

CPDS National Stakeholder Roundtable 2017

Date: 9th March 2017 (Thursday)

Time: 8.15 am - 12.50 pm

Venue: Meeting Room 3, Level 4, Chancellery Building, University of Malaya (UM)

Time	Beyond Poverty: Becoming a Developed Nation	Moderator
8.15 am	Breakfast	
8.30 – 8.55 am	Registration	
Session 1	Theme 1: Progress in Poverty Eradication: Policy Approach and Data	
9.00 - 9.15 am	Welcoming remarks and background of Global Poverty Eradication Success Dr. Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad, Director, The Centre for Poverty and Development Studies (CPDS), UM	
9.15 – 9.35 am	1. Poverty Eradication in Malaysia Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Simler Senior Economist, Poverty & Equity Global Practice The World Bank	Moderator
9.35 – 9.55 am	2. Making Inequality Visible: Inclusiveness, Social Integration and Economic Opportunities for All Speaker: Mr. Abdul Halim B. Abdul Aziz Deputy Director (Inclusive Development) Distribution Section, Economic Planning Unit	Professor Dr. Sulochana Nair
9.55 – 10.15 am	3. Malaysia's Public Policy Journey: From Poverty to a Developed Nation Speaker: Professor Datuk Dr. Norma Mansor, Director Social Security Research Centre (SSRC), UM	
10.15 – 10.35 am	Q&A Session	
Session 2	Theme 2: Human Security: Agenda for a Developed Nation	
10.40 – 11.00 am	4. Human Security and Freedom: Democracy and Participation in Socio-economic Development Speaker: Professor Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli Director Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM	
11.00 – 11.20 am	5. Freedom from Want and Hunger: Poverty and Redistribution Mechanism Downwards to the B40 Speaker: Dr. Asmak Ab Rahman Department of Syariah and Economics Academy of Islamic Studies, UM	Moderator
11.20 – 11.40 am	6. Human Insecurity and The Poor: Climate Change and Natural Disasters Speaker: Associate Professor Dr. Fatimah Kari Department of Economics Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM	Dr. Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad
11.40 – 12.00 pm	7. Political Economy of a Developed Nation: The Landscape for Malaysia Speaker: Professor Dr. Edmund Terence Department of Administrative Studies and Politics Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM	
12.00 – 12.20 pm	Q&A Session	
12.25 – 12.35 pm	Closing remarks by Dr. Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad, Director, CPDS, UM	
12.50 pm	Lunch	

CPDS National Stakeholder Roundtable 2017 with the theme “**BEYOND POVERTY: BECOMING A DEVELOPED NATION**” aim to address 2 cross-cutting topics that falls within the main Research Pillars of CPDS namely:

(1) Poverty; To understand the multi-dimensional aspects of poverty eradication in order to expand poverty analysis to include the broader development challenges and to derive appropriate policy measures at different stages of development.

(2) Poverty & Sustainable Development; To understand and search for compatible frameworks between development targets such as growth, poverty eradication, the provision of basic needs, employment creation, equity and distribution, while sustaining the environment for future generations and to design appropriate policy measures for social transformation and managing sustainability.

(3) Inequality, Distribution & Social Mobility; To understand the dynamics of social and economic development with the aim of promoting inclusiveness, equality of access to resources and to reduce vulnerability of citizens, especially those at the lower strata of society at every level of policy making.

(4) Labour & Human Capital; To understand and address labour market constraints that creates segmentation by class, income, ethnicity and gender and to understand the dynamics behind the upward social mobility of vulnerable groups by exploring existing tools and framework for the purpose of informing policy making.

(5) Gender, Development & Group Vulnerability; To understand Group Vulnerabilities as defined by gender, ethnicity, children, youth and the aging population for the purpose of mainstreaming vulnerabilities in policy making.

(6) Human Security; To understand human security as a distinct dimension of development that has become a global challenge for policy making and to contribute towards developing appropriate policy instruments for intervention both locally and internationally. This would include issues such as food security, safety from crime and prosecution, freedom from lack and want, protection from the vagaries of war, failed states and issues relating to internally displaced people and migration.

(7) Development & Social Policy; To understand the vulnerability of citizens in the face of crisis, natural or man-made and their rights to welfare and social protection and to contribute towards designing policy instruments.

(8) Political Economy; To understand the inter-relationships between the political, economic and social dimensions of development by comparing old and new modalities to analyze current realities from an academic and policy perspectives.

Objectives

The objectives of CPDS National Stakeholder Roundtable 2017 reflects the purpose and commitments of all our core programmes towards an inter-disciplinary and multi-dimensional approach to poverty and development studies. CPDS aim to engage experts, stakeholders and the public through our core events listed below:

- (1) The Royal Professor Ungku Aziz Lecture Series
- (2) CPDS Development Forum
- (3) National Stakeholder Roundtable
- (4) CPDS Brown Bag Seminar Series
- (5) Public Outreach Programmes

The goals of these core activities are to further develop and strengthen CPDS as a reference point for poverty and development studies, to encourage scholars and experts to share their work and ideas on poverty and development issues that are relevant at the national, regional and global levels, as well as to reinforce the links between government bodies, commercial interests, and the wider community through knowledge transfer, networking, and pragmatic dissemination of information.

More specifically, the aim of CPDS National Stakeholder Roundtable is to engage experts, development practitioners, academics, policy makers, NGOs, related parties and observers to re-examine the complex issue of poverty and learn from past experiences to inform future efforts to eradicate poverty hence, ensuring the achievements of broader development goals of a nation. Our intended output below aspires to fulfill the above objectives and to chart new directions for CPDS in light of current developments and new knowledge that has emerged in the field:

Identify Follow-Up Themes

Identify Plan of Action and Timeline

Identify Research Areas/Gaps

Identify Policy Inputs to Governments

Identify Collaborative Work with Partner Institutions

BACKGROUND: “BEYOND POVERTY: BECOMING A DEVELOPED NATION”

In 1991, Malaysia established a national goal of becoming a fully developed nation by 2020 economically, politically, socially, spiritually, psychologically and culturally (6 MP, 1991-1995). The roadmap to achieve this ambition is embodied in different policy instruments, and in the recently launched 11th Malaysian plan (11MP, 2016-2020), with the theme of “growth anchored in people” for a socially inclusive society. The Malaysian Government has achieved significant success in fighting poverty and in achieving remarkable economic growth in line with their policy target. Although Malaysia was affected by the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997-1998 as well as the Global financial crisis in 2009, it continued to post solid growth rates, averaging 5.5 percent per year from 2000-2008, recovering rapidly, with growth rates averaging 5.7 percent since 2010. In 2010, Malaysia launched the New Economic Model (NEM), which aims for the country to achieve high income status by 2020 while ensuring that growth is also sustainable and inclusive. The NEM includes a number of reforms to achieve economic growth that is primarily driven by the private sector and to move the Malaysian economy into higher value-added activities in both industry and services. Economic growth in Malaysia was interpreted as inclusive by the World Bank. It reports that Malaysia “succeeded in nearly eradicating poverty”. The share of households living below the national poverty line (US\$8.50 per day in 2012) fell from over 50 percent the 1960s to less than one percent currently. A survey conducted last year by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) on a sample size of 81,634 households showed that only one percent of households were living under the Poverty Line Index (PLI) in 2014.

Nonetheless, the debate on poverty and development continues nationally, regionally and globally. As 2017 marked the end of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017), it is timely that the topic of poverty and development is discussed at this National Stakeholder Roundtable.

Hence, Theme 1 **Progress in Poverty Eradication: Policy Approach and Data** aim to take stock of issues on poverty and development in relation to public policies and data on poverty focussing on:

Global Poverty Eradication Success

Poverty Eradication in Malaysia

Making Inequality Visible: Inclusiveness, Social Integration and Economic Opportunities for All

Malaysia’s Public Policy Journey: From Poverty to a Developed Nation

Theme 2 on **Human Security: Agenda for a Developed Nation** aim to contextualise poverty within the bigger development agenda especially the relationship between inequality and development, the role of politics and political stability in development and ultimately human security as the broader development component. In this way we hope to do justice to the interdisciplinary nature of the development discipline.

“Human Security,” is most often associated with the 1994 Human Development Report on Human Security (Alkire, 2003). It is concern with ensuring growth and development for the security of human life and their dignity and not just security of the nation state or territory. Freedom from fear and freedom from want or hunger and poverty are key components underlying this concept which also signify freedom from vulnerability. This includes vulnerability to oppression and physical violence, vulnerability to poverty and destitution, vulnerability to downside risks, disasters and economic destitution among others (Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and Carol Messineo, 2012).

Given Malaysia’s aspiration to become a developed nation, theme 2 is crucial as it linked poverty to political economy issues such as conflict and failed states (war, terrorism, violence), climate change and natural disaster, migration and internally displaced people (IDPs), refugee crisis, human trafficking, youth and children, gender and violence among others. For this first CPDS Roundtable the focus is on issues closer to home such as:

Human Security and Freedom: Democracy and Participation in Socio-economic Development

Freedom from Want and Hunger: Poverty and Redistribution Mechanism Downwards to the B40

Human Insecurity and The Poor: Climate Change and Natural Disasters

Political Economy of a Developed Nation: The Landscape for Malaysia