

4 YEAR
REVIEW
2010 | 2013

FREE MARKETS
PUBLIC POLICY
MERDEKA
INTEGRITY & RESPONSIBILITY
INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
RULE OF LAW
LIMITED GOVERNMENT
EMPOWERING THE POOR
GIVING VOICE TO THE POOR
GROWTH
MARKET DRIVEN
ECONOMIC FREEDOM
ranked 5th BEST THINK TANK IN THE WORLD
EDUCATION

Pemasyhuran Kemerdekaan

"Malaysia... akan kekal menjadi sebuah negara demokrasi yang merdeka lagi berdaulat serta berasaskan kebebasan dan keadilan dan sentiasa mempertahankan serta memelihara keamanan dan kemesraan umatnya dan mengekalkan keamanan di antara segala bangsa di dunia ini."

Proclamation of Independence

"Malaysia... 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

IDEAS 



introduction

This report documents the progress and achievements of the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) from 2010 to 2013. We decided to produce one report that summarises the last four years instead of producing an annual report just for 2013 so that readers can have a better picture of how much we have achieved in such a short time.

In this document, we also explain our plans for the future.

We hope readers can get a sense of our potential for growth.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please address your correspondence to:

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Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS)
F4 Taman Tunku, Bukit Tunku
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Fax: +60 3 6201 2001
Email: ceo@ideas.org.my

message

FROM COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

My first direct encounter with IDEAS occurred when they invited me to speak at their second anniversary celebration in February 2012, in conjunction with the commemoration of the birthday of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj. Even back in 2012, despite their limited resources, this group of young Malaysians had achieved quite a lot already. IDEAS has added to its list of accomplishments since then.



I was therefore glad to accept their invitation for me to chair the IDEAS Council. We can get a glimpse of how much goodwill IDEAS has generated in such a short time just by looking at the names of the IDEAS Council members.

The formation of the IDEAS Council in 2013 reflects the organisation's commitment for greater accountability and better governance. This is an important trait for all charitable organisations that seek public support.

IDEAS openly roots everything they do in well-defined principles. The four ideals that they operate on – rule of law, limited government, individual liberty and responsibility, and free markets – are universal concepts that would be beneficial to everyone. Most importantly, I am really glad that IDEAS continues to show commitment towards cross-partisanship.

Indeed the vision of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman for Malaysia to be forever a nation of liberty and justice is one that cuts across the partisan divide.

Moving forward, IDEAS will focus on making markets work for the poor. Inclusive development is a key pillar in Malaysia's development blueprint. As we get closer to becoming a high income and developed nation by 2020, we must ensure that the country's growth is shared by everyone. IDEAS can make a significant contribution in this regard.

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The culture of independent think tanks has not yet flourished in Malaysia, let alone the culture of giving to independent think tanks. But if we look at developed countries around the world, independent think tanks are vital in shaping the debate and in influencing public policy. What IDEAS tries to do is groundbreaking relative to our current situation in Malaysia. I hope all readers will join me in supporting IDEAS' work in the years to come.

Tun Mohamed Dzaidin Haji Abdullah
Chairman, IDEAS Council

message

FROM FOUNDING PRESIDENT

It seems like such a short time ago that IDEAS was launched at the Tunku Abdul Rahman Memorial. Since then many things have changed - in the country's politics, in civil society, and IDEAS' relationship with both. We have witnessed quite a bit of turbulence, earning friends and enemies on all sides, but more importantly we are beginning to be understood.



Much of the early scepticism was rooted in an assumption that we were agents of certain politicians, a political party or foreign imperialists. But that has finally given way to criticisms of our principles or the content of our policy proposals. We welcome this development, as open and robust debate is the hallmark of a functioning democracy.

It has been a real pleasure to see IDEAS grow in stature and (we'd like to think) influence. This has been made possible by the efforts of passionate people who contributed to us over the years despite our limited resources. In particular, I know that the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer have turned down many other lucrative opportunities for employment elsewhere! So I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank them for their perseverance in the past, and look forward to their continuing commitment.

We have also recently seen our previously informal board of advisors upgraded into a new IDEAS Council, and we are humbled that such distin-

guished individuals have seen it fit to spend some of their time and brainpower on helping to make IDEAS work better. Of course, from the beginning, we have also enjoyed the support of the Tunku's family, who have attended so many of our events without fail - in particular Tunku Khadijah and Tunku Ahmad Nerang who serves as our special advisor.

Please enjoy reading this short summary of our contributions to date, and if you feel so inclined, please help us to expand our efforts for the future.

Merdeka!

Tunku Zain Al-Abidin Tuanku Muhriz
Founding President

FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

We are completely serious when we say that we want to revive Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman's vision to see this nation "be for ever 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".



But we intentionally chose to do it in a very untraditional way. We do not have a specific unit or department dedicated to analysing the Tunku's thoughts and ideas. Others have attempted this historical approach, but that is not what we want to do. Instead, we want to find ways to apply the Tunku's liberal ideals and vision to public policy. That has been our commitment for the last four years, and it remains as our commitment to his legacy.

We fully appreciate that we operate in a divided environment, especially when it comes to politics, and increasingly when it comes to race and religion. We refuse to be divisive. Our strength is in being able to not take a partisan side. I hope we have proven that we always speak based on principles, proposing our own ideas, and supporting or constructively criticising ideas proposed by others, without regard to partisanship.

As we have done before, we will always try to identify and highlight opportunities for cross-partisan working when it arises, while always being mindful that in a liberal democracy healthy compe-

tition between government and opposition is necessary to produce the best outcome for citizens.

Moving forward, we have formulated a new strategy revolving around our new theme "making markets work for the poor and underprivileged". We have formed three new units – education, governance and outreach – to ensure we have a clearer focus. The works of these units will gradually become more apparent in the months to come. But one thing is clear – to us, the free market principles can be applied to all aspects of public policy including education and governance. The concept of "markets" is not limited to economics only.

message

FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Others have attempted this historical approach, but that is not what we want to do. Instead, we want to find ways to apply the Tunku's liberal ideals and vision to public policy. That has been our commitment for the last four years, and it remains as our commitment to his legacy.

We hope that everyone who wants to see Malaysia becoming a more open society will support us in this long-term journey. Over the next pages, you will see a snapshot of what we have achieved in the past, what we plan for the future, and how we can all play a part in this journey.

Wan Saiful Wan Jan
Chief Executive

about IDEAS

IDEAS is a not-for-profit, cross-partisan, and a tax-exempt foundation (*yayasan*). We are registered as a company limited by guarantee with reference 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's family.

We exist to promote our four principles:

- rule of law
- limited government
- free market
- Individual liberty and responsibility.

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

IDEAS shares the vision of **Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj**, the first Prime Minister of Malaysia, as stated in the 1957 Proclamation of Independence, which is to see Malaysia

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

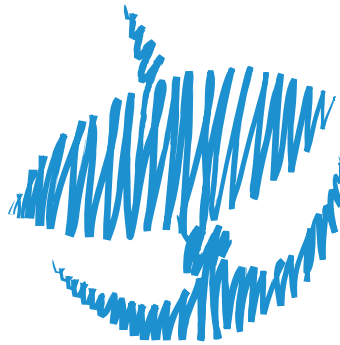
to improve the level of understanding and acceptance of public policies based on the principles of rule of law, limited government, free markets and individual liberty

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

the logo

RATIONALE



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 Free Individuals (*Individu Merdeka*), are deeply rooted in our nation's tradition 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.

the council

MEMBERS



YTM Tunku Ahmad Nerang
Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj
Special Advisor



IDEAS Inaugural Council Meeting on 26 November 2013

standing from left to right:

Dato' R Thillainathan, Datuk Omar Mustapha, Dato' Seri Nazir Razak, Carmello Ferlito, Tan Sri Munir Majid,
Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah, Datuk Seri Azman Ujang, Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed, Ong Kian Ming, Dato' Anthony Cooper

seated from left to right:

Wan Mohd Firdaus Fuaad, Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz, Tun Mohamed Dzaidin Haji Abdullah, Wan Saiful Wan Jan, Tricia Yeoh

• **Tun Mohamed Dzaidin Haji Abdullah**
Chairman

Consultant with Skrine,
Former Chief Justice of Malaysia,
Chairman of Bursa Malaysia Berhad,
Chairman of Tun Suffian Foundation



• **Dato' Sri Nazir Razak**

Group Managing Director and
Chief Executive Officer
of CIMB Group,
Deputy Chairman
of CIMB Bank, CIMB Investment Bank
President Commissioner
of PT Bank CIMB Niaga



• **Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh**

Chief Executive Officer of
Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI),
Member of
Malaysian Competition Commission,
Joint Secretary General
Malaysia China Business Council,
and ASEAN Business Forum



• **Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir Abdul Majid**

Chairman of
Bank Muamalat Malaysia Berhad,
Board of Trustees of
PINTAR Foundation and Malaysia-Europe Forum



the council

MEMBERS

• Dato' Dr R Thillainathan

Board Member of
Bursa Malaysia Berhad,
Allianz General Insurance Company
(Malaysia) Berhad,
Genting Berhad,
Petronas Dagangan Berhad
and Allianz Malaysia Berhad



• Dato' Anthony Cooper

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



• Datuk Seri Azman Ujang

Former General Manager of
BERNAMA,
Independent Non-Executive Director of
Berjaya Media Berhad,
Chairman of
Creative Republic Sdn Bhd



• YB Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed

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



- **Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah**

Chief Executive Officer of
the Global Movement
of the Moderates Foundation,
former Deputy Minister for
Higher Education



- **YB Datuk Dr Mujahid Yusof Rawa**

Member of
Parliament (PAS) for Parit Buntar,
PAS Central Committee Member



- **YB Dr Ong Kian Ming**

Member of
Parliament (DAP) for Serdang,
DAP Chief Election Strategist



- **Datuk Omar Mustapha**

Chairman of
Ethos & Company,
Independent Non-Executive Director of
Petronas and Symphony House Berhad,
Director of AirAsia



the board

OF DIRECTORS



• 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 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.

Throughout, he helped to develop the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs which he co-founded in 2006, and maintained his weekly columns: 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. Three books have been compiled from these articles.

Tunku 'Abidin also authored a book for the Installation of the 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; a contributor to the Foreign Policy Study Group and Yayasan Mahkota's Economic Roundtable; a member of the University of Malaya Research Advisory Committee; an advisor or patron to several cultural organisations; and an honorary major in the Malaysian Territorial Army.



• Wan Saiful Wan Jan

Wan Saiful is Founding Chief Executive of [IDEAS](#). He boarded at Sekolah Alam Shah, Kuala Lumpur, and then Tonbridge School, England. He holds a BA (Hons) in Management (Northumbria, UK) and an 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 the think tank Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit, the British Conservative Party's Research Department, and Social Enterprise London. He was 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 Director of CfBT Education Malaysia; member of the Advisory Board at INTI University; member of the Advisory Board of University of Notting-

ham's School of Politics, History and International Relations; and member of the Ministry of Education – PEMUDA Group on Education. He is also a member of the Mont Pelerin Society.

Previously he served as a member of the Razak School of 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.

the board

OF DIRECTORS



• Wan Mohd Firdaus Wan Mohd Fuaad

Firdaus, Founding Director of **IDEAS**, was educated at SRK Sultan Ibrahim Satu Pasir Mas, SRK Sri Subang Jaya and Sek Men Agama Persekutuan Kajang. He then went on to read Law at the University of Nottingham and BPP School of Law. He was previously Special Officer to the Chief Minister of Johor, handling the corporate portfolio which includes Iskandar Regional Development Authority and Johor Corporation.

Currently he is Vice President at JPMorgan Chase Bank Malaysia. He was a national delegate for Nottingham University to the

National Union of Students (NUS), national executive member of Federation Of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS), Chairman of Kesatuan Penuntut Undang Undang Malaysia UK & Eire (KPUM), and Chairman of UKEC (UK and Eire Council for Malaysian Students) from October 2005 to October 2007. As Chairman of UKEC, he established the first Malaysian Student Leaders Summit (MSLS), which has become a major national event. He is also founder of Young Corporate Malaysians and established the annual Young Corporate Malaysians Summit.

the IDEAS

TEAM



- Wan Saiful Wan Jan
Chief Executive



- Tricia Yeoh
Chief Operating Officer



- Amir Ridzuan Jamaluddin
Executive, Events and Outreach



- Sheefa Ahmad
Administrator



- Sri Murniati
Senior Researcher, Governance



- Tamanna Patel
Senior Researcher, Education

TEAM (AUTISM CENTRE)



- Sharifah Salleh
Principal



- Siti Fatimah Wan Jusoh
Speech Therapist



- Wan Fara Adila Wan Ahmad Kasbi
Therapist



- Nur Adia Syafika Mohd Noh
Teacher



- Robi Ishak
Teacher



- Nur Suhara Suhadi
Teacher

foundational

YEARS

The idea to establish a think tank for Malaysia was first mooted by three friends – *Wan Saiful Wan Jan, Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz, and Wan Mohd Firdaus Wan Mohd Fuaad* – in early 2006, having realised that there is a need to promote classical liberal ideas (known as libertarianism in United States of America) to Malaysians in a more strategic and organised fashion.



October 2006

We registered as a non-profit company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (Registration Number: 05980232). The 'working name' of the organisation was *Malaysia Think Tank London (MTTL)*. It was established in London because all three founders were residing in England at that time. Our aim at this stage was to build our profile and fundraising.

foundational YEARS

June 2007

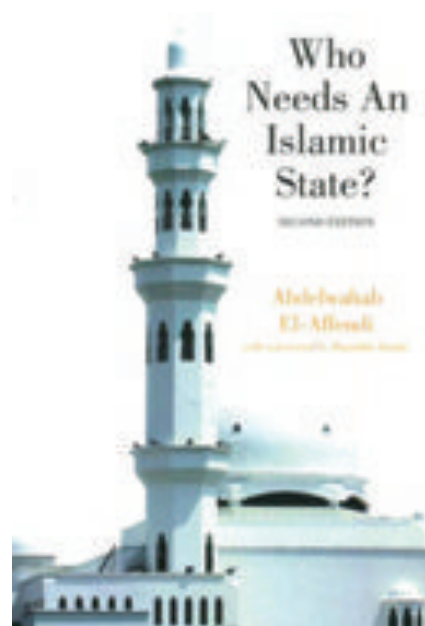
Upon receiving a grant of USD10,000 from Cato Institute, we began our work in Malaysia. The grant helped us to hold small seminars in Kuala Lumpur as well as opinion articles in Malaysian newspapers.

February 2008

We published our first book "Who Needs an Islamic State? (Second edition)" by Dr Abdelwahab El-Affendi, Senior Lecturer at the Centre for the Study of Democracy at the University of Westminster, London. The book was very well-received, and was reviewed in the British newspaper The Guardian.

July 2008

Another grant of USD35,000 from Cato Institute, USA, allowed us to launch WauBebas.org (Kite of Freedom), which served both as our website as well as the "brand" we used to promote libertarian ideas in Malaysia and Indonesia.



<http://www.amazon.com/Needs-Islamic-State-Second-Edition/dp/1844264815>

August 2008

Our first major event was the *Akademi Merdeka* (Freedom Academy), held on 23-25 August 2008 at Residence Hotel, UNITEN, Selangor, Malaysia. This was the first of many events that eventually evolved into our student outreach initiative in Malaysia and Indonesia under the banner of AkademiMerdeka.org.

foundational YEARS

January 2009

Our partnership with Cato Institute evolved into a partnership with Atlas Global Initiative for Free Trade, Peace and Prosperity, as Cato's International Programme moved to Atlas that year.

May 2009

We decided to move MTTL from London to Kuala Lumpur, and started building the foundations for a permanent home in Malaysia. Our first "office" was set up in a spare room in Tunku Abidin's apartment.

August 2009

The IDEAS Advisory Board was formed. Members were:

- Emeritus Professor Tan Sri Dato' Dr Khoo Kay Kim
- Datuk Seri Azman Ujang
- Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh
- Mr Edmond Yeo JP
- Dato Nur Jazlan Mohamed MP (UMNO)
- Wong Nai Chee (MCA)
- Khaw Veon Szu (Gerakan)
- Yusmadi Yusoff MP (PKR)
- Senator Tunku Aziz Ibrahim (DAP)
- Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar MP (PAS)

(The Advisory Board has since been replaced by a new IDEAS Council)

December 2009

After a comprehensive situational review, on 14 December 2009, we decided to relaunch the organisation with a new name that better reflects the areas of our work –

Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS).



2010 - The First Year

IDEAS was officially launched on Monday, 8 February 2010, at the Tunku Abdul Rahman Memorial, in conjunction with the birthday of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj, Malaysia's first Prime Minister.



The event, which received wide coverage in the media, was attended by three generations of Tunku's family and more than 150 civil society leaders, captains of industries, politicians, senior government officials, representatives from the media and members of the public.

Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, former Finance Minister of Malaysia, delivered the speech to officiate the launch.

2010

THE FIRST YEAR

Establishing Our Presence

The year 2010 saw a fledgling **IDEAS** trying to establish ourselves in the Malaysian public policy scene. The two key areas that we focused on were school reform and federalism.

To widen and strengthen our network in the political arena, we travelled to six states – Kedah, Sabah, Sarawak, Penang, Kelantan and Johor - to hold workshops with politicians from the government and opposition discussing federalism and decentralisation.



We started our research into the Malaysian school system. With funding from the CfBT Education Trust, UK, we conducted a review of the role of the private providers in the Malaysian school system.

THE FIRST YEAR

Throughout 2010, we organised 15 events, and spoke at eight more events organised by others, to inform the public about the values and importance of liberty and justice. We targeted rural areas and small towns, such as Muadzam Shah (Pahang), Batu Sapi (Sabah), Sibujaya (Sarawak) and Jitra (Kedah).

For an organisation that was in its first year, our media engagement was very successful. Our opinions were sought by journalists from both the national and international press, including Bernama, Reuters, AFP, and The Economist.



Our media achievements included:

- regular columns in six national press outlets
- seven TV and radio interviews
- 121 newspaper articles
- 55 mentions in printed news reports



2010

THE FIRST YEAR

Regional Outreach

Under our *Akademi Merdeka* project, which is funded by the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, we held three residential courses for university students, two in Indonesia and one in Malaysia.



This enabled us to create a strong network with like-minded young activists in both countries.



2010

THE FIRST YEAR



And, despite our young age, we took part in several international events, including:

- International Democrats Union Meeting, Taipei, Taiwan - February 2010
- International Academy for Leadership, Gummersbach, Germany - March 2010
- Heritage Resource Bank, Miami, Florida - April 2010
- Pacific Rim Policy Exchange, Sydney, Australia - September 2010



2010

THE FIRST YEAR

Remembering Malaysia's Founding Fathers



On 16 September 2010, in conjunction with the 47th anniversary of the formation of Malaysia, we hosted a special dinner with the descendants of Malaysia's founding fathers, including the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Tunku Abdul Rahman, Tun Fuad Stephens, Tun Temenggong Jugah, Tun Tan Cheng Lock, Tun Sambanthan and Tun Dr Ismail. This was the first time since Malaysia Day in 1963 that so many members of these families were reunited under one roof.



2011

THE SECOND YEAR



We celebrated our anniversary on 8 February 2011 at the Tunku Abdul Rahman Memorial, in conjunction with the birthday of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj. Just like our launch event in 2010, three generations of the Tunku's family graced this event too.



2011

THE SECOND YEAR

Making Early Marks

January 2011 saw IDEAS making its first mark internationally. Despite our limited resources, we were ranked as the 18th best new think tank in the world for 2010 by the University of Pennsylvania's global think tank ranking programme.



Policy-makers in government and opposition started to recognise our potential. Among others, we were invited to make a presentation to a meeting on Budget 2012 chaired by Prime Minister YAB Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak. And we also provided inputs to the Islamic Party of Malaysia (PAS) when they were formulating their concept of "Caring Nation" in preparation for the 13th General Election.

Promoting School Reform

School reform quickly became our key agenda, especially the creation of greater choice and competition in the school system. Our effort was boosted significantly when we received a grant from Khazanah Nasional Berhad to start an education unit within IDEAS.



The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education delivered a keynote speech at our National Conference on Public Private Partnership in the School System



We worked with the Razak School of Government to hold three intensive workshops for senior officials from the Ministry of Education, with speakers including Harry Patrinos (World Bank) and Laura Lewis (CfBT Education Trust).



Encouraging Policy Debates

Despite the pervasive influence of race and religion in Malaysian politics, we continued our push to bring policy to the forefront of debates. We conducted workshops on rule of law and constitutionalism in five more states – Selangor, Johor, Sarawak, Sabah, Negeri Sembilan. Altogether 224 politicians and state party leaders attended our workshops.



We held and took part in 30 more seminars and conferences throughout the country, engaging an estimated 3000 people in total. Additionally, our outreach to university students was particularly successful. We visited six universities, holding workshops on "Understanding Economic Liberalisation" attended by at least 600 students and lecturers.



2011

THE SECOND YEAR

Media engagement played a vital role in our outreach. In 2011, on average we were in the media every week, and generated RM34 million worth of PR Value in Malaysia alone through:

- regular columns in five national press outlets
- 97 TV and radio interviews and appearances
- 102 newspaper articles
- 646 mentions in printed news reports

We also began to see our voice published regionally, with the Economist, Singapore Straits Times and Jakarta Globe quoting us.



Regional Outreach

We held three more residential courses in Indonesia under the banner of *Akademi Merdeka* plus six seminars for university students.



Our regional credentials were significantly boosted when we were chosen to host the 2011 Economic Freedom Network Asia Regional Conference, themed “Competition: Engine for Prosperity”. This saw us co-publishing the Malaysian edition of the Economic Freedom of the World Annual Report, which was launched by Tan Sri Koh Tsu Koon, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department at the conference.



2012 - The Third Year

IDEAS' 2012 calendar started with our anniversary event on 11 February 2012, once again at the Tunku Abdul Rahman Memorial and graced by members of Almarhum Tunku Abdul Rahman Alhaj family.



At the event, Tun Mohd Dzaidin Abdullah, former Chief Justice of Malaysia, delivered the keynote address, and Tunku Abdul Aziz Ibrahim delivered a passionate speech about remembering Tunku Abdul Rahman.



Increasing International and National Recognition

The year 2012 was a busy one for us. Early in the year, we were announced as the 13th best new think tank globally for 2011 by the University of Pennsylvania's global think tank ranking, which was an improvement from the year before.



Increasingly our work received national attention. Among others, we were invited to present our proposals to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Electoral Reform, spoke on how to reform the Dewan Negara to a group of 25 Senators, and organised a series of four lectures themed "Re-Imagining Malaysia" in partnership with the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) in Kota Samarahan.

2012

THE THIRD YEAR



We galvanised our efforts in the fields of governance and anti-corruption. We held a series of high-level roundtables on anti-corruption at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Academy, and hosted a conference on eradicating corruption featuring former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi.



We continued our efforts to upskill politicians, encouraging them to shift from the persistent debate about race and religion to real policies issues. In 2012, we conducted eight more workshops and seminars on constitutionalism and decentralisation for state-level politicians, this time in Perlis, Sarawak, Perak, Sabah, Negeri Sembilan and Pulau Pinang.



Our university outreach activities became more focused in 2012. In addition to the "Re-Imagining Malaysia" lecture series at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, we conducted eight more seminars for students in various universities, to discuss the virtues of a liberal economic system. These are in addition to the many more events that we were invited to speak at in Malaysia.



We were also invited to speak at international events, including the World Forum in Governance organised by Brookings Institution in Prague, conference on economic Implications of the Arab Spring organised by Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty in Tunis.

- [illegible]

MPs must consider the merits of individual Bills instead of being automaton.

The industrial revolution that began in the 18th century and continued through the 19th century was the first time in human history that the world was transformed by the power of the machine. The machine was the first time in human history that the world was transformed by the power of the machine. The machine was the first time in human history that the world was transformed by the power of the machine.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEA) has today launched a new research project on anti-corruption initiatives in the country.

"This is the first time that an organisation has attempted to document and map out the main initiatives to build integrity and reduce corruption in Malaysia," the Institute said in a statement.

Former Prime Minister Tan Abdullah Razali, who launched the report, said the effort was an important work that enables the country to have a good map that documents past efforts.

"And from it we can get inspirations and experiences to move forward," he said.

Abdullah said the report would provide the country with a very comprehensive foundation on which to build a culture of integrity.

"Hopefully it can lead to a source of real actions that will make actual and real change," he said.

The report was launched in March 2005 at the IDEA 10th Anniversary Dinner in the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.





Our opinions were also sought by regional and international media. We appeared on various platforms including the Asian Wall Street Journal, International Herald Tribune, The Telegraph (UK), The Guardian (UK), Jakarta Post, Singapore Straits Times, BBC, Al- Jazeera, Channel News Asia, and more.



Regional Outreach

Through *Akademi Merdeka*, we continued our university student outreach activities in Indonesia. In 2012 we organised 3 more residential courses and 8 student seminars, each one with the aim of promoting the free market and an open society.



We charted history on 9 July 2012 when we hosted President of Czech Republic Vaclav Klaus in Jakarta, at an event to launch the translation of his book on climate change.



2013 - The Fourth Year

In January 2013, we improved our position in the global ranking of think tanks produced by the University of Pennsylvania. This time, we were ranked as the 5th best new think tank globally and the best new think tank in Asia.



However we were unable to hold our anniversary event like in previous years, due to the heavy workload to recruit and train observers for Malaysia's 13th General Election. In fact, the first half of 2013 was completely dominated by preparation for observing the General Election and almost all our resources were dedicated to the project.

Observing Malaysia's 13th General Election

Although the Malaysian Election Commission started engaging us on 28 May 2012, we were only officially appointed as an accredited General Election observer on 31 January 2013. Nevertheless, this was a very significant appointment as it signifies the level of trust given to us nationally.



We recruited 325 observers to cover 99 (out of the 222) parliamentary constituencies, as well as the overseas voting processes in USA, UK, France, Switzerland, Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates. We conducted 22 training sessions for these observers in just seven weeks, with at least one each in all the peninsular Malaysia states.

The General Election eventually took place on 5 May 2013. We produced our observation report on 8 May 2013. The report received widespread

coverage nationally and internationally. Our website crashed daily for almost two weeks due to the heavily increased number of visitors downloading the report.

This was a most challenging project for a small organisation like us. Managing the very high public expectation as well as maintaining our cross-partisanship were particularly complex. Nevertheless, we completed it successfully, with almost no one questioning the credibility and independence of our findings.



Continued Engagement With Society

We ramped up our outreach activities soon after the General Election. We toured the country to discuss the outcomes of the general election, and the impacts it may have on Malaysia and its position in the region.

In total, in 2013 we took part or organised 21 events in Malaysia to directly engage the public and policy-makers. We also held more activities for Malaysian students. In total we spoke at or organised nine seminars in for university students in Malaysia, and one residential course.



This year, we generated more than RM44 million of PR Value (not including media outside of Malaysia) through:

- regular columns in eight national press outlets
- 63 TV and radio interviews and appearances
- 105 newspaper articles
- 614 mentions in printed news reports





Regional Outreach

We spoke at four events outside of Malaysia - in Manila, Singapore, Bangkok, and London.

Our student engagement in Indonesia continued under the banner of *Akademi Merdeka*. We hosted a few more residential courses and more seminars for university students.

Two Major Research Initiatives

2013 was a particularly good year in terms of our original research initiatives. We completed two research projects in education and governance.

Our *Giving Voice to the Poor* project was a nationwide survey of poor and underprivileged families (the bottom 40 percent). We conducted seven focus group discussions and interviewed a further 1200 parents, capturing their opinions of the current Malaysian education system, and the challenges they face in sending their children to school. The primary study was completed in November 2013, and reports will be released in stages in 2014.



2013

THE FOURTH YEAR



We also coconducted another project that aimed to persuade the government to increase transparency in public procurement so that taxpayers know whether they are getting better value for money. We held a series of high-level meetings involving ministers and senior civil servants, and published a paper on the topic, all aimed at lobbying for improvements in transparency. We are glad that from late November 2013, the government has published some information regarding directly negotiated contracts on a government website.



YEAR	LIST OF PUBLICATION
2010	Perspektif Perlembagaan What is the Role of Government? Adakah Gaji Minima Cara Terbaik Membantu Golongan Miskin Liberalising the Malaysian Economy: A Response to the New Economic Model The Fall of the Australian Liberal Party: A Lesson for Malaysian Liberals Water Provision in Malaysia International Property Rights Index 2011
2011	Tunku's Great Ideas Malaysian Agrotechnology and Subsidies: Are We Using Them Wisely? Enhancing the Role of the Private Sector in Education Muslim Youth Survey Malaysia's New Economic Model: Is the Government Serious About Economic Liberalisation? Economic Freedom of the World Index Keeping it Real: Combatting Fake Drugs in Malaysia
2012	Nine Ideas to Improve Our Electoral System Ekonomi Pasaran Sosial: Pengamalannya di Jerman dan Cadangan untuk Malaysia Social Market Economy: The Case of Germany and Suggestions for Malaysia A New Dawn for Dewan Negara: A Study of Malaysia's Second Chamber and Proposals for Reform Civil Service and Change of Government A Review of the National Education Dialogue Smooth Transition of Power: Hung Parliament and Caretaker Government Boosting MACC Independence for Greater Public Confidence
2013	Combatting Corruption: Understanding Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Malaysia: Preliminary Report Free Trade and Markets in Healthcare: Lessons for Asian Countries Jalan Perhambaan dan Esei Tentang Para Intelektual Combatting Corruption: Understanding Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Malaysia Giving Voice to the Poor EMHN Briefing No.1 : Fake Medicines in Asia EMHN Briefing No.2 : Fake Medicines in Asia Was GE13 Free and Fair? Private Education for The Poor: The Case of India and the Lessons for Malaysia After GE13: Strengthening Democracy in Malaysia International Property Rights Index 2013 Economic Freedom of the World Index 2013 Key Failings in the Malaysian Public Procurement System The Hardware and Software to Overcome the Middle Income Trap Market Solutions to the Education Crisis

research AND PUBLICATIONS



Combatting Corruption
by Anis Yusal Yusoff / Sri Murniati / Jenny Gryzelius



Jalan Perhambaan
by Frederick A. Hayek



Free Trade and Markets in Healthcare
by Philip Stevens / Debashis Chakraborty



Memerangi Rasuah
by Anis Yusal Yusoff / Sri Murniati / Jenny Gryzelius



The Future of Pakatan Rakyat
by Keith Leong Yu Keen



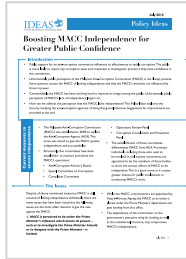
Perspektif Perlembagaan
by Abdul Aziz Bari



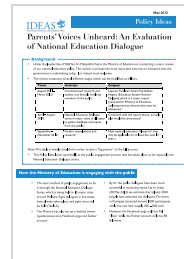
Fake Medicine in Asia
by Phillips Stevens and Dr. Helmy Haja Mydin



Key failings in the Malaysian public procurement system and how they can be addressed by greater transparency
by David Seth Jones



Boosting MACC Independence for Greater Public Confidence



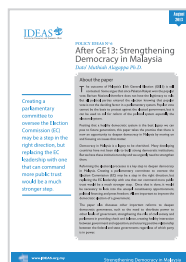
Parents' Voices Unheard: An Evaluation of National Education Dialogue



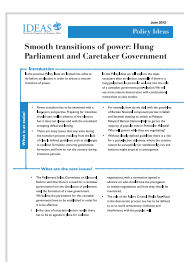
Market solutions to the education crisis
by Myron Lieberman



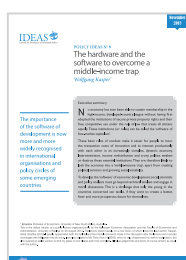
Private Education for the Poor: the case of India and lessons for Malaysia
by Wan Saiful Wan Jan and Joanna Lim



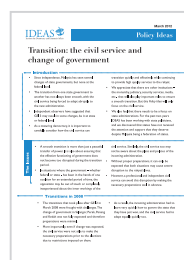
After GE13: Strengthening Democracy in Malaysia
by Dato' Dr Muthiah Alagappa



Smooth Transition of Power : Hung Parliament and Caretaker Government



The hardware and the software to overcome a middle-income trap
by Wolfgang Kasper



Transition: the civil service and change of government

research AND PUBLICATIONS



Modern Agritechnology and Subsidies in Malaysian Agriculture
Are We Using Them Wisely
by Wan Saitul Wan Jan



Nine Ideas to Improve Our Electoral System
Submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee
by Professor James Chin and Wan Saitul Wan Jan



The Role of the Judiciary as a Key Check and Balance Institutions in Malaysia
by Tun Mohamed Dzaiddin bin Haji Abdullah



Social Market Economy: The Case of Germany and Suggestions for Malaysia
by Robert Haas



The Tunku's Great Ideas
by Leonard Lim Yangli



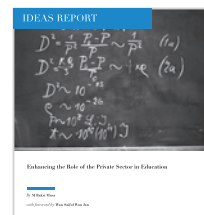
A New Dawn for the Dewan Negara
A Study of Malaysia's Second Chamber and Some Proposals for Reforms
by Tunku Abidin Muhriz



Combating Corruption: Understanding Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Malaysia
by Anis Yusaf Yusoff et al



Ekonomi Pasaran Sosial: Pengalamannya di Jerman dan Cadangan untuk Malaysia
by Robert Haas



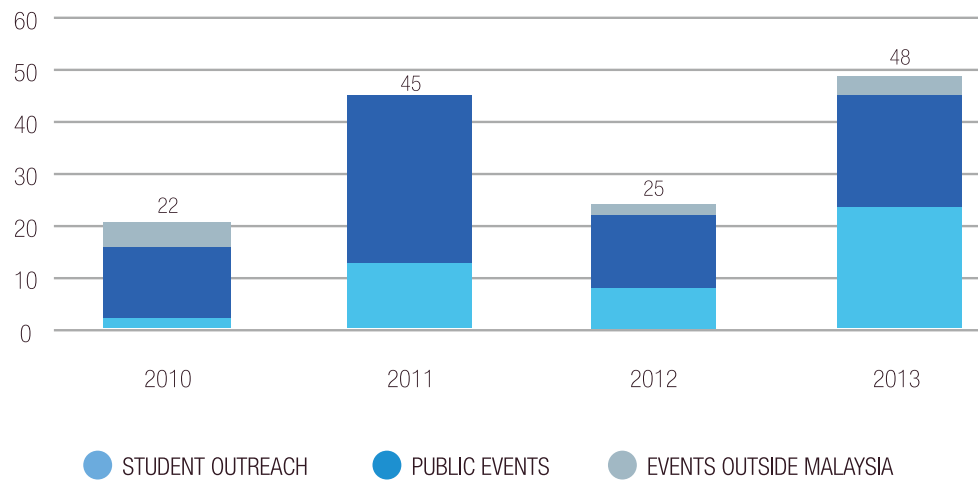
Enhancing the Role of the Private Sector in Education
by M. Bakri Musa



Keeping it Real: Combating Fake Drugs in Malaysia
by Julian Harris et al

YEAR	STUDENT OUTREACH	PUBLIC EVENTS	EVENTS OUTSIDE MALAYSIA	TOTAL
2010	3	15	4	22
2011	15	30	N/A	45
2012	18	22	5	25
2013	23	21	4	48
TOTAL	59	74	13	170

EVENTS BY YEAR 2010 - 2013

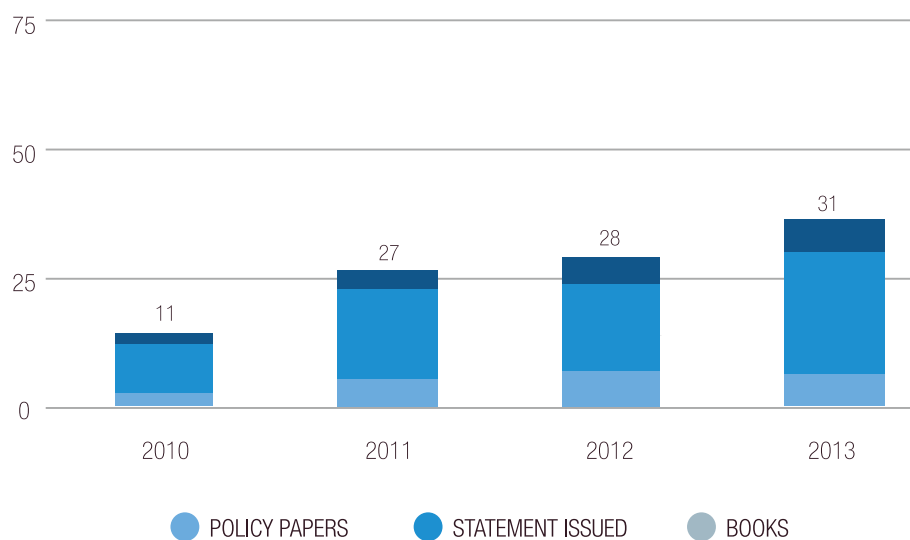


research

AND PUBLICATIONS

YEAR	POLICY PAPERS	STATEMENT ISSUES	BOOKS	TOTAL
2010	4	7	0	11
2011	9	16	2	27
2012	6	21	1	28
2013	10	20	1	31
TOTAL	29	74	4	107

PUBLICATIONS BY YEAR 2010 - 2013

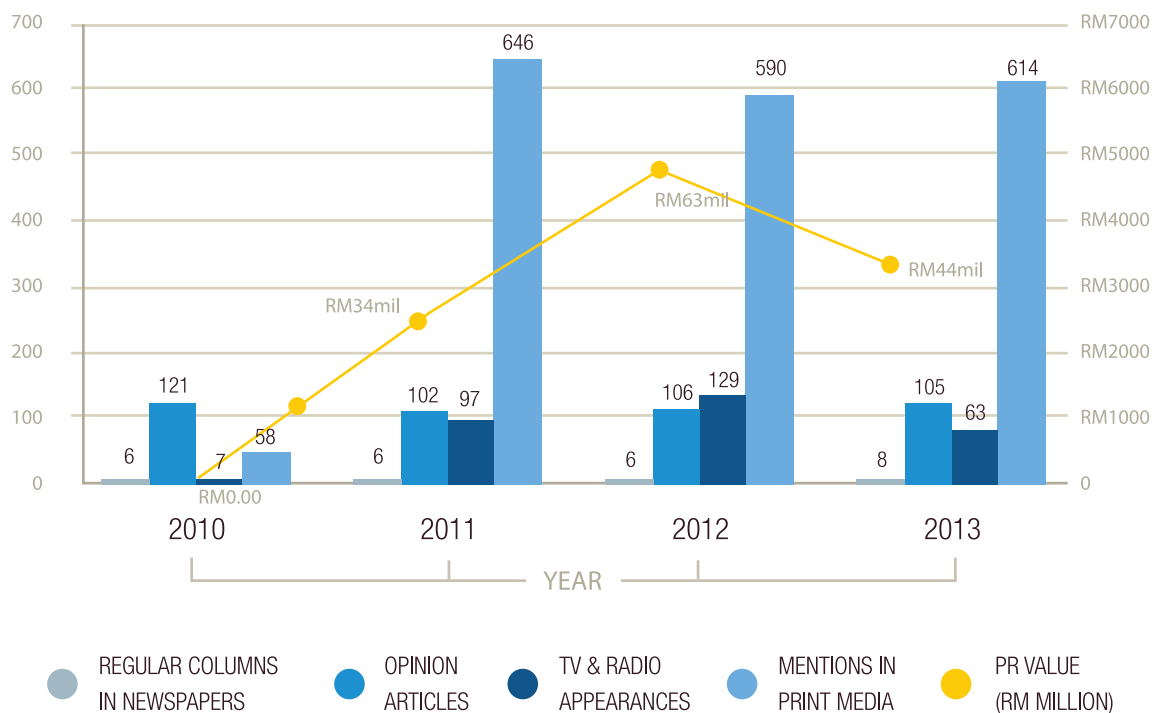


AND PUBLICATIONS

YEAR	REGULAR COLUMN IN NEWSPAPERS	OPINION ARTICLES	TV & RADIO APPEARANCE	MENTIONS IN PRINT MEDIA	*PR VALUE (RM)
2010	6	121	7	55	N/A
2011	6	102	97	646	34mil
2012	6	106	129	590	63mil
2013	8	105	163	614	44mil

**PR Value as calculated by newspaper circulation and readership*

MEDIA 2010 - 2013



special project

IDEAS AUTISM CENTRE



The **IDEAS** Autism Centre (IAC) is our pilot project to serve low-income household families by providing their autistic children with full time care and therapy services at an affordable price, with the aim of creating a sustainable business model that can be replicated nationally.

IAC is currently situated in Taman Bukit Templer, Rawang, Selangor. We have capacity for 30 students. We subsidise the costs for all children from underprivileged family backgrounds.

Running IAC makes our work on studying education provision for the poor and underprivileged unique. Not only do we research the relevant policies, but we also have a 'live' venture that allows us to experience existing policies. Our knowledge therefore is not just derived from theoretical research, but also from hands-on experience of the realities.



financial

INFORMATION

Over the last four years, our financial position has been very challenging. Most funders fund only project costs. This is problematic especially if we want to respond to immediate arising issues. There have been many instances where we could have contributed to issues, but we were not able to take part because all our fund are tied to specific projects.

Nevertheless, IDEAS has grown every year. We have been relatively successful in attracting international grants, but year by year we have also been able to increase the share of funds raised from within Malaysia.

Some of our major funders are:



YAYASAN

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**



British
High Commission
Kuala Lumpur



Tinggi Foundation



financial

INFORMATION

INCOME BY SOURCE (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL*
Malaysian Sources	20,575	281,447	692,952	520,103	1,515,079
International Sources	568,732	456,146	514,178	1,111,808	2,650,864
Generated Income	11,338	14,802	36,900	88,694	151,734
TOTAL	600,646	752,395	1,244,031	1,720,605	4,317,678

EXPENDITURE (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013**	
Salaries & Staff Cost	183,845	330,507	374,610	405,427	
Premise & Overheads	46,545	43,077	46,495	45,441	
Operations	32,147	59,451	67,880	146,353	
Direct Project Cost - Education	80,995	52,575	240,096	164,490	
Direct Project Cost - Governance	93,527	15,935	102,711	81,464	
Direct Project Cost - IDEAS Autism Centre			178,563	410,279	
Direct Project Cost - Election Observation				114,662	
Direct Project Cost - Events & Outreach	145,026	138,202	216,886	61,354	
Direct Project Cost - Health Policy Network				292,110	
TOTAL	582,085	639,747	1,227,241	1,721,579	

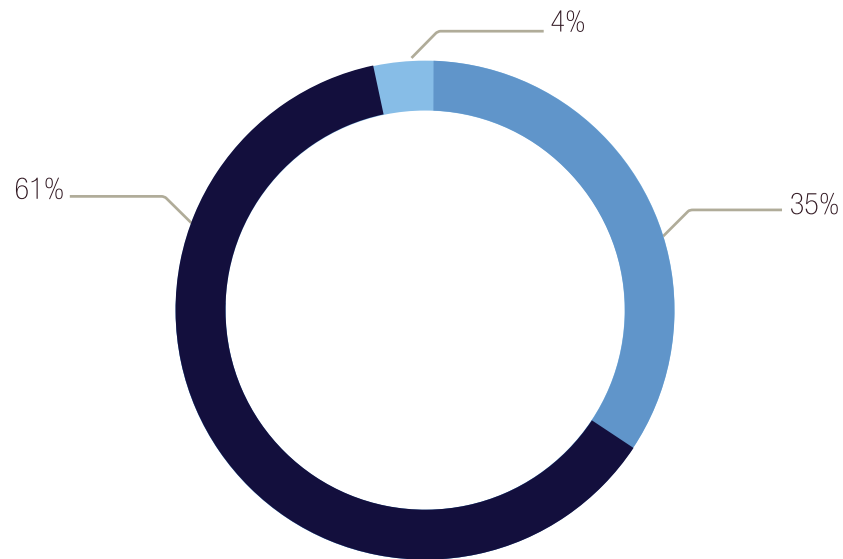
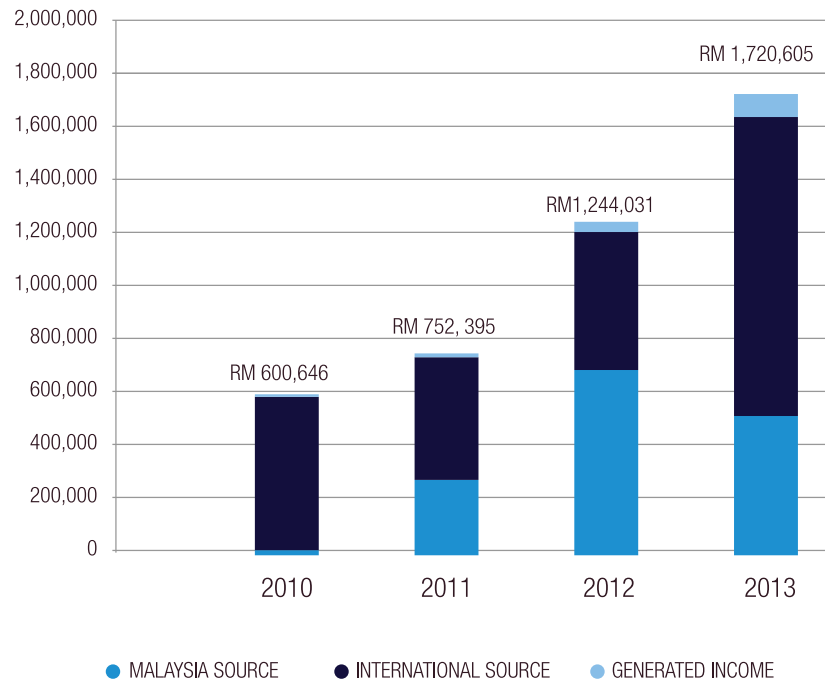
TOTAL (RM)	2010	2011	2012	2013**	
Total Income	600,646	752,395	1,244,031	1,720,605	
Total Expenditure	582,085	639,747	1,227,241	1,721,579	
Surplus & Deficit	18,561	112,649	16,790	-974	

* Totals may vary due to roundings.

** Figures for 2013 are not yet audited at the time of printing

financial

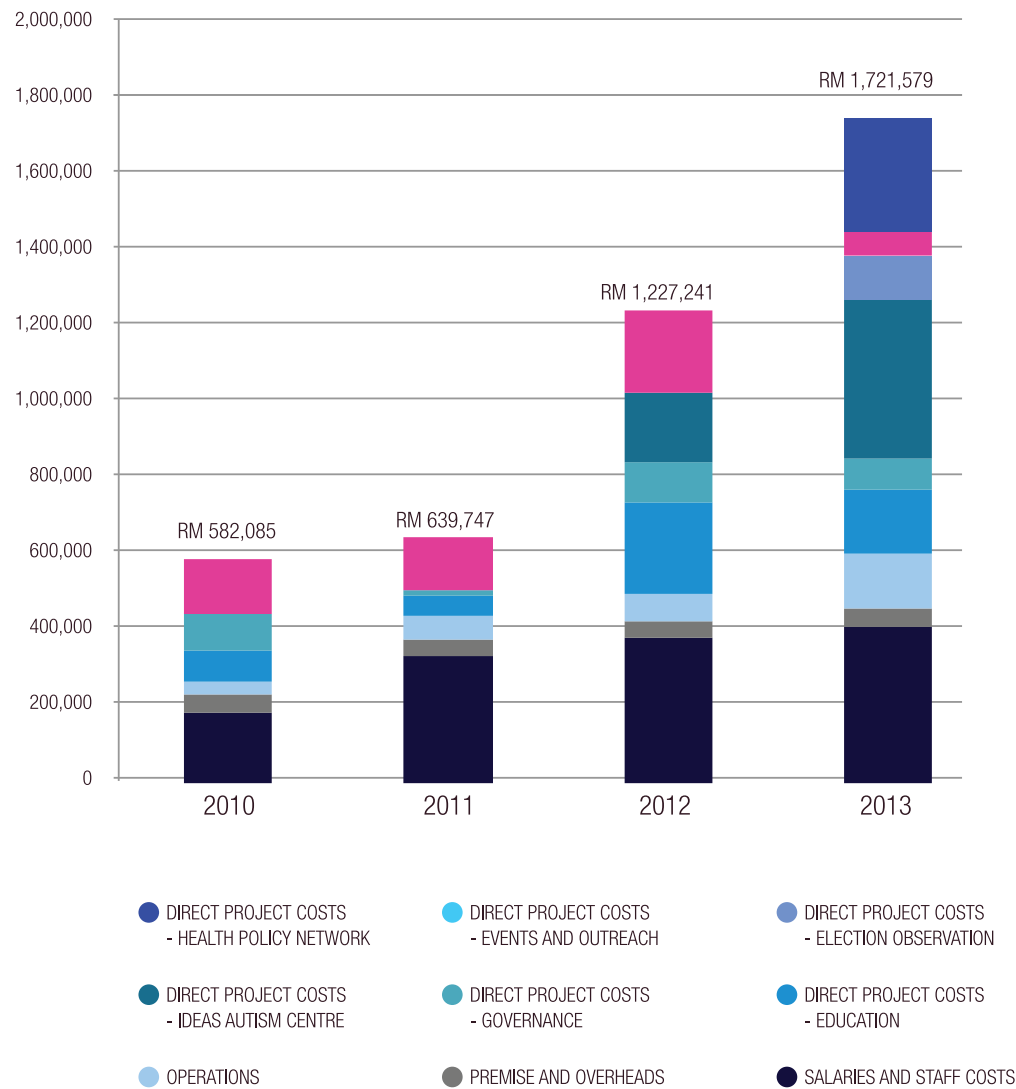
INFORMATION



TOTAL INCOME DISTRIBUTION 2010 - 2013

financial

INFORMATION





These are challenging targets and we are gradually putting together the building blocks to achieve them.

We have improved our internal governance system to ensure greater accountability, and created a new [IDEAS](#) Council with membership comprising prominent names from various sectors.

We are actively pursuing opportunities to reach out to other ASEAN countries.

help us

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We need your help. 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 send a cheque payable to "IDEAS BERHAD" or contact us via email at ceo@ideas.org.my or telephone 03-6201 8896.

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 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 ceo@ideas.org.my if you would like to donate via Atlas.

4 YEAR
REVIEW
2010 | 2013

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