 119 handicrafts submissions from Southeast Asia and 70 handicrafts submissions from South Asia. The panel named 47 products from South-East Asia and 33 products from South Asia as the award recipients of the year 2012. The international panel of experts systematically judged submissions through four key criteria, including; excellence in production and design; expression of identity, innovation and marketability; and all essential attributes for outstanding craft creations. By recognizing such characteristics in craftsmanship, the programme aims to set quality standards, raise international awareness and strengthen the promotional potential for Asian handicraft products.

For World Heritage programme, the Government of Malaysia has made considerable efforts in promoting the World Heritage Convention, for instance, with the support of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, an Exhibition on Malaysian World Heritage properties was organized at UNESCO Headquarter in February 2012 to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Convention. Further activities have been under discussion by the World Heritage Centre and the Department of National Heritage of Malaysia to improve the state of conservation of World Heritage properties such as Melaka and George Town and Gunung Mulu National Park to ensure effective management of these sites. Moreover, Malaysia being rich in both biodiversity and in cultural diversity, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Jakarta will cooperation with the authorities to update and harmonize its national Tentative List for World Heritage inscription to better reflect the country's diversity.

Opportunities and challenges for cooperation

The Tenth Malaysian Plan 2011-2015 aims to achieve high income, sustainability and inclusiveness in the economic transformation for the sustainable benefit of society. It underlines Malaysia's goal to elevate the country's economic level to a global stage by fostering national capacity in the private and government sectors. The Plan affirms the necessity of enhancing communities' capacity



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in industry and entrepreneurship, thus ensuring equal opportunity for the most vulnerable sectors of the society to improve their livelihoods.

Culture and tourism are two main areas that are categorized as key national strategies for growth. The cultural and tourism industry has played an important role in the economic development of Malaysia, especially since the country is a signatory to the 1972 UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and has four World Heritage Sites inscribed under this Convention. Malaysia also has an indigenous practice of living culture, the Mak Yong Theatre, was inscribed on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity under the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, although the country has not yet ratified the Convention.

Despite the fact that the country has not yet ratified the 2003 Convention, Malaysia has one element inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, the 'Mak Yong Theatre' (proclaimed Masterpiece in 2005, incorporated in the Representative List on 4 November 2008), an ancient theatre form created by Malaysia's Malay communities combining acting, vocal and instrumental music, gestures and elaborate costume.

In regards to the tourism sector, Malaysia ranked 16th in the world in terms of global inbound tourism receipts, capturing approximately 2% of global market share in 2008. The tourism industry employs 1.7 million workers or approximately 16% of total employment as of 2008. During 2006-2009, revenue from the tourism industry increased 67.1% to RM 53.4 billion and tourist arrivals increased 43.6% to 23.6 million.

Despite these achievements, there are still some challenges including the need to develop vibrant and iconic tourism products, improve maintenance of existing tourism sites and adopting focused tourism promotions.

Lessons learned

Culture can play an important role in the income generation and sustainable development that Malaysia aims to achieve through the Tenth Malaysian Plan 2011-2015. Within the framework of UNESCO's Conventions, particularly the 1972 Convention of the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the Malaysian Government and UNESCO have the opportunity to enhance collaboration in order to achieve improvements in the livelihoods of the most vulnerable community members through the effective protection of tangible and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

3 PROPOSED COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

The Malaysia-UNESCO Funds-in-Trust

The Government of Malaysia and UNESCO have agreed to strengthen their cooperation in education, science, culture, communication and information by the signing in April 2012 of an Agreement on a Malaysia-UNESCO Funds-in-Trust (FIT) as stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding concluded on 15 November 2011. This indeed presents a positive and exciting development, where Malaysian institutions and experts will cooperate with UNESCO to contribute to the enhancement of South-South Co-operation in education, sciences, and culture for the benefit of the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region as well as for Africa, with particular emphasis on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDSs).

With an initial contribution of 5 million USD and an annual contribution of 1 million USD, the Fund consists of a General Fund and individual project accounts to be established as and when the projects to be implemented under the Fund are approved by the Government of Malaysia. These projects will mobilize Malaysian experts and institutions and UNESCO's networks in the attainment of the Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs), including the MDGs and the six Dakar EFA Goals. The Malaysia-UNESCO FIT is an opportunity to develop joint projects in UNESCO's fields of competence. The following parts describe programmes and projects proposed by the Organization for the country in education, science and culture.

Education

The cooperation framework for this Malaysia-UCPD aligns proposed UNESCO programmes with the country's Vision 2020 and Tenth Malaysia Plan 2011-2015. The Education Unit in the Jakarta Office assists cluster country governments in meeting the goals of the global EFA and Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD). Our major emphasis is in encouraging and supporting reforms in the development of quality, effective and efficient education systems by assisting people, particularly impoverished and marginalized groups, gain access to educational opportunities, resolve social conflicts, and compete more effectively in the global market. Our efforts focus on improving the quality of basic education by removing barriers to participation and learning. We also help develop innovative solutions for the effective and adequate provision of appropriate out of school education for disadvantaged women, children in difficult circumstances and in poor and remote areas, children with special needs, and illiterate and unskilled adults. To support the objectives of Malaysia's Vision 2020 and Tenth Malaysia Plan 2011-2015, UNESCO is proposing two programme initiatives to: (1) strengthen Education for Sustainable Development; and (2) assist the country in accelerating progress towards achievement of the EFA goals.

ESD would make education and learning more relevant and responsive to present and future challenges, and thus contributes in incorporating Higher Order Thinking Skills in the teaching-learning process. Through ESD, learners could acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that would influence personal lifestyles and economic choices to create sustainable development. Commemoration of international days and launches of EFA GMRs would encourage the country to highlight EFA issues and discuss strategies and actions needed to be made to address the relevant challenges

PROPOSED COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TENTH MALAYSIA PLAN REFERENCE	RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND TO MOBILIZE (USD)		
			Total	Available	Gap to mobilize
Axe of action:					
Strengthening Education for Sustainable Development	<p>Number of Malaysian country representatives supported to participate in workshops to strengthen their Climate Change Education, Education for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Teacher Education integrating the principles of ESD to address identified challenges in promoting sustainable development.</p> <p>Number of country representatives supported to participate in international meetings to strengthen capacities in directing and coordinating EFA follow-up work at the country level.</p>	<p>Output: <i>Revamping the education system to significantly raise student outcomes</i></p> <p>- Sub-output: <i>“ensuring every child can succeed”</i></p>	5000	5000	
Assisting the country in accelerating progress towards achievement of the EFA goals.			2000	2000	

Natural Sciences

Science and Technology. In order to contribute to the achievement of the government’s objectives to facilitate connectivity of Malaysian people to the global knowledge network and to allow Malaysian researchers to connect to the global research community, the Engineering Science and Technology (EST) unit within the Jakarta Office suggests STI Policy and Planning and the Effective use of ICT and Open Educational Resources (OER). By maintaining and expanding partnerships with STI policy institutions and organizations in Malaysia, the EST unit could promote common understanding and mutual learning through sharing of information, ideas, good practices and successful models in STI policy-making among the STI community in Southeast Asia. UNESCO Jakarta has continued working with MYREN through activities of CONNECT-Asia. These activities consist in creating an effective and flexible mechanism for using ICT-mediated educational systems and network-enabled teaching and learning methods, broadening and enhancing people’s access to knowledge and information, sharing expertise and experience, improving connectivity among educators and researchers, opening up national/regional education and research communities to the international arena, and further developing human resources. Besides, UNESCO Jakarta’s Comprehensive Program to Enhance Technology, Engineering and Science Education (COMPETENCE) focuses on rethinking science education to put it in the context of sustainable development. This programme also introduces innovations into the teaching of science, technology, engineering and energy in higher institutions of learning and research and development bodies in Asia and the Pacific to make it a more effective tool to build their knowledge, skills and attitudes for sustainable living. It is beneficial for Malaysia to participate in the program as a pilot country. Malaysia could play a key role to initiate the emergence of a new regional programme on Sustainability Science.

PROPOSED COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Environmental sciences. The Environmental Unit within the Jakarta Office, as part of UNESCO's Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, could support the Malaysian government in achieving its environmental management objectives. Indeed, UNESCO Jakarta is working with government, nongovernment organizations, academic institutions, private sector, and local communities to establish lasting environmental and development solutions. The goal of Environmental Unit is to sustain life by maintain key ecosystems and biological diversity; promoting local knowledge-based solutions; guiding environmentally sustainable policy decisions; and helping build environmentally minded communities across the region. As such, UNESCO promotes its MABand Natural World Heritage aiming at reaching this goal. MAB has accumulated more than 40 years of experience and is operating in more than 100 countries with the objective of promoting interdisciplinary research, training, and communication in the field of ecosystem conservation and the rational use of natural resources. Enhanced relationships between people and their environment globally is one of the key objectives of the MAB programme. There is a great potential to bring together UNESCO Science expertise in Environment from MAB network and UNESCO Chairs to help with the Tenth Malaysia Plan (2011-2015) and the vision to transform Malaysia into a centre of excellence for conservation, research and sustainable use of tropical biodiversity by the year 2020.

Water Sciences. The Water Sciences Unit of UNESCO Jakarta could contribute to the achievement of the Plan's objectives in the water field. UNESCO Jakarta helps the Government to reach its goals to implement Integrated Water Resources Management approach, to develop research and development in the area of water resources conservation and to share knowledge by providing support for technical projects, cooperative research networks, capacity-building, community-based initiatives, training and non-formal education at national and regional levels. It has been coordinating activities on water resources in Southeast Asia and the Pacific over the last thirty years in close cooperation with 17 IHPNational Committees or Focal Points, including Malaysia. The country should continue to be involved in further cooperation with HTC and ICHARM and to be an active member of UNESCO's regional network which includes the IHP RSC SEAP and its associated projects, especially (1) AP-FRIEND, launched in 1997, is a regional component of FRIEND (Flow Regimes from International and Experimental Network Data), a global crosscutting IHP project aimed at advancing technical knowledge and research in the field of hydrology, and (2) The Catalogue of Rivers for South East Asia and the Pacific which aims at promoting mutual understanding of hydrology and water resources of the region and of the neighbouring countries, information exchange among different organizations in each country, establishment of an international data exchange and collaborative research network in the region. Besides, UNESCO Jakarta also continues to support the government's goal in the application of an Integrated Flood Management approach to manage risks of flood damage through the Regional Flood Forecasting and Warning System in Tropical Region which aims to understand the different mechanisms and systems used to provide effective forecasting, warning and countermeasures to the general public affected by floods. Finally, within the framework of Malaysia Vision 2020, the country could play a key role in implementing innovative solutions in urban water management that would be replicated in other cities of the region. The Regional Science Bureau's flagship programme SWITCH-in-Asia, Sustainable Water Management Improves Tomorrow's City's Health in Asia, could address the unsustainable aspects of current urban water management practices by developing and testing innovative solutions and approaches.

Disaster Risk reduction. UNESCO Jakarta plays a role with regards to knowledge, innovation and education aimed at enhancing disaster prevention and preparedness. It promotes a better understanding of the distribution in time and space of natural hazards such as earthquakes, landslides,

PROPOSED COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

volcanic eruptions, floods, tsunamis, droughts and of their intensity, to help set up reliable early warning systems, to encourage the adoption of suitable building design, to help protect educational buildings and cultural monuments, to strengthen environmental protection for the prevention of natural disasters, to enhance preparedness and public awareness through education and training, and to foster scientific and technical post-disaster investigation. Therefore UNESCO Jakarta could support the achievement of the government's objective to develop disaster preparedness and community awareness programmes by implementing the School Preparedness Programme. The programme is designed to raise awareness amongst students of the hazards they face and to help schools to minimise the risks posed by natural disasters. School disaster preparedness is the key to ensure the safety and resiliency of the children and communities. UNESCO has implemented already implemented the School-based Disaster Preparedness Model in Indonesia through more than 70 pilot sites most exposed to frequent natural hazards and tested during the 2009 and 2011 earthquakes in Padang, West Sumatera, Indonesia, where the schools were able to react promptly and respond to the disaster. The model is now well adapted and positioned as a National school disaster preparedness guideline. In building resilient schools and to ensure preparedness, based on the above model UNESCO proposed a programme, Adopting Disaster Risk Reduction in Education for Safer Schools (ADDRESS). This innovative model will assist schools in reinforcing and building their DRR capacity through: a) Integration of DRR in school education system; b) Develop school Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) during emergencies; c) Develop School DRR Action Plan and Policies; d) School DRR programme and activities; and e) School disaster management team. The model includes the School Watching programme that helps the school and surrounding communities to identify hazards and risks in and around the schools and then devising solutions to make it a safer place. The Model also integrates local culture, knowledge and wisdom as part of the intervention to in order to be integrated as part of the community based DRR.

Social and Human Sciences

The Government has highlighted in the 10th National Plan the importance of youth development programmes in order to produce a youth population that is capable in the areas of skills, entrepreneurship and leadership. Therefore, UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Unit is proposing two programmes to: (1) build skills for youth civic engagement; and (2) to enhance understanding on the social dimension of global environmental changes and the role of sustainability sciences.

(1) Youth are easily affected by economic downturns. As a result, youth have the highest poverty incidence among all sectors of society. This situation puts youth at risk of violent behaviour. This component will support building youth skills and increase opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and personal empowerment. Participatory strategic involvement of young people in outreach, volunteerism and bureaucracy can bridge the gap between the formal institutions and young women and man, including vulnerable, disadvantage and marginalized groups, filling a critical gap of unmet needs.

(2) Developing innovative management in order to protect livelihoods and foster social resilience to environmental changes in the Asia-Pacific region is a priority for UNESCO. Social and Human Sciences seeks to contribute to regional efforts made to improve coordination between local and central governments, in terms of strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development. Sustainability science is an emerging field of problem-driven, interdisciplinary scholarship that seeks to facilitate interventions that foster shared prosperity and reduced poverty while protecting the environment. Based on its initial work, UNESCO proposes to share the knowledge and research results on Sustainability Science in the Asia and Pacific region and other regions.

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ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TENTH MALAYSIA PLAN REFERENCE	RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND TO MOBILIZE (USD)		
			Total	Available	Gap to mobilize
Axe of action: STRENGTHENING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SYSTEM					
Strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation Policy and Planning	Professional networks for south-South and triangular cooperation	<p>Output: Supporting innovation-led growth</p> <p>- Sub-output: Shaping a supportive ecosystem for information</p>	US\$300,000	US\$50,000	US\$250,000
Axe of action: MOBILIZING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT					
Mobilizing Science and Technology Knowledge and Policy through Information and Communication Technologies COMPETENCE (Comprehensive Programme to Enhance Science Technology and Engineering Education) Sustainability Science – Use of science to help design strategies to cope with developmental challenges	<p>STI policies analysed and strengthened</p> <p>Science Technology and Engineering networks supported in at least 5 universities</p> <p>Sustainability science introduced as a key area for Post-2015 development and South-South Cooperation</p>	<p>Output: Supporting innovation-led growth</p> <p>- Sub-output: Shaping a supportive ecosystem for information</p>	US\$300,000	US\$50,000	US\$250,000
Axe of action: : ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY					
Biosphere Reserves for Environmental and Economic Security to underpin National Environmental Strategy (BREES) Developing Alternative Economies for Sustainable Development through creative Ecotourism and Biodiversity Conservation	<p>New Biosphere reserves established with the full support of the Government of Malaysia</p> <p>Ecotourism opportunities developed in partnership with</p>	<p>Output: Valuing the nation's environmental endowments</p> <p>- Sub-output: Enhancing Conservation of the Nation's ecological assets</p>	US\$300,000		US\$300,000

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ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TENTH MALAYSIA PLAN REFERENCE	RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND TO MOBILIZE (USD)		
			Total	Available	Gap to mobilize
Axe of action: INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME					
<p>IHP RSC SEAP</p> <p>Catalogue of Rivers for South East Asia and the Pacific; Asia-Pacific FRIEND (Flow Regimes from International and Experimental Network Data)</p> <p>Flood Forecasting and Warning System in Tropical Region</p> <p>Sustainable Water Management Improves Tomorrow's City's Health in Asia (SWITCH-in-Asia)</p>	<p>Regional Steering Committee meetings organized annually</p> <p>Publication of the Catalogue of Rivers</p> <p>- State-of-the-art report developed</p> <p>- Project documents on UWM developed</p> <p>- Action research tailored to local site priorities</p> <p>- Demo sites established to test and showcase innovative approaches</p> <p>- capacity building/ awareness raising on water related challenges developed in the local site</p>	<p>Output: <i>Providing efficient public utilities and services</i></p> <p>- Sub-output: <i>Managing water endowment and Supply</i></p> <p>Output: <i>Valuing the nation's environmental endowments</i></p> <p>- Sub-output: <i>Developing climate resilient growth strategy</i></p> <p>- Sub-output: <i>Enhancing Conservation of the Nation's ecological assets</i></p>	US\$500,000		US\$500,000
Axe of action: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITIES					
<p>Adopting Disaster Risk Reduction in Education for Safer Schools and Communities (ADDRESS)</p> <p>Flood forecasting and early warning systems</p>	<p>Pilot education programs established in schools</p> <p>Upgrading of existing flood forecasting and early warning systems</p>	<p>Output: <i>Valuing the nation's environmental endowments</i></p> <p>- Sub-output: <i>Developing climate resilient growth strategy</i></p>	US\$70,000		US\$70,000

PROPOSED COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TENTH MALAYSIA PLAN REFERENCE	RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND TO MOBILIZE (USD)		
			Total	Available	Gap to mobilize
Axe of action: SUPPORTING YOUTH POLICIES, EMPOWERMENT AND PARTICIPATION					
Build skills for Youth Civic Engagement		<i>Output: Building a progressive and more inclusive society</i> <i>- Sub-output: Moulding youth to become dynamic and inspired future leaders</i>	100,000	n/a	100,000
Supporting youth networks in Malaysia			z		
Supporting social integration of youth with disabilities					
Axe of action: SOCIAL DIMENSION OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES					
Enhance understanding on the social dimension of global environmental changes and the role of sustainability sciences		<i>Output: Valuing the nation's environmental endowments</i> <i>- Sub-output: Developing climate resilient growth strategy</i>	100,000	n/a	100,000
Support to research networks on sustainability sciences					

Culture

The Tenth Malaysian Plan 2011-2015 sets out the prioritized goals in enhancing national income through cultural and tourism industries, UNESCO proposed to support these goals through cooperative programmes in the promotion of tangible and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. This will be implemented through the conservation of World Heritage Sites through the nomination of sites to the World Heritage List, capacity building of site managers, and advocacy activities. UNESCO will also support the promotion of creative and tourism industries through programs such as capacity building for the vulnerable sector of the community on the improvement of creative products for international market, collaboration with private sectors on training for trainer activities on tourism industry, capacity building for youth in cultural and tourism industries surrounding World Heritage Sites, and exhibitions.

Also, as set out in the UNESCO Priorities (36 C/5 2012-2013), UNESCO will seek to ensure the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and enhance the protection and transmission of intangible cultural heritage by supporting States Parties in developing and/or strengthening national policies and human capacities in the field of intangible cultural heritage. Given this, the proposed priority area of cooperative programme extends to the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage through raising awareness of the importance of the 2003 Convention, UNESCO will support Malaysia in its process towards the ratification of the 2003 Convention through a capacity building programme for national officials and communities for effective implementation of the Convention, and community-based inventories.

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Activities	Performance indicators	Tenth Malaysia plan reference	Resources available and to mobilize (USD)		
			Total	Available	Gap to mobilize
Axe of action: SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE					
Strengthening Capacity for Conservation and Management of World Heritage Sites in Malaysia (Sub-regional and Regional Programme)		Output: <i>Ensuring Equitable and Sustainable Utilisation of Resources</i>	200,000		200,000
Strengthening Capacity for the ratification and Implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritages		Sub-output: <i>Involving local communities in safeguarding efforts</i>			
Axe of action: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CULTURAL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY					
Supporting the Development of Creative Products and Cultural Industries using the Local Natural Resources in Sustainable Manner		Output: <i>Supporting effective and smart partnership: partnering to advance industry and economic development</i>	100,000		100,000
		Sub-output: <i>Partnering to advance industry and economic development</i>			

ANNEXES



EDUCATION PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES		STATUS		
		P	PO	O
PROGRAMME 1	EDUCATION			
Example of activities	Strengthening Education for Sustainable Development in Malaysia		√	
	Assisting the country in accelerating progress towards achievement of the EFA goals		√	

NATURAL SCIENCES PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES		STATUS		
		P	PO	O
PROGRAMME 1	STRENGTHENING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SYSTEM			
Example of activities	Strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation Policy and Planning	√		
PROGRAMME 2	MOBILIZING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT			
Example of activities	Mobilizing Science and Technology Knowledge and Policy through Information and Communication Technologies		√	
	COMPETENCE (Comprehensive Programme to Enhance Science Technology and Engineering Education)	√		
	Sustainability Science – Use of science to help design strategies to cope with developmental challenges		√	

NATURAL SCIENCES PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES		STATUS		
		P	PO	O
PROGRAMME 3	ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY			
Example of activities	Biosphere Reserves for Environmental and Economic Security to underpin National Environmental Strategy (BREES)	√		
	Developing Alternative Economies for Sustainable Development through creative Ecotourism and Biodiversity Conservation	√		
PROGRAMME 4	INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME			
Example of activities	IHP RSC SEAP			√
	Catalogue of Rivers for South East Asia and the Pacific; Asia-Pacific FRIEND (Flow Regimes from International and Experimental Network Data)			√
	Flood Forecasting and Warning System in Tropical Region			√
	Sustainable Water Management Improves Tomorrow's City's Health in Asia (SWITCH-in-Asia)	√		
PROGRAMME 5	DISASTER RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITIES			
Example of activities	Adopting Disaster Risk Reduction in Education for Safer Schools and Communities (ADDRESS)	√		
	Children and Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction	√		
PROGRAMME 5	SUPPORTING YOUTH POLICIES, EMPOWERMENT AND PARTICIPATION			
Example of activities	Build Skills for Youth Empowerment and Civic Engagement	√		
	Supporting Youth Networks in Malaysia	√		
	Supporting social integration of youth with disabilities		√	
PROGRAMME 7	SOCIAL DIMENSION OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES			
Example of activities	Enhance understanding on the social dimension of global environmental changes and the role of sustainability sciences	√		
	Support to research networks on sustainability sciences	√		

ANNEXES

CULTURE PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES		STATUS		
		P	PO	O
PROGRAMME 1	STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES ON THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF THE CULTURAL WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN MALAYSIA			
Example of activities	Strengthening Capacity for the Conservation and Management of World Heritage sites (Sub-regional and Regional Programme)	√		
	Strengthening national capacity for the ratification and implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	√		
PROGRAMME 2	COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CULTURAL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY			
Example of activities	Workshop for the Development of Creative Products and Cultural Industries using the Local Natural Resources in Sustainable Manner	√		
	Capacity Building on the Management and Promotion of Tourism Premises for the Tourism Industry Key Players	√		
PROGRAMME 3	PROMOTION OF SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER THE 2003 CONVENTION			
Example of activities	Capacity building programme for national authorities and communities on the ratification and effective implementation of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	√		
	Community-based inventoring of intangible cultural heritage in Malaysia	√		

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