



IDEAS and U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

IDEAS is committed in playing a role towards the fulfillment of U.N. SDGs. It is making a modest contribution through some of its projects to achieve specific targets for a better and more sustainable future for all.

UN SDG: Goal #1 – No Poverty

SDG Targets Addressed:

1.3 - Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

1.A - Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions

Project: Agricultural Subsidies and the Welfare of Farmers

Brief Summary: Through a study of 125 paddy farmers, this report evaluates the efficacy of subsidies in Malaysia’s paddy sector in improving farmers’ welfare. The results concluded that agricultural subsidies have no significant short- to medium-term effect on farm acreage, yield, income nor productivity, and have led to fertiliser dependence, economic leakages, and market weakness. The report provides viable recommendations for Malaysia to improve allocative efficiency in the paddy sector and mitigate adverse consequences for the poor.

UN SDG: Goal #2 – Zero Hunger

SDG Targets Addressed:

2.4 - By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

2.B - Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round.

2.C - Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility.

Project: State Trading Enterprises in Achieving Food Security

Summary: This report brings together insights from two state trading enterprises (STEs) in Southeast Asia, namely Bernas in Malaysia and Bulog in Indonesia. The report presents a historical perspective to the financial, economic and social contributions of the STEs, their effectiveness in achieving the domestic food security agenda and several policy suggestions to mitigate the issues within each country.

UN SDG: Goal #3 – Good Health and Well-being

SDG Targets Addressed:

3.8 - Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

3.C - Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries

Project: Championing a National Policy on Rare Diseases

Brief Summary: The objective of this project was to address the challenges encountered by patients with rare disease in Malaysia, ranging from treatment affordability to lack of awareness, stemming from the absence of a national policy. IDEAS participated in the government's Rare Disease Committee first meeting, followed by a formal meeting with the Minister of Health. During these interactions the government confirmed that it is developing a National Policy for Rare Diseases incorporating IDEAS' policy recommendations.

UN SDG: Goal #4 – Quality Education

SDG Targets Addressed:

4.1 - By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes

4.5 - By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

Project: Access to Education for Orang Asli Children

Brief Summary: The project aims to identify the underlying issues regarding education inequality faced by Orang Asli students, highlight the success and gaps of the existing education policies and programmes for the Orang Asli, as well as to keep the current government accountable to their manifesto promises through creating more awareness of these issues among the society.

UN SDG: Goal #16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG Targets Addressed:

16.3 - Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

16.8 - Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

16.10 - Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

16.B - Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

Project: Promoting National Unity and Inter-racial Harmony

Brief Summary: The project seeks to improve understanding about ICERD and increase support for its ratification, with the result that the government is convinced to reinstate its policy of ratification. This project aims to address the lack of awareness about the scope and relevance of ICERD in Malaysia by reinitiating the public debate on the basis of a more sound understanding of its provisions and impact.