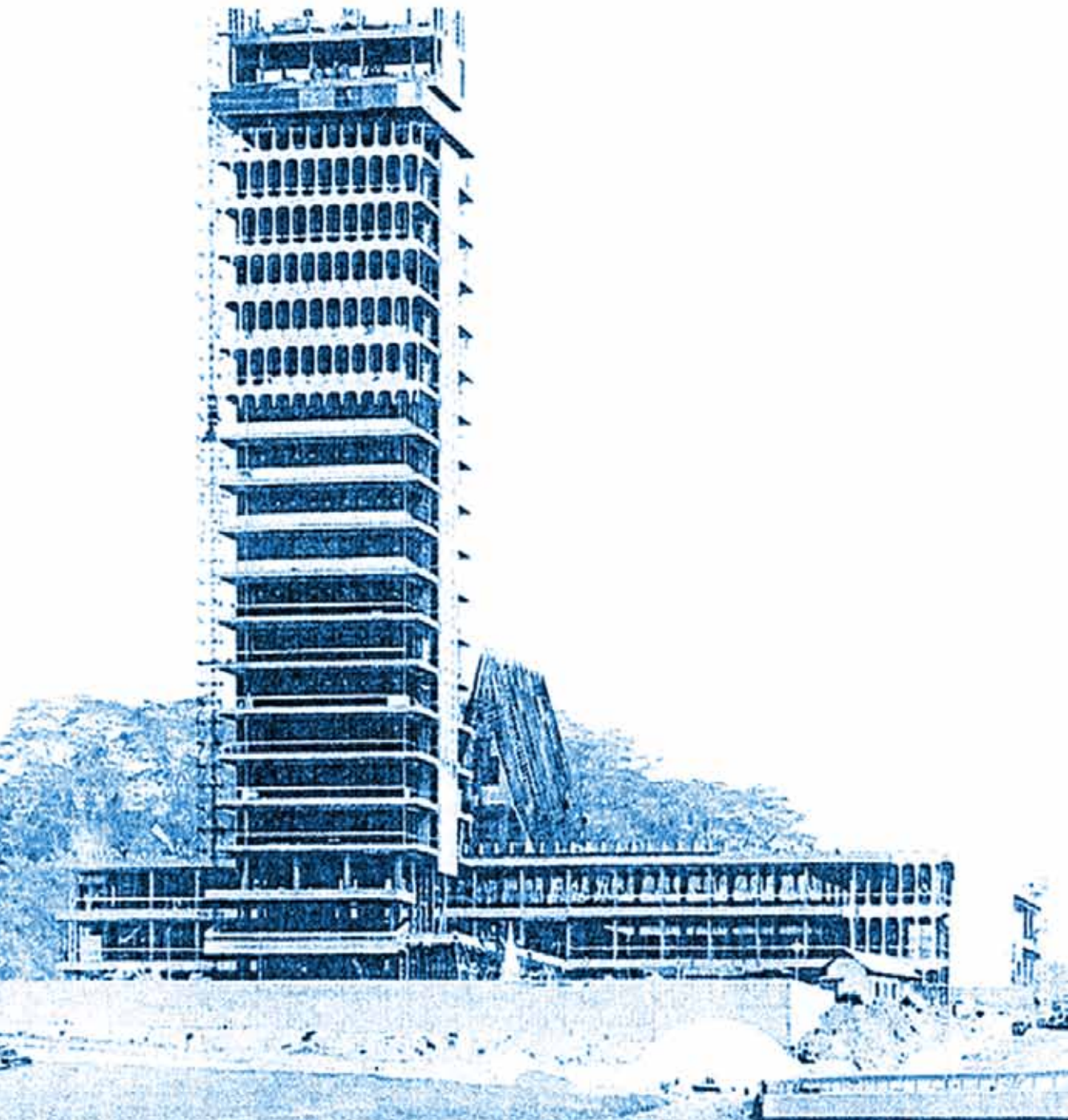




COVER PICTURE

The Parliament of Malaysia – the federal legislative branch – comprises the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the Dewan Negara and the Dewan Rakyat.

The Federation of Malaya's first parliament convened on 12 September 1959 at Dewan Tunku Abdul Rahman (now part of the Malaysia Tourism Centre). In his royal address the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Rahman ibni Almarhum Tuanku Muhammad said: "We wish all Our subjects on this historic day to know and understand that the Constitution of the Federation of Malaya, our charter of rights and liberties, is now, finally and completely, in operation and with the establishment of this Parliament under the Constitution, a new era begins for our nation... We are pulling a switch which starts two dynamos of democracy – our Constitution and our Parliament – to serve the political needs of this new nation now and of generations of Malaysians not yet born."

The current Parliament Building was designed by Ivor Shipley of the Public Works Department (JKR) and is here seen prior to its completion in 1963. At the opening ceremony on 2 November the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications Tun VT Sambanthan praised the "farsightedness of the Father of Malaysia, Tunku Abdul Rahman... It is here that MPs will undertake the historic responsibility of making democracy work. It is here that they will have to rise above daily trifles or the call of narrow provincialism or linguistic, religious or sectarian chauvinism."

In selecting this picture for our annual report we hope to remind Malaysians of this generation of this once held optimism.

Photo credit: www.parlimen.gov.my

ANNUALREPORT2014

Released 7 February 2015 in conjunction with IDEAS' 5th Anniversary



Pemasyhuran Kemerdekaan

Negara ini “akan kekal menjadi sebuah negara demokrasi yang merdeka dan yang berdaulat serta berdasarkan kepada kebebasan dan keadilan dan mengekalkan keamanan di antara segala-gala bangsa”

Proclamation of Independence

This nation “shall forever be a democratic sovereign State founded upon the principles of liberty and justice and ever seeking to defend and uphold peace and harmony among its people and the maintenance of peace among all nations”

Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj
31 August 1957

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“I have been impressed with the team in IDEAS- confident, intellectual, progressive, engaging and friendly. You have discussed sensitive issues in a calm, rational and conservative way bringing different sections of Malaysian society together”

YBHG DATUK DR DENISON JAYASOORIA
Secretary-General of the Society for the Promotion of Human Rights (PROHAM)

“IDEAS has been able to provide Malaysians with fresh perspectives on a host of issues with intellectual depth imbued with the values enshrined in our Constitution and culture. Indeed IDEAS is fast becoming a respected public intellectual organisation”

YBHG DATO' SAIFUDDIN ABDULLAH
CEO of the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF)

“I commend IDEAS for the work they have done to promote economic liberalism in Malaysia. Our Prime Minister is pushing for greater liberalisation and I hope we can work together to ensure the success of this important agenda”

YBHG TAN SRI KOH TSU KOON
Former Minister in the Prime Minister's Department

“Policies, right, left or centrist - have often been pushed to the backburner in Malaysian politics. I congratulate IDEAS in playing a key role to get policies back to the forefront”

YB NIK NAZMI NIK AHMAD
Parti Keadilan Youth Leader
State Assemblyman, Seri Setia

“Healthy and positive suggestions put forward by IDEAS...should be accepted and viewed with an open mind”

YB SENATOR TAN SRI ABU ZAHAR UJANG
Dewan Negara, Parliament of Malaysia

“Three young men have formed an independent think-tank called IDEAS. Its cross partisan leadership is one of the more intriguing aspects of IDEAS; another is that it promotes a libertarian free-market ideology that is almost entirely unfamiliar to Malaysians”

Special Report on IDEAS in Singapore Straits Times, 21 September 2011



MESSAGE FROM FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Tunku Zain
Al-'Abidin
Tuanku Muhriz

2014 was not the best year for our country, for reasons both external and internal. Many events – some tragic and outside our control, others entirely as a result of our own domestic politics – exposed our institutions to intense domestic scrutiny as well as international judgment throughout the year. Increasingly for Malaysians, civil society is playing a vital role in informing, provoking and moderating public discourse. I am glad that IDEAS has made useful contributions in this regard while retaining a focus on our long-term objectives, especially in the fields of education and governance.

I am particularly pleased that our two on-the-ground education projects – the IDEAS Autism Centre and the IDEAS Academy – are thriving. Through them we aim to show that alternative models can deliver high quality education to disadvantaged communities, and we hope policymakers will use our experience to consider wider reforms.

I have every confidence that the sterling team at IDEAS will continue with these successes and further build on our research, advocacy and outreach work. I am also excited about our Southeast Asia Network for Development (SEANET), which will aim to further spread the values that defined our Merdeka.

Malaysia's Chairmanship of ASEAN gives us a tremendous opportunity to strengthen economic integration in the region, if the right leaders are up to the task.

Unfortunately, it seems that the principles that underpinned Merdeka are being forgotten, even systematically destroyed, by Malaysians themselves. It is sad to see that on occasion, national institutions have failed to resist this phenomenon. There is no greater act of treachery than to abandon the constitutional foundations of our nation, the consequences of which may be irreparable.

From the beginning we at IDEAS have defined ourselves according to principles that were held by Bapa Malaysia, Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra. We believe that the majority of Malaysians still wish our country to be guided by the concepts of the rule of law, limited government, individual liberty and the free market.

We will continue to defend them staunchly, and I humbly ask fellow citizens to lend us your support towards this endeavour.



MESSAGE FROM FOUNDING CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Wan Saiful
Wan Jan

This year saw IDEAS becoming more focused. We spent most of our resources on the two areas that we feel we can make the most impact – school reform and political economy. We have become more disciplined in accepting funds, ensuring that we are directed more by our strategic plans instead of grant availability.

It has not been easy to instill this discipline because as an organisation that is dependent on grants and donations, usually the tendency is to follow funders' priorities. But we feel it is necessary to work more strategically so that we produce maximum effectiveness when spending the precious money donated to us, instead of spreading ourselves too thinly to try to do everything. I am most grateful to all our funders for their understanding and support.

The year has once again been busy. Our team grew from three in 2010 to 17 in 2014. As a result of our decision to focus only on the two areas, revenue in 2014 has not grown significantly compared to 2013. But the total income is still healthy at RM 1.84 million (USD 613,333). And in terms of media coverage, we generated RM 25.2 million (USD 8.4 million) worth of PR Value, which means that if we were to pay for the total

coverage that we received, that is how much it would have cost us.

Our influence on Malaysian policy debates continues to grow as our ideas start to be adopted by politicians and policy-makers alike, particularly around school reform, good governance and economic liberalisation. In addition to proposing policy solutions, we also conduct "proof of concept" activities. Our IDEAS Autism Centre in Rawang, Selangor, is an example of how quality care and therapy can be made accessible to special needs children from low income families. And in 2014 we initiated the IDEAS Academy in Pudu, Kuala Lumpur, to show that it is indeed possible to create a lower cost private "school" catering for the underprivileged.

We are certainly proud of these achievements. The team has worked hard throughout the year and they certainly deserve a pat on the back. They have shown amazing commitment to showing how classical liberal ideas can be implemented in this country. It is their hard work that makes it possible for us to continuously look for ways to translate Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman's vision of "liberty and justice" into public policy.

This annual report provides a summary of our achievements in 2014. We still have a lot more to do, but I hope you agree that we have made significant progress since we were launched five years ago on 8 February 2010.

We are tremendously indebted to our supporters and funders. As a not-for-profit independent think tank, we are completely dependent on grants and donations. I am really pleased that we continue to attract grants from both local and international funders. I hope that by consistently delivering the promised quality we will continue to win support from generous donors, and from you.

While we can be happy with IDEAS' progress, I cannot say the same about the trajectory of our country. As 2014 comes to a close, illiberal voices attacking the philosophical foundation of this country are becoming louder. This misguided minority have forgotten that our Rukun Negara says that we are supposed to be committed to "guaranteeing a liberal approach towards our rich and varied cultural traditions". Instead they are calling people to ignore Tunku Abdul Rahman's reminder that "You can't have peace without freedom, and you can't have freedom without peace".

This worrying trend means we at IDEAS need to double our efforts to remind people that this nation was built on the philosophy of liberty. Moving forward, we need to work harder to revive the spirit of freedom that was so precious to our forefathers, and to translate that spirit into specific policy ideas. We have also taken the first steps to build the Southeast Asia Network for Development (SEANET), with a vision of becoming a leading advocate of liberalisation in ASEAN.

Of course we will not be able to do it without your help. So let me invite every one of you to help us ensure that we as a country achieve our true potential. We cannot do it unless we have your support.

CORPORATE PROFILE

ABOUT IDEAS

The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs, more commonly known as IDEAS, is a not-for-profit cross-partisan think tank. As a foundation (yayasan), we are registered in Malaysia as a company limited by guarantee with registration number **940689-W**.

We were officially launched on 8 February 2010 by Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, former Finance Minister of Malaysia at the Memorial Tunku Abdul Rahman, Kuala Lumpur. The event was graced by three generations of Tunku Abdul Rahman's family.

We exist to promote our principles:

- **Rule of Law**
- **Limited Government**
- **Free Markets**
- **Individual Liberty and Responsibility**

All our activities are geared towards encouraging people to subscribe to the principles and showing how these principles can be applied to public policy.

HQ Address:

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50480 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +603 6201 8896

Registered address:

Suite 21.02 & 03
21st Floor, Menara Haw Par
Jalan Sultan Ismail
50250 Kuala Lumpur

Date of incorporation:

15 April 2011

Auditor:

Roger Yue, Tan & Associates
Wisma Goshen
No 60 & 62 Jalan SS 22/21
Damansara Jaya
47400 Petaling Jaya
Selangor

VISION & MISSION

IDEAS shares the vision of **Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj**, the first Prime Minister who stated in the 1957 Proclamation of Independence that this nation

shall be forever a sovereign democratic and independent State founded upon the principles of liberty and justice and ever seeking the welfare and happiness of its people and the maintenance of a just peace among all nations

The mission of IDEAS is

to improve the level of understanding and acceptance of public policy based on the principles of rule of law, limited government, free markets and individual liberty

In order to fulfill this mission, IDEAS on a cross-partisan basis:

- commissions research to develop market-based solutions to public policy challenges
- publishes relevant materials such as books, policy briefings, articles and press statements
- organises educational programmes on the creative power of free societies and the institutions which underpin them
- holds frank discussions with policymakers, academics, leading figures in civil society, the business community and other professionals
- enables and facilitates networking between like-minded individuals
- provides a platform for people of all ethnic and religious backgrounds to advance the ideals of liberty and justice espoused in the Proclamation of Independence and the Federal Constitution

WAU
BEBAS

IDEAS



Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs

IDEAS' logo is a wau bulan that flies freely in the sky - which we call "Wau Bebas" or the Kite of Freedom. The traditional Wau Bebas motif symbolises IDEAS' belief that the principles of Rule of Law (Kedaulatan Undang-Undang), Limited Government (Kerajaan Terhad), Free Markets (Pasaran Bebas) and Individual Liberty and Responsibility (Kebebasan dan Kebertangjawaban Individu) are deeply rooted in our nation's traditions and heritage.

Our task is to rediscover these truly Malaysian values and to represent them to contemporary Malaysian society, so that our heritage will help us prosper in a globalised world. A wau is only complete and functional when it is rooted to the ground via a string, depicting our call for abidance to the rule of law within a small, limited state.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

COUNCIL MEMBERS



**YTM Tunku Dato' Seri Ahmad
Nerang ibni Almarhum Tunku
Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj**
Special Advisor



**YABhg Tun Mohamed Dzaiddin Haji
Abdullah (Chairman)**
*Consultant, Skrine; Former Chief Justice of
Malaysia; Chairman, Bursa Malaysia*



YBhg Dato' Seri Nazir Razak
*Chairman, CIMB Group; Board Member,
Khazanah Nasional Berhad*



**YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir
Abdul Majid**
*Chairman of Bank Muamalat Malaysia Berhad;
Board Member, PINTAR Foundation; Chairman,
Malaysia-Europe Forum*

COUNCIL MEMBERS



YBhg Dato' Dr R Thillainathan

Board Member, Allianz General Insurance Company (Malaysia) Berhad; Board Member, Citibank Malaysia Berhad



YBhg Dato' Anthony Cooper

Former Senior Partner, Price Waterhouse Malaysia; Governor, Tinggi Foundation and A&A Charitable Trust



YBhg Datuk Seri Azman Ujang

Former General Manager, BERNAMA; Board Member, Berjaya Media Berhad



YB Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed

Member of Parliament (UMNO) for Pulau; Chairman, Public Accounts Committee

COUNCIL MEMBERS



YB Datuk Dr Mujahid Yusof Rawa
*Member of Parliament (PAS), Parit Buntar;
PAS Central Committee Member*



YB Dr Ong Kian Ming
*Member of Parliament (DAP), Serdang;
Selangor DAP State Committee Member*



YBhg Datuk Omar Mustapha
*Chairman, Ethos & Company;
Board Member, PETRONAS*



YBhg Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah
*CEO, Global Movement of Moderates
Foundation; Former Deputy Minister of
Higher Education*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



YAM Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz

Tunku 'Abidin was educated at the Kuala Lumpur Alice Smith School, Marlborough College and the London School of Economics and Political Science, where he obtained his MSc in Comparative Politics in 2004. He then worked in the UK Houses of Parliament before moving to Washington DC to join the World Bank as a Public Sector Consultant. Upon returning to Malaysia in 2008, Tunku 'Abidin worked at the United Nations Development Programme and the KRA Group before becoming a Research Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.

In 2006 he co-founded the Malaysia Think Tank which evolved into the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) in 2010. Since 2008 he has maintained a newspaper column: firstly *Abiding Times* in the Sun, then *Roaming Beyond the Fence* in the Star and Sin Chew, and now *Conservatively Speaking Freely* in the Malay Mail, Borneo Post and Oriental Daily. From

these articles three books have been compiled, the latest being nominated for the Popular Readers' Choice Awards.

Tunku 'Abidin also authored a coffee table book for the Installation of the Eleventh Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan and led a major project to revitalise the State Anthem. He is a trustee of Yayasan Chow Kit, Yayasan Munarah and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, an independent non-executive director of two public listed companies, an advisor or patron to several educational and cultural organisations, an honorary major in the Malaysian Territorial Army and a committee member of the Squash Racquets Association of Malaysia, the LSE Alumni Society of Malaysia and the Malaysian British Society.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Wan Saiful Wan Jan

Wan Saiful is Founding Chief Executive of IDEAS. He boarded at Sekolah Alam Shah Kuala Lumpur and then Tonbridge School in England. He holds a BA (Hons) in Management (Northumbria, UK) and MSc in Research Methodologies (Middlesex, UK).

Wan Saiful lived in the United Kingdom between August 1993 and October 2009. There he worked for several organisations including a think tank Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit, the British Conservative Party's Research Department and Social Enterprise London. He was a vice chair of Luton Conservative Association (2007-2009) and Head of Policy for the Conservative Muslim Forum (2007-2009). In May 2007, he contested in the English local elections as a Conservative Party candidate.

Currently, he is also Chairman of the Istanbul Network for Liberty, Director of CFBT Education Malaysia, member of the Advisory Board at Laureate

Education Malaysia, Governor at Rafflesia International & Private Schools Malaysia, and member of the Advisory Board of The University of Nottingham's School of Politics, History and International Relations. He is also a member of the Mont Pelerin Society.

Previously he served as a member of the Ministry of Education - PEMUDAH Group on Education, member of the Razak School Government's Academic Working Group, Director of ASLI Centre for Social Enterprise and adjunct faculty at UCSI University's Faculty of Economics and Policy Science.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Wan Mohd Firdaus Wan Mohd Fuaad

Wan Firdaus is currently Vice President at JP Morgan-Chase Bank Malaysia. He was educated at SRK Sultan Ibrahim Satu Pasir Mas, SRK Sri Subang Jaya and Sek Men Agama Persekutuan Kajang. He then went to read law at the University of Nottingham and BPP School of Law.

Previously, he was Special Officer to the Chief Minister of Johor handling the corporate portfolio that includes Iskandar Regional Development Authority and Johor Corporation. He is also founder of the Young Corporate Malaysians and established the annual Young Corporate Malaysians Summit.

He was a national delegate for the University of Nottingham to the National Union of Students (NUS), national executive member of Federation of Islamic Students Societies (FOSIS), Chairman of Kesatuan Penuntut Undang-Undang Malaysia UK & Eire (KPUM) and former Chairman of UK & Eire Council for Malaysia Students (UKEC) from October 2005 to 2007.

While he was a chairman of the UKEC, he established the first Malaysian Student Leaders Summit (MSLS) that has become a major national event.

THE TEAM



Wan Saiful Wan Jan
Founding Chief Executive



Tricia Yeoh
Chief Operating Officer



Mazrina Arifin
Finance Director



Sheefa Ahmad
Administrator



Nor Ain Islan
Executive, Accounts & Admin



Sri Murniati
*Manager, Political Economy
and Governance*



Shaza Onn
*Senior Researcher, Political
Economy and Governance*



Tamanna Patel
Senior Researcher, Education



Taufiq Abdul
Executive, Special Projects



Fareeza Ibrahim
*Manager, Outreach &
SEANET*



Amir Ridzuan Jamaluddin
*Senior Executive, Outreach &
SEANET*



Yohannan Nair
*Executive, Outreach &
SEANET*

THE TEAM



Dr Razeen Sally
*IDEAS Chair of Political
Economy and Governance*



Dr Carmelo Ferlito
Senior Fellow



Dr Maszlee Malik
Senior Fellow



Sharifah Salleh
*Principal,
IDEAS Autism Centre*



Nur Suhara Suhadi
*Teacher,
IDEAS Autism Centre*



Robi Ishak
*Teacher,
IDEAS Autism Centre*



Julitan Selamat
*General Worker,
IDEAS Autism Centre*



**Wan Fara Adila Wan
Ahmad Kaspi**
*Occupational Therapist,
IDEAS Autism Centre*



Norsida Razali
*Teacher,
IDEAS Autism Centre*

THE TEAM



Dayana Hamdan
*Teacher, IDEAS Autism
Centre*



Fadhilah Mohamad Yusof
*Teacher, IDEAS Autism
Centre*





2014 ACTIVITY REPORT

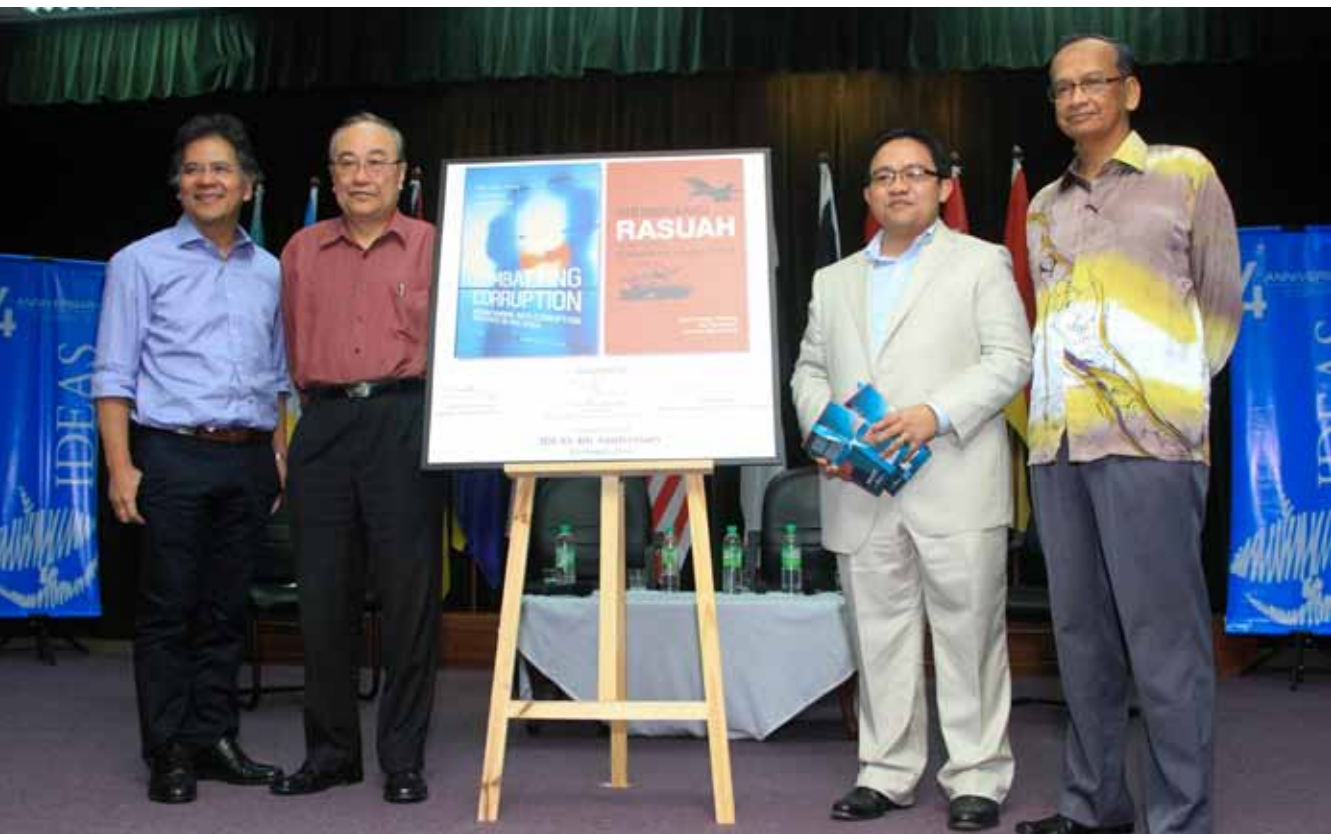
IDEAS' 4TH ANNIVERSARY

We started 2014 with the celebration of our 4th anniversary on 8 February 2014. The celebration was held at the Tunku Abdul Rahman Memorial in conjunction with the birthday of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, Malaysia's first Prime Minister.

Almost 250 invited guests attended the event, including the children of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman

Tunku Dato' Paduka Khadijah and Tunku Dato' Seri Ahmad Nerang.

The event was themed "Is the Malaysian Government Serious About Reform?". Speakers included prominent economist Tan Sri Ramon Navaratnam, Auditor-General of Malaysia Tan Sri Ambrin Buang, as well as two Ministers in the Prime Minister's Department, Dato' Sri Idris Jala and Datuk Paul Low.



Launch of our book, 'Combatting Corruption' at the 4th anniversary event



IDEAS AUTISM CENTRE

The IDEAS Autism Centre (IAC) provides early intervention care and education for autistic children below the age of nine, from low-income households. Starting in October 2012 in Rawang, Selangor, we now cater for 30 children.

The IAC's early intervention programme has been successful in enabling our students to get into the mainstream school system. Four of our students have been accepted into mainstream schools and we expect more to do so in 2015.

This year we received generous grants from Sime Darby Foundation, Hong Leong Foundation, ECM Libra Foundation and the A&A Charitable Trust that will ensure IAC can operate until December 2015. Our priority now is to build a fund to continue IAC's sustainability in the longer term, as well as to develop enterprising ways to generate revenue.

For more information, please visit autism.ideas.org.my



IDEAS ACADEMY

IDEAS Academy is a secondary learning centre in Pudu, Kuala Lumpur, for underprivileged youths including those who are stateless and refugees. We run this project with Young Refugee Cause Foundation from the Netherlands through IDEAS Academy Sdn Bhd, a company that is equally owned by both organisations.

In September 2014 the Academy opened its doors to welcome the first group of 24 students. IDEAS Academy uses the

internationally recognised Canadian Ontario curriculum implemented by qualified teachers in order to ensure high quality instruction. Students pay only a nominal fee, while the bulk of the cost is paid for by grants from generous donors.

For more information, visit
www.ideasacademy.org.my



CHAMPIONING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

2014 saw an increasingly loud assault on the ideals of liberty and justice. Some vital reforms have been hampered by these aggressive assaults. Through our outreach activities, we revive the ideals that were so endeared by Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman and the nation's other founding fathers.

In March, we organised a **Regional Liberal Colloquium** that brought together 14 liberal scholars, thinkers and activists from Malaysia and Indonesia to discuss "Liberty, Justice and Equality". The two day event was facilitated by Director of India's Liberty Institute, Barun Mitra and Guatemala's Universidad Francisco Marroquin Professor of Economics, Dr Chris Lingle. Our collaboration with student and

youth groups started to bear fruit this year. In particular, we supported two groups to organise a total of **nine events** targeting students and youths: **Kelas Pencerahan (Enlightenment Class) in Selangor** and **Sekolah Pemikir Jalanan (Street Thinkers School) in Perlis**.

The method employed by these groups is creative, in that they hold discussions in public spaces like restaurants and coffee shops, thereby enabling a more people to take part. Topics range widely, covering issues like education reform, understanding the free market, and the role of religion in public policy.



Participants of IDEAS' first Regional Liberal Colloquium with Barun Mitra from Liberty Institute, India and Dr Chris Lingle from Universidad Francisco Marroquin, Guatemala

CHAMPIONING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

To reach out to the online community, we organised the **Freedom Conversation** which was an online chat session with Wan Saiful Wan Jan and Tricia Yeoh. During the session, we invited people to ask any question on freedom and liberty through Twitter. The session was part of a bigger “Freedom Week” organised by our longstanding supporter and partner, Germany’s Friedrich Naumann Foundation in October.

With the support of academics from Nottingham University Malaysia Campus, we held an **Introductory Course on Political Economy** to provide young professionals with a better understanding of the market system. Delivered through five modules over 12 weeks, we trained

30 people from a pool of 90 applicants to the programme. The course was convened by IDEAS Senior Fellow Dr Maszlee Malik, who is also an Assistant Professor at the International Islamic University Malaysia.



Wan Saiful Wan Jan with Moritz Kleine-Brockhoff, Project Director for Friedrich-Naumann Foundation during Freedom Week in Kuala Lumpur

CHAMPIONING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE



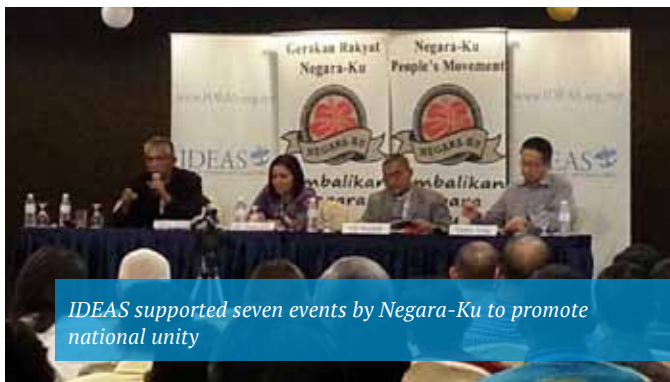
Dr Maszlee Malik conducting our Introductory Course on Political Economy at University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus

We also saw the need to foster more intellectual discourse on the role of religion in public policy. In April, we collaborated with the American Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to host seminars by two experts: the US Department of Justice's Mr Eric Treene and Georgetown University's Dr Timothy Shah. Then in June we worked with the French Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to host discussions on "laïcité" by Professor Valentine Zuber from Paris' École Pratique des Hautes Études and Mr Yves Teyssier d'Orfeuil, Deputy Advisor for Religious Affairs, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

CHAMPIONING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE



Together with Gabungan Bertindak Malaysia (GBM), we hosted a public event in Kuala Lumpur titled “Should Government Control Religious Affairs?”. The panel included Zaid Kamaruddin from IKRAM, Datuk Dr Denison Jayasooria from the Society for the Promotion of Human Rights (PROHAM), and Professor Valentine Zuber from Paris’ École Pratique des Hautes Études



IDEAS supported seven events by Negara-Ku to promote national unity

Media engagement continued to be at the top of our priority list. In 2014 we had regular opinion columns in two Malay, five English, and two Chinese newspapers. However, we deliberately narrowed down the issues that we commented on, as part of our strategy to become more focused in the work that we do. Therefore we did not always accept interview requests from broadcast and print media, which resulted in a drop in the frequency of our media appearances.

ADVOCATING SCHOOL CHOICE FOR EVERYONE

The vast majority of Malaysians cannot choose the school their children will go to. The ability to choose quality remains a privilege that is only enjoyed by a relatively small number of people. We believe choice should be available to everyone regardless of their social status. Our work in education centres around advocating for the less privileged to be given the ability to choose.

We completed our nationwide **“Voice of the Poor”** survey in 2014, interviewing 1,300 parents from the ‘bottom 40 percent’ group. This was the first survey of its kind in Malaysia and it helped us understand the challenges faced by the underprivileged when it comes to the national school system. The findings

have been published in two policy papers that can be downloaded freely from our website.

We took the survey findings to policymakers in government, the opposition, as well as corporate foundations and civil society organisations working in the field of education. Among others, we presented the findings to the Second Minister of Education as well as senior officials from the Ministry of Education and the Prime Minister’s Department.



We hosted a roundtable discussion to present the findings from our “Voice of the Poor” survey to stakeholders in the education sector in Malaysia

ADVOCATING SCHOOL CHOICE FOR EVERYONE



Throughout the year, we conducted briefings with senior management of the Ministry of Education, including the Second Minister for Education and Higher Learning, Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh

The Malaysian government has started a scheme called the **“Trust School Programme”** to catalyse school improvements. Being supportive of this agenda, we conducted a study to look at how the scheme can be scaled up quicker, resulting in the publication of a policy paper. We briefed various stakeholder groups, including the senior management team at the Ministry of Education, on how the existing model is unnecessarily expensive and **proposed a different funding mechanism** to encourage quicker replication of the programme across the country.

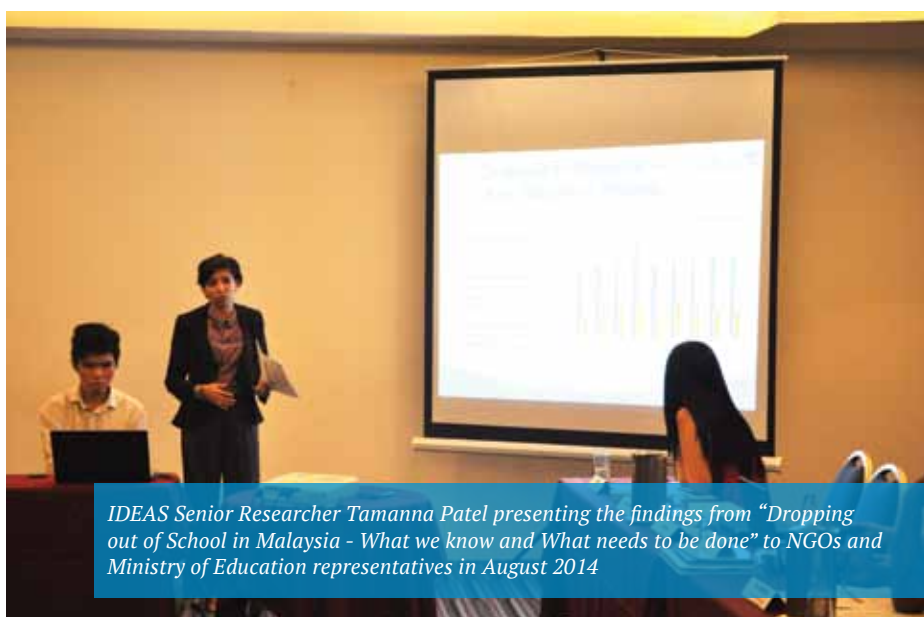
This year, we also looked into the issues of **special needs education, school vouchers and school drop-outs**, all with a view of ensuring the poor can also enjoy the benefits of school reforms.

In summary, in addition to the numerous advocacy meetings and speaking engagements, our Education Unit published a total of **five policy papers and hosted ten seminars and roundtables**.

ADVOCATING SCHOOL CHOICE FOR EVERYONE



We travelled to the northern state of Kedah to deliver a workshop with Teach For Malaysia Fellows who were interested to learn about our work in education reform



IDEAS Senior Researcher Tamanna Patel presenting the findings from "Dropping out of School in Malaysia - What we know and What needs to be done" to NGOs and Ministry of Education representatives in August 2014

CAMPAIGNING FOR TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT

The year 2014 saw the appointment of **Dr Razeen Sally as the first holder of the IDEAS Chair of Political Economy and Governance**. Dr Sally is a globally renowned expert on international trade policy, Director and Co-founder of the European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE) and Visiting Associate Professor at Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. He was a faculty member and PhD graduate of the London School of Economics (LSE). He has published numerous works on global trade policies, global economic crises and the Asian economy including the ASEAN and Chinese economy.

With Dr Sally's strategic guidance, we continued to campaign for **greater liberalisation, reduction of cross-border trade barriers, enhancement**

of transparency, and strengthening of rules-based trading system in Malaysia. Some of the main initiatives under the Chair programme are described below.

We completed a nine month project to **improve Malaysia's public procurement rules**, with particular emphasis on encouraging competition and generating better value for taxpayers money. Under this project we convened **ten closed door roundtable discussions** that brought together decision-makers from the relevant government agencies, enabling them to have a frank and open discussion on the necessary reforms. Three policy papers were published and we were invited to **brief three Cabinet Ministers** on our recommendations.



Dr Razeen Sally at the Economic Freedom Network Asia in Hong Kong

CAMPAIGNING FOR TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT

We spearheaded an initiative to raise awareness about the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI). We hosted **the first ever workshop on the OGP in Kuala Lumpur**, attended by officials from the government and civil society. We also hosted **Clare Short, Chair of EITI Board and former UK Secretary of State for International Development** in Kuala Lumpur, as part of our effort to create interest on the EITI. These contributed to making the OGP and EITI better known among the relevant CSOs. The EITI has also been adopted as a **policy promise of the three political parties** in the Pakatan Rakyat coalition.



Our team was invited to brief Members of Parliament on our joint proposal with the Malaysian Bar Council to reform the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission

CHAMPIONING TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT



Wan Saiful and Tricia Yeoh briefing Datuk Paul Low, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department before the Open Government Partnership Workshop in Kuala Lumpur

The fight against corruption continues to be one of our priorities. In February, we launched a book entitled 'Combatting Corruption: Understanding Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Malaysia', documenting the findings from a study that we conducted in the previous year. We built on this achievement by working closely with the Malaysian Bar and other civil society organisations to produce a document outlining proposed reforms to strengthen the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. It is expected that the document will be published in 2015.

IDEAS IN NUMBERS

IDEAS IN NUMBERS

IDEAS Events and Outreach Activities

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Student Outreach	23	19
Seminars & Workshops	28	47
Events Held Overseas	4	4
Total	48	70

IDEAS Publications

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Book	1	1
Policy Papers	9	10
Press Statements	24	20
Total	34	31

IDEAS Media Appearances 2014

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Opinion Articles	105	110
Print Media Coverage	614	546
TV and Radio Appearances	163	19
Total PR Value	RM 44 million (USD 14.6 million)	RM 25.2 Million (USD 8.4 million)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fundraising for an independent think tank is certainly not easy. In particular, it has been challenging to search for funds to pay for core costs like salaries and office overheads because most funders only fund direct project costs but not the staff to run the projects.

We are really grateful for the support we have received from generous local and international donors. Some have supported us since our early days, and without them we would not be able to produce all the achievements. We have managed to increase the number of our local funders. We hope this reflects the trust that funders have in the quality of work and the impact that we can produce.

Of course we are not complacent. In order to do more work, and to do it better, we must continue to attract more grants and donations. We particularly look forward to working more closely with local funders, as we believe that there are many Malaysians too who believe in the need to revive the values of liberty and justice.

Some of our major funders for 2014 are as follows:

 HongLeong Foundation

 The Asia Foundation

 ecmlibra

 Sime Darby
YAYASAN

 ATLAS
NETWORK

 AMERICANS
for TAX REFORM

 A&A
CHARITABLE
TRUST

 ATLAS
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE

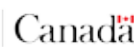
 NETWORK
FOR A
FREE
SOCIETY

 Friedrich-Haerem
STIFTUNG FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

 EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
KUALA LUMPUR

 Liberte • Egalite • Fraternite
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
EN MALAISIE

 With the financial contribution
of the Government of Canada
Avec la contribution financière
du gouvernement du Canada

 Canada

 British
High Commission
Kuala Lumpur

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2010-2014

INCOME BY SOURCE (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
Malaysian Sources	20,575	281,447	692,952	520,103	881,957
International Sources	568,732	456,146	514,178	1,111,808	856,667
Generated Sources	11,338	14,802	36,900	88,694	106,505
TOTAL	600,645	752,395	1,244,030	1,720,605	1,845,129

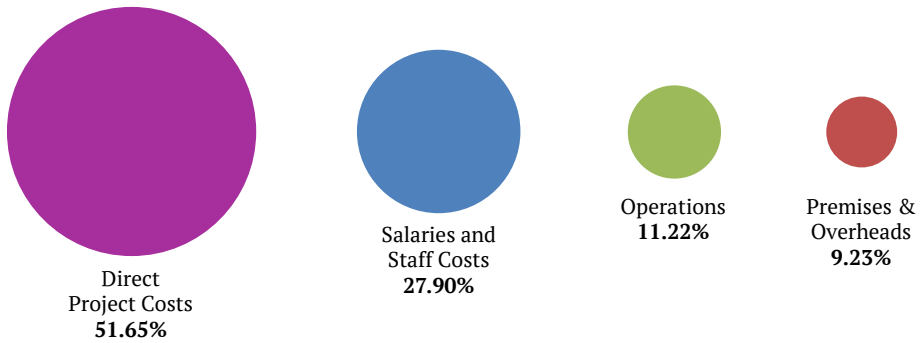
EXPENDITURE (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
Salaries & Staff Costs	183,845	330,507	374,610	405,427	514,109
Premise & Overheads	46,545	43,077	46,495	45,441	169,993
Operations	32,147	59,451	67,880	146,353	206,783
Direct Project Cost - Education	80,995	52,575	240,096	164,490	68,515
Direct Project Cost - Governance	93,527	15,935	102,711	81,464	61,978
Direct Project Cost - Events & Outreach	145,026	138,202	216,886	61,354	168,226
Direct Project Cost - SEANET					71,548
Direct Project Cost - IDEAS Autism Centre			178,563	410,279	502,005
Direct Project Cost - IDEAS Academy					71,467
One-off Project				406,772	7,974
TOTAL	582,085	639,747	1,227,241	1,721,580	1,842,597

TOTAL (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
Total Income	600,645	752,395	1,244,030	1,720,605	1,845,129
Total Expenditure	582,085	639,747	1,227,241	1,721,580	1,842,597
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	18,560	112,648	16,789	(975)	2,532

Totals may vary due roundings

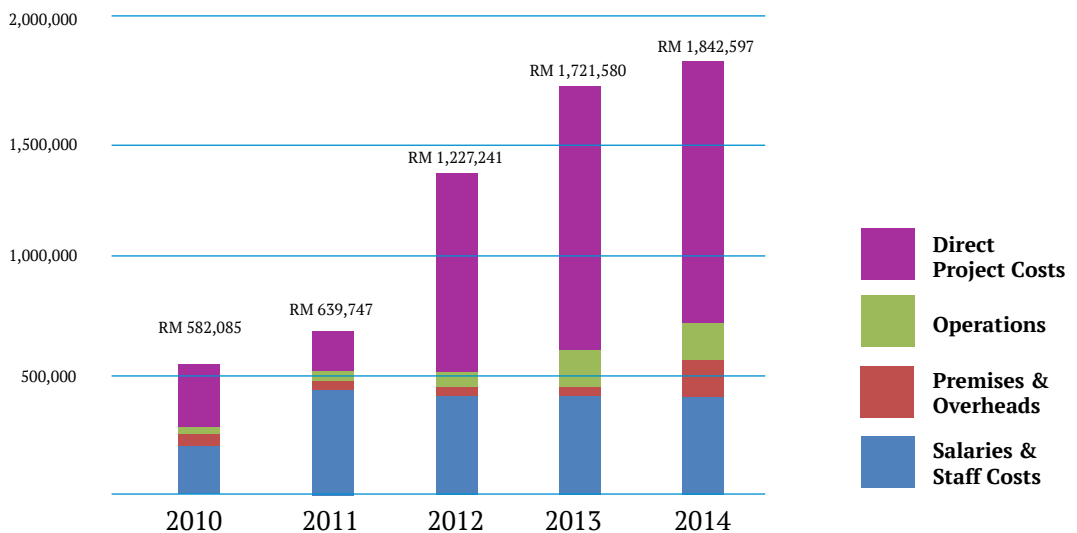
* Figures for 2014 are not yet audited at the time of printing

Expenditure 2014

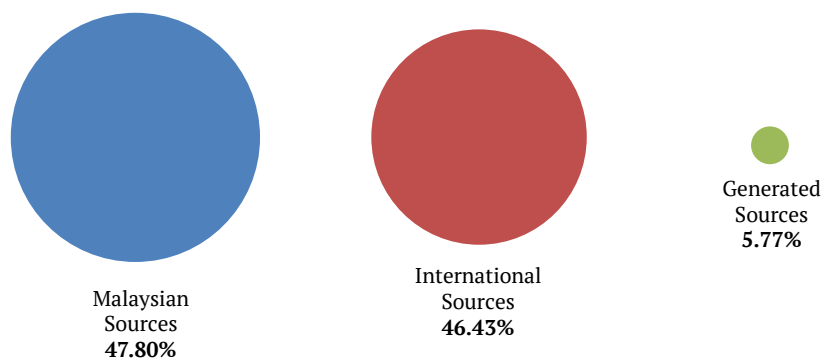


	Expenditure (RM)
Direct Project Costs	951,712
Salaries & Staff Costs	514,109
Operations	206,783
Premises & Overheads	169,993
Total	1,842,597

Total Expenditure 2010-2014

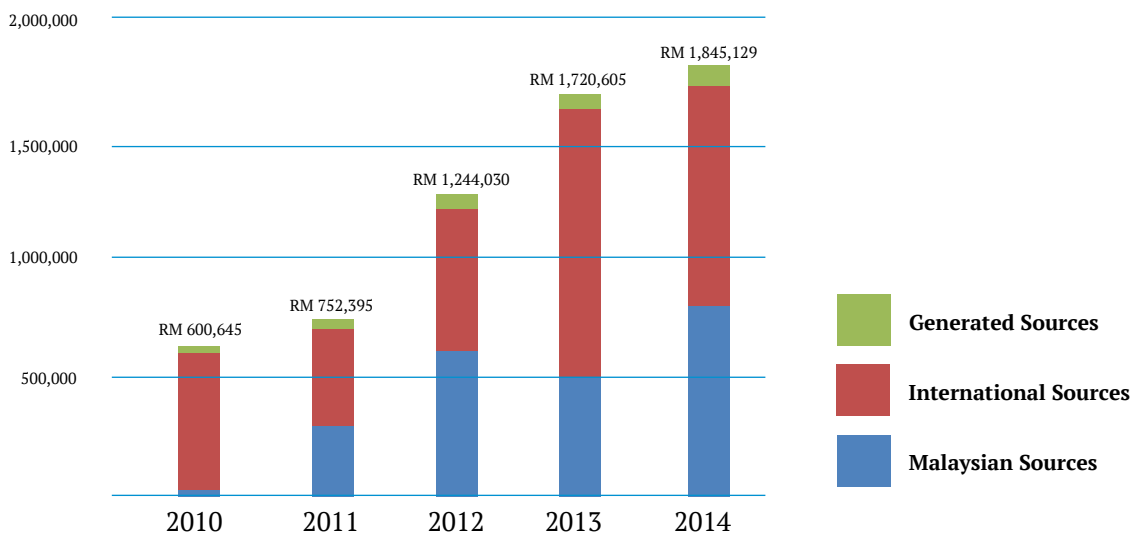


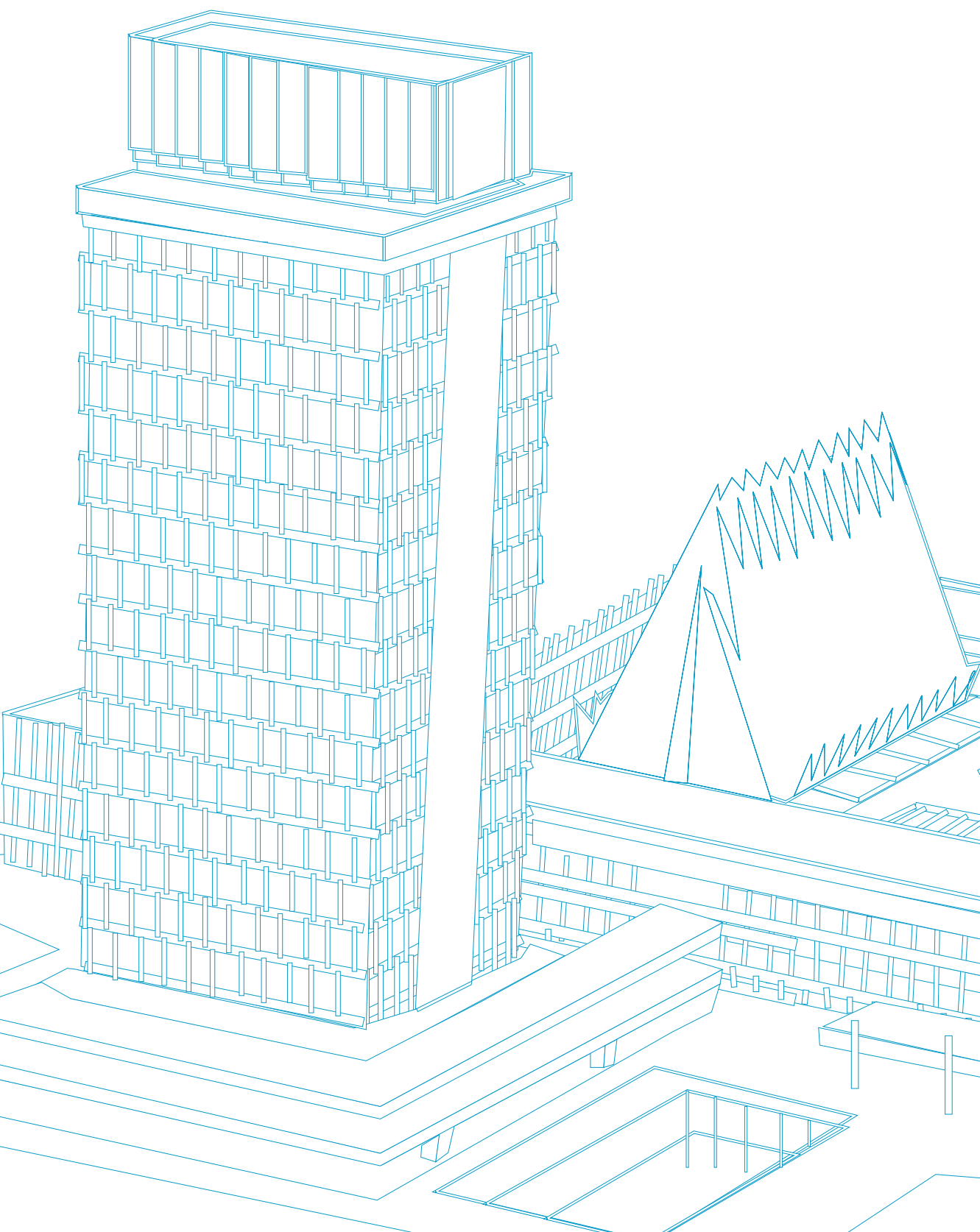
Income 2014



	Amount (RM)
Malaysian Sources	881,957
International Sources	856,667
Generated Sources	106,505
Total	1,845,129

Total Income Distribution 2010-2014





MOVING FORWARD

MOVING FORWARD

Moving forward, we expect to build on our achievements up to now and achieve even more. Looking at the trend, it can be anticipated that illiberal voices will only become louder in the years to come. Our work to promote the **freedom and liberty** envisioned by Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman will become even more important.

A major new initiative will be the **Southeast Asia Network for Development (SEANET)**. In line with our 2013 – 2015 strategic plans, we announced the establishment of SEANET on 30 October 2014. SEANET is a regional centre **to promote market friendly principles in ASEAN nations**. SEANET has three pillars : property rights, freer movement of goods and people, and inclusive growth. The first SEANET event was held in Hong Kong on 7 November 2014 and we will be organising even more such activities in the years to come.

We will embark on a project to promote

national unity. As divisive calls become louder, it is imperative that we bring in a more rational liberal voice to the fore. We will not duplicate existing initiatives. Instead, we will complement them by working in areas where we can add the most value.

We will strengthen our **education research and advocacy** by giving our work more structure and by bringing in experts to help us campaign for school choice.

And we will also continue and enhance our work in the fields of **political economy, good governance, open government and transparency**.

In order to optimise the financial support we receive, there is a need for a **corporate restructuring exercise**. Our aim is to ultimately create two separate but linked entities, one handling research and advocacy while another solely for the IDEAS Autism Centre. This will also enable us to obtain tax exemption status.



Tunku 'Abidin Muhriz speaking at SEANET's first event at the Economic Freedom Network in Asia on the impact of ASEAN on Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in November 2014

DONATE

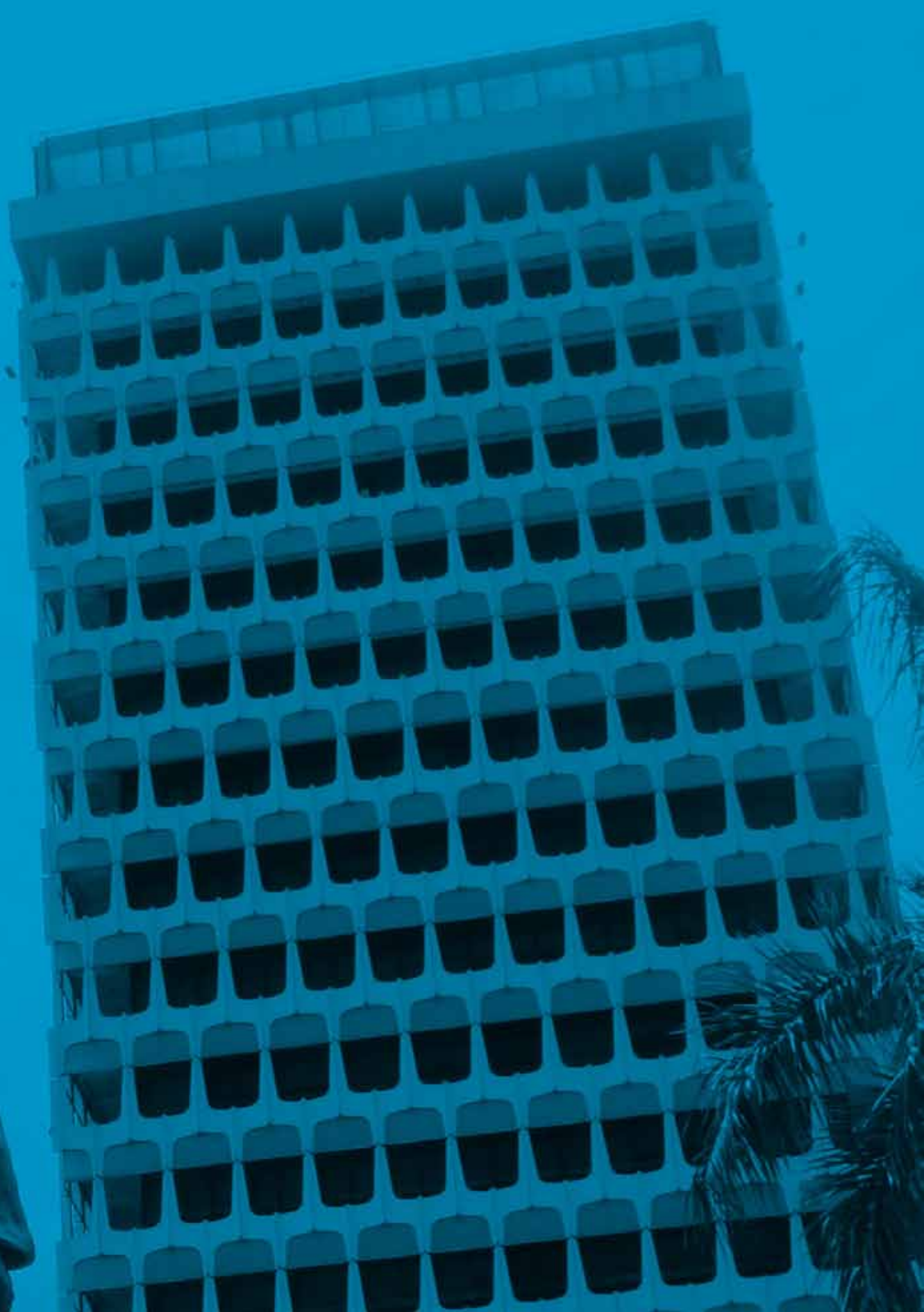
If you like the work that we do, please support us financially. We cannot survive without your financial assistance.

To donate from Malaysia, you can transfer to our CIMB account number 800 136 7104 or send a cheque payable to “IDEAS Berhad”.

If you are in the United Kingdom, IDEAS is registered with the Charities Aid Foundation (www.cafonline.org) and you can make your donation to us through CAF if you have a CAF account. If you are a UK taxpayer, CAF can claim the tax through Gift Aid, thereby increasing the amount that reaches us from your donation. Please contact us via email at ceo@ideas.org.my if you would like to donate via CAF.

If you are in the United States of America, we have a partnership with the Atlas Economic Research Foundation. Atlas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organisation that is consistently given a four-star rating by Charity Navigator and is recognised as a Guidestar Exchange Valued Partner for its financial transparency. Please contact us via email at ceo@ideas.org.my if you would like to donate via Atlas.





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