

**SSRC IN
REVIEW**

2012 - 2016

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Welcome to the Social Security Research Centre (SSRC) at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. As an integral part of Malaysia's most innovative university, SSRC has a vision of becoming the leader for scientific teaching and research on social security and a point of reference for those seeking to engage in contemporary issues on social security.

Our mission is to contribute and strengthen body of knowledge and applied research in social protection for the well-being of all. We act as a node for transforming research findings into initiatives for policy improvements and serve as a bridge between the academics and the society through collaborative efforts locally and internationally.

Malaysia is currently experiencing steady increase in the proportion of older people relative to the total population as a result of declining fertility and increasing life expectancy. The number of Malaysians aged 60 years and above is projected to reach 6.3 million in 2040, which is about 20% of total population. Ageing can entail multiple losses, including loss of work and physical functioning, and lesser reliance on income from employment. For most people there are lingering concerns about having adequate financial resources after retirement to pull through old age.

As the country progresses and aspires to become a developed nation, we cannot afford to have any section of the society being marginalized. It is a major challenge to ensure that the rights to social security becomes a reality for everyone. Income security in old age entails a secure and affordable access to social services including health care and long-term care. Failure by the government to provide such protection may cause older persons and their families to slide back into poverty. Therefore a universal protection becomes imperative to allow people a life in dignity. Understanding the dynamics impacting people's retirement enables us to prepare and develop a strategy based on realistic expectations; whether it is to work longer, save more, or invest more astutely.

We have to be mindful that the current pension system may not be sustainable as increases in pension payouts caused by ageing population would eventually put a strain on government's fiscal position. In Malaysia, we have a rich variety of institutions outside the public sector such as the Pensions Trust Funds or *Kumpulan Wang Persaraan* (KWAP) and Social Security Organisation (SOCSO) and private pensions institutions performing social protection functions. Policy makers can make the best use of their potential without undermining the existing public pension systems which has become a foundation on which at least basic income security has been built. The existence of private pensions institutions should complement the government's efforts in adopting a sustainable pension system.

Last but not least, I am proud to say that SSRC builds on the strengths of distinguished academicians and researchers - local and international, dedicated faculty members and collaborative partners. Among them are some of the most renowned individuals in the field, and their expertise and experiences are in line with the centre's vision of the future. We are honored that the Employee Provident Fund (EPF) of Malaysia has graciously provided an endowment fund in support of our efforts. Since its establishment in March 2011 SSRC has initiated and carried out various research, teaching and dissemination of evidence-based knowledge in this area in order to enhance the public understanding of this critical topic to promote economic development and social cohesion in Malaysia.

Professor Datuk Dr Norma Mansor

INTRODUCING THE CENTRE

The Social Security Research Centre (SSRC) was established in March 2011 at the Faculty of Economics and Administration (FEA), University of Malaya. The Centre operates as a university-level, multi-disciplinary research unit to initiate and carry out research, teaching and dissemination of evidence-based knowledge in the area of social security, including old age financial protection in order to enhance the understanding of this critical topic to promote economic development and social cohesion in Malaysia.





ABOUT SSRC

The Social Security Research Centre (SSRC) was established in March 2011 at the Faculty of Economics and Administration (FEA), University of Malaya. The Centre operates as a university-level, multi-disciplinary research unit to initiate and carry out research, teaching and dissemination of evidence-based knowledge in the area of social security, including old age financial protection in order to enhance the understanding of this critical topic to promote economic development and social cohesion in Malaysia.

The interest in social security and old-age financial protection is ever growing in view of ageing population not only faced by industrialized countries but by developing world as well. Malaysia is also subjected to rising life expectancy and falling fertility rates, the perceived inadequacy of current social security provisions, coupled with the added fear that simply more expenditure may not be conducive to the development and growth objectives of the society. This calls for innovative policy solutions that may be inspired by international experience based on an empirical grounding in national data and analysis.

To support the research in social security in general and old-age financial protection in particular, the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) of Malaysia has graciously provided an endowment fund to create the nation's first endowed Chair in Old Age Financial Protection (OAFPC) at University of Malaya. OAFPC has the over-riding objectives to help formulate policies to promote better social security and improve old age financial protection, and to help formulate policies to promote economic growth in an ageing society for consideration by the Government of Malaysia.

Besides with EPF, SSRC has also formed partnerships and collaborative agreements with Social Security Organization (SOCSO), Malaysia. These institutions provide a steady stream of innovative projects and creative investigations on social security topics. From these partnerships, SSRC holds the responsibility as custodian of databases obtained from Department of Statistics Malaysia, SOCSO and EPF. As such, SSRC is responsible for maintaining the databases as well as administering any distribution of the data.

From its origin, SSRC has had a strong interdisciplinary emphasis. Scientists from a number of disciplines, both on campus and off, come together in SSRC to work on common research problems. It is the norm to find various combinations of scientists from diverse disciplines in business, sociology, social work, economics and political science joining together their expertise on a given research problem. The range of interdisciplinary involvement goes beyond social security.



VISION

To be the thought leader in social protection

MISSION

To contribute and strengthen body of knowledge and applied research in social protection for the well being of all.

SHARED VALUES



INTEGRITY



EVIDENCE-
BASED



RELEVANCE



INNOVATION

STATEMENT AND GOALS

SSRC formulates specific goals for the years to come and evaluates the activities of the previous years. The set of goals are as outlined below:

- To contribute to the University's graduate and undergraduate programs by involving students in research projects through assistantships and other working work arrangements.
- To conduct rigorous, objective and unbiased research on relevant social, economic, political, human resource and social-environmental problems facing the state, region and world.
- To provide a vehicle for unique social research and public service programs that do not fit more traditional academic structures.
- To provide support system to the University to plan, develop, secure funding for and conduct social research on problems of interest to the scientific community and to consumers of research findings.
- To provide a mechanism whereby existing social science research capabilities in the University can be matched with funding sources.

MILESTONES

2008

THE OLD AGE FINANCIAL PROTECTION CHAIR

- The Chair was established on 25 August 2008 through an endowment fund from Employees Provident Fund (EPF). A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) and a Trust Deed were signed upon its establishment

2011

ESTABLISHMENT UNDER FEA

- The Chair was initially placed at the Faculty of Business and Accounting, University of Malaya (UM) but was subsequently transferred to the Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM in 2011

2012

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Held on 11 July 2012 with the entitled "Population Ageing: Issues and Challenges"

2014

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

- Held on 3 to 5 December 2014 entitled "Social Dimensions of Economic Development and Productivity: Lessons, Challenges and Opportunities for South East Asia"

SOCIAL PROTECTION COURSE

- First initiated in 2014, the course is offered for the Master of Economics program under the Faculty of Economics and Administration.
- The course examines the role of social policy and social protection schemes in addressing risk and economic uncertainties as well as developments and reforms in social protection systems

2015

NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION COUNCIL

- Involved in drafting of the cabinet paper to establish the National Social Protection Council

2016

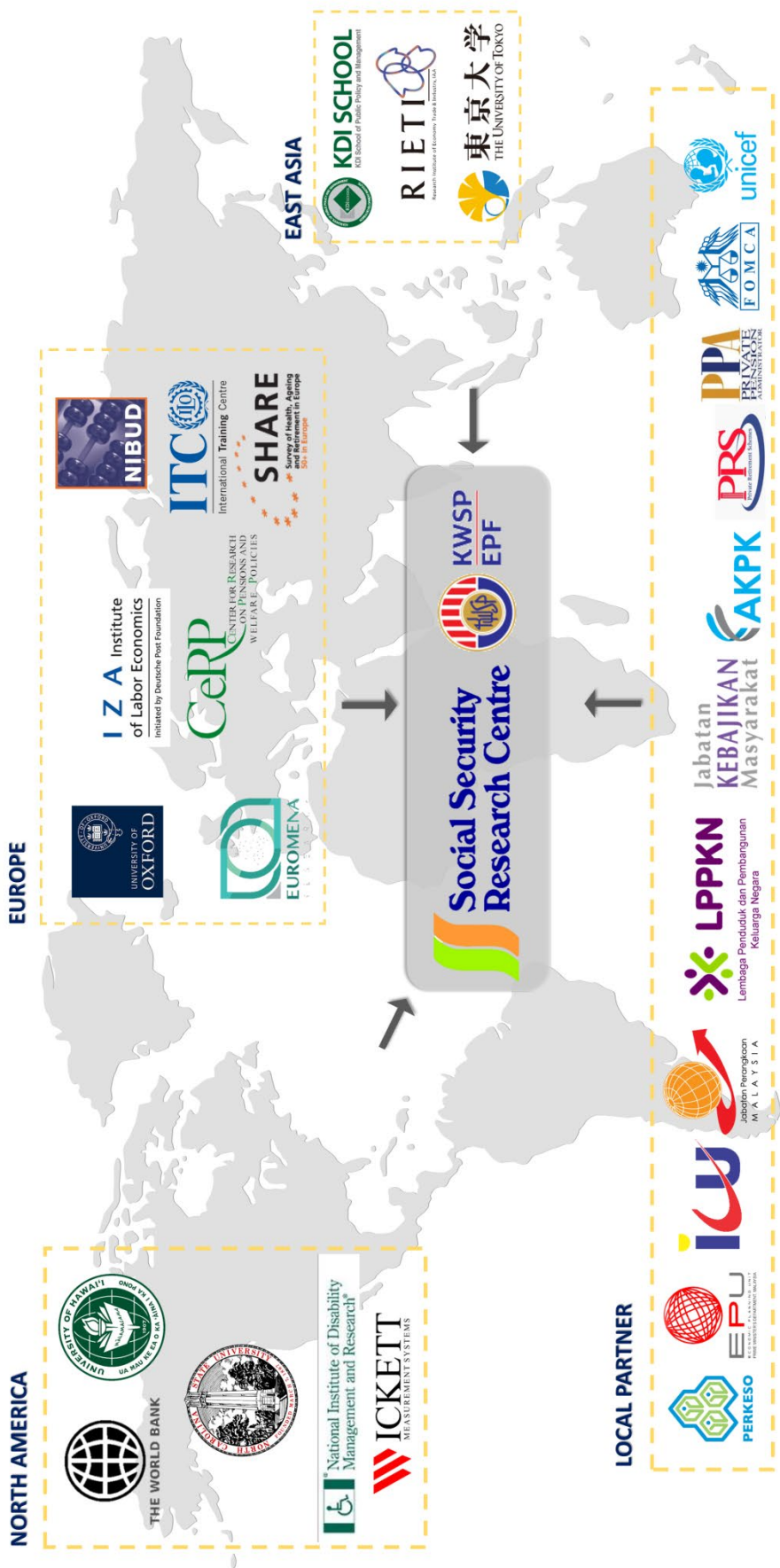
MOU WITH SOCSO

- On 1 March 2016, UM signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Social Security Organization (SOCSO)
- This enables more collaborative research activities and joint publications between SSRC and SOCSO especially in the Return to Work Programme (RTW)

NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY

- Was appointed to lead a working group to draft the National Social Protection Policy.
- The committee consists of representatives from government agencies and academia

COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING



OUR PEOPLE



KEY PEOPLE

Director Norma Mansor, Ph.D.



Norma Mansor is the Director of SSRC, a position she holds since 2013. She is a professor at the Department of Administrative Studies and Politics, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya where she served as the Dean from April 2004 to June 2009. She was appointed as Secretary of the National Economic Advisory Council in Prime Minister's Department from July 2009 to May 2011. She was a Ragnar Nurkse Visiting Professor at Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia in 2015. Prior to these appointments, she has served as advisor and consultant to various government bodies and private organizations which include The National Institute Of Public Administration (INTAN), Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA), The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank, International Labor Organization (ILO), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the European Union (EU).

She holds a Ph.D. and Masters in Public Administration from Liverpool University (UK) and a Bachelor of Economics degree (hons) from University of Malaya. Her research interest includes public policy, governance and social protection. She has written extensively in books and scholarly journals. She sits as Editor in Chief of Institutions and Economies Journal, Member of Editorial Advisory Board of Public Management and Money and guest editor to several academic journals.

KEY PEOPLE

Deputy Director **Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Ph.D.**



Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin is the Deputy Director at SSRC. She is a senior lecturer at the Department of Development Studies at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. Prior to her tenure at SSRC, she was involved in United Nation Development Program (UNDP)'s "Entrepreneurial Skills: Empowering Women", a two-year project undertaken in partnership between UNDP-MECD-MCCM.

She is currently involved in projects on Social Protection in ASEAN and The Globalization of Chronic Poverty in the Southeast Asian Cities. She holds a B.A from University of Canterbury, New Zealand, Masters of Science from MARA University of Technology (UiTM) and a PhD from University of Malaya. Her research interests cover youth and gender development and social protection.

KEY PEOPLE

Senior Research Fellow **Halimah Awang, Ph.D.**



Halimah Awang is a Senior Research Fellow at SSRC. She holds a Ph.D. in Applied Statistics from Macquarie University, Australia and Master's and Bachelor's degree in Science from Northern Illinois University (US). Her research interest includes social protection, ageing, education, and sexual and reproductive health. Her ongoing research projects include understanding ageing and retirement, savings adequacy among EPF members, social protection programs in the ASEAN region and Return to Work Program for injured workers. She was also involved as research consultant for the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, National Population & Family Development Board (LPPKN), PLUS Expressways Berhad and Social Institute Malaysia.

She was an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya from 2005 to 2012. She has also served as Academic Director at Stamford College in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia and is currently an Adjunct professor (Academic) at Binary University, Malaysia. As an academician she has extensively published in various international journals.

KEY PEOPLE

Senior Research Fellow **Mario Arturo Ruiz Estrada, Ph.D.**



Mario Arturo Ruiz Estrada is currently a Senior Research Fellow at SSRC and Associate Fellow in the Centre of Poverty and Development Studies (CPDS) at Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. He was formerly an Associate Professor at Department of Economics at the faculty. Prior to joining University of Malaya, he was a senior lecturer at Universidad de San Carlos, Guatemala. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from University of Malaya, Master's degree in Economics from Otaru University (Hokkaido, Japan) and Degree in Economics from Universidad de San Carlos (Guatemala).

His main research fields are policy modeling, economic modeling, econographicology, natural disasters, terrorism, war and borders conflicts, economic indicators, international trade, social security, and development of socio-economic issues. His research has been published extensively in academic journals such as Journal of Policy Modeling, Disasters, Quality and Quantity, Singapore Economic Review, Panoeconomicus, Contemporary Economics, Defense and Peace Economics, Procedia Computer Sciences, Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies, Malaysian Journal of Science and academic books.

KEY PEOPLE

Junior Research Fellow **Evangelos Koutronas, Ph.D.**



Evangelos Koutronas is a Junior Research Fellow at SSRC. Evangelos Koutronas holds a PhD in Economics with concentration in Social Security from University of Malaya. His research interests span a wide range of topics, including social security, economics of terrorism, natural disasters, war game theory, mathematical economic modeling, and labor economics.

Evangelos Koutronas specializes in business, financial and economic analysis. He has an overall 10-year working experience with significant exposure to a wide variety of business fields. He graduated with Bachelor of Science and Master in Business Administration with concentration in Finance from University of La Verne, California. His second Master's Degree is in Economics with concentration in Financial Economics and International Trade & Economics from West Virginia University, both in United States. Throughout his undergraduate studies, he participated in two national-level competitions in Economics where he received two distinctions.

CHAIRHOLDERS

Chairholder **Naohiro Ogawa, Ph.D.**



Naohiro Ogawa is SSRC's current Holder of the Old-Age Financial Protection Chair (OAFPC). He is a professor at Graduate School of Economics, University of Tokyo, and Professor Emeritus at College of Economics, Nihon University. His ongoing project is on Asia's Intergenerational Equity, Poverty Alleviation and Public Policy at Nihon University Population Research Institute which is funded by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). His other project is on Policies for Coping with Declining Fertility and Population Aging at University of Tokyo funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). He has completed several other projects funded by the Japan Medical Association, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan and International Development Research Centre.

He is a Member of the United Nations International Technical Advisory Board for the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. His research and consultancy revolves around demographic and social security, fertility, intergenerational transfers, population aging, and social protection, mainly in Asia. He has published several books and written extensively in academic journals.

CHAIRHOLDERS

*Distinguished Research Fellow and
former Chairholder*

Robert Holzmann, Ph.D.



Robert Holzmann was OAFPC's Chairholder from 2012 to 2015. He is currently SSRC's Distinguished Research Fellow. Robert is a professor of economics in University of Vienna, Austria. He is also the director of RH Institute for Economic Policy Analyses, Vienna and serves as Senior Advisor (consultant) to the World Bank. He was previously professor of economics at Harvard University (US), Oxford University (UK) and University of Saarland, Germany. He joined the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Germany as a Research Fellow in 2003 and created with Klaus Zimmermann the Program on "Employment and Development" for which he now serves as Chair of the Scientific Committee. He researches, teaches and consults internationally on pensions, financial literacy/capability, labor and migration issues.

He has served as advisor and director in various prominent organizations such as OECD and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), where he headed various departments which include Social Protection, Labor, Pensions and Financial Literacy. His research and operational involvement extends to all regions of the world. He has published more than thirty books and over 150 articles on social, fiscal and financial policy issues.

CHAIRHOLDERS

Lectures and Presentations by Professor Robert Holzmann

Lecture/Presentation	Date/Venue
International Conference on Population Ageing: Issues and Challenges: "A Global Perspective on Population and Old Age Financial Protection"	11 July 2012 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Lecture to MPA Students: "Framing Pension Policy: International Trends and Lessons"	22 November 2012 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Book Launch and Seminar: "Nonfinancial Defined Contribution Schemes in a Changing Pension World"	7 December 2012 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Lecture to MEC Students: "The Middle-Income Trap, Labor Markets and Pension Policy"	4 December 2012 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
EPF Management Talk: "Multi-pillar Pension System after 18 Years: What have we learnt?"	13 December 2012 EPF Kuala Lumpur
Seminar & Book Launch: "Matching Defined Contributions for Pensions: A Review of International Experience"	11 April 2013 Faculty of Business and Accountancy, UM
Training Workshop for EPF Executives: "Introduction to Social Protection- Objectives, Instruments and Implementations"	15 April – 17 April 2013 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Stake-holder Meeting: "The Malaysian Social Security Scheme for Review: Comments and Inputs Requested"	18 April 2013 Chancellery, UM
A Lecture to Postgraduate Students: "Social Protection and Retirement Income Policy: Objectives, Concepts, and Challenges."	18 March 2015 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Public Lecture: "Addressing Longevity Risk through Private Annuities: Issues and Options"	24 March 2015 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM

CHAIRHOLDERS

Former Chairholder **Sarah Harper, Ph.D.**



Sarah Harper was the first Chairholder of OAFPC at SSRC. She is Professor of Gerontology and Senior Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford University. Sarah serves on the UK Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology, and chairs the UK government's Foresight Review on Ageing Societies, and the European Ageing Index Panel for the UNECE Population Unit. She is also the Governor of the Pensions Policy Institute. Throughout her academic career, Sarah has combined academic research with external professional commitments. She has served as advisor on demographic and population and ageing issues among others, to the governments of Malaysia, Singapore and the European Commission, the Swedish Academy, the MacArthur Foundation, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and HSBC plc.

She founded the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing funded by the US National Institutes of Health. Her current research is on demographic change which addresses the global and regional impact of falling fertility and increasing longevity with particular interest in Asia and Africa.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Professor Elsa Fornero

Former Minister of Labour, Social Policies and Equal Opportunities, Italy



Elsa Fornero is currently a Professor University of Turin, Italy. As Italy's former Minister of Labour, Social Policies and Equal Opportunities, she has conceived and drafted the pension and labour market reforms for Italy. She is also the author of many publications on public and private pension systems, pension reforms, population ageing, household savings, retirement choices and life insurance.

Public Lecture on “A New Paradigm for Sustainable Pension Systems: Reform, Inform, Educate” by Professor Elsa Fornero

Date: 10 October 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

The lecture aimed to inform and educate participants of the need to make reforms to the existing pension systems in light of the demographic transition towards ageing population which should not be loaded on the shoulders of younger and yet unborn generations.



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Datuk Shahril Ridza Ridzuan

*Chief Executive Officer, Employees Provident Fund (EPF),
Malaysia*



Shahril Ridza Ridzuan was appointed as Chief Executive Officer effective 16 April 2013. He was previously Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment) of the EPF since 1 December 2009. He holds a Master of Arts (First Class) from Cambridge and Bachelor of Civil Law (First Class) from Oxford University, and has been called to the Malaysian Bar and the Bar of England and Wales.

Prior to joining the EPF, he was the Managing Director of Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad (MRCB), where he was responsible for developing KL Sentral into one of the main commercial centres in Malaysia. His success at MRCB saw him being named Property CEO of The Year by the (International Real Estate Federation) FIABCI Malaysia branch in 2009. He previously served Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Berhad, and was involved in corporate recovery and credit restructuring following the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997. He presently serves as a Non-Executive Board Member of Media Prima Berhad, Malaysia Building Society Berhad, Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Berhad and Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad.

Public Lecture for CEO Faculty Programme 2016/2017

The CEO Faculty Programme was initiated by the Ministry of Higher Education as a platform to connect industry experts and universities. Through the programme, industry experts are invited to various universities to give public lectures and sharing their insights to students studying in their respective fields.

As part of the programme, the Centre and the Faculty of Economics and Administration invited Datuk Shahril Ridza Ridzuan, CEO of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Malaysia to deliver his lecture in two sessions on the following subjects:

Session 1

Title: "The Employees Provident Fund: Issues and Challenges"

Date: 1 December 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

Session 2

Title: "Lecture on Managing Provident Fund"

Date: 6 December 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

The lectures were to inform and educate the public on the responsibilities and functions of EPF as well as the current issues and challenges faced by EPF and were successfully delivered to a total of 157 participants comprising of students and staff from various institutions. It provided a good platform in getting the information first hand, thus very much beneficial to the public in understanding and planning their future savings and retirement.



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Professor Axel Borsch-Supan

Director of Munich Center for Economic Ageing (MEA) at the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy (MIPISOC)



Axel Borsch-Supan is Director of the Munich Center for the Economics of Aging (MEA) at the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy in Munich, Germany since January 2011. He is Professor of Economics and Chair for the Economics of Aging at the Technical University of Munich. Additionally, he is Managing Director of SHARE (the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe).

He has served as a consultant to many governments, the OECD and the World Bank, among others. An important field of his empirical research focuses on socio-political issues that are associated with economic aspects of demographic change and the aging of the population.

A Talk on "Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)" by Professor Axel Borsch-Supan

Date: 25 March 2015

Venue: Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

This talk was organized to introduce SHARE to policymakers and academics. SHARE is a longitudinal, multidisciplinary and cross-national panel database of micro data on health, socio-economic status and social and family networks of more than 30,000 individuals aged 50 or above. SHARE's multidisciplinary approach delivers the full picture of the ageing process and rigorous procedural guidelines and programs to ensure a harmonized cross-national design.



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Dr. Stuart Gietel-Basten

Associate Professor, Department of Social Policy and Intervention and Research Fellow Green Templeton College at University of Oxford



Stuart Gietel-Basten is an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention as well as a Research Fellow at Green Templeton College, University of Oxford, UK. He is currently chair of the Asian Population Association Scientific Committee, convener for fertility of the European Population Conference and editor of the series Studies in European Population published under the auspices of the European Association for Population Studies.

His research interests focus on the interaction between population dynamics and social policy in Asia. Along with Professor Francesco Billari, he co-founded and is the editor of openpop.org, one of the world's leading collaborative blogs on population issues.

“Remeasuring Ageing in Southeast Asia” by Dr. Stuart Gietel-Basten,

Date: 17 December 2015

Venue: Econo-Cube, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

This seminar suggests that the rates employed to demonstrate the present/future scale of old-age dependency are misleading and based upon a Eurocentric notion from a bygone area. Arguing that these measurements both omit changes in life expectancy and fundamentally misconceptualise ‘old’ and ‘dependent’, this seminar presents a new series of comparative measurements based upon a dynamic view of remaining life expectancy and a more accurate concept of what it means to be ‘dependent’.



ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Manager:

Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman

Administrative Officer:

Nur Nadia Arshad

Social Research Officer:

Nur Fakhрина Ab. Rashid

Senior Researcher:

Noor Ismawati Mohd Jaafar

Researchers:

Tan Lih Yoong

Mohd Zulfadhli Zakaria

Nurul Diyana Kamarulzaman

Teoh Wern Jun

Project Assistant:

Haji Mohammad Sahut Ahmad

Administrative Assistant:

Siti Nadia Farahin Abdul Manan

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

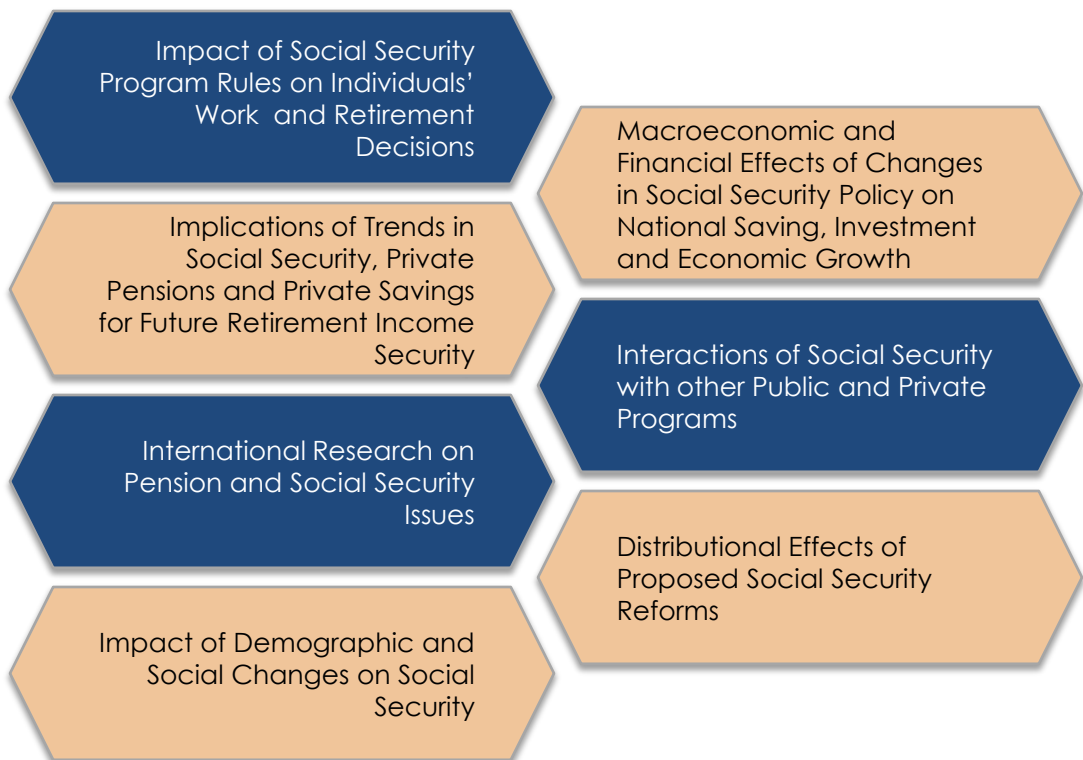


OUR RESEARCH

The Center offers a productive research environment with an impressive array of research opportunities and support units that enhance and expand both the scope and quality of social science research. SSRC's work goes beyond economics where we study behavioral factors that drive individuals' decisions so we can craft solutions that work in practice, not just in theory.

We conduct rigorous, objective and unbiased research on relevant social, economic, political, human resource and social-environmental problems facing the state, region and world.

Our areas of research include:



MEMBERS

The success of SSRC relies primarily on the expertise, talents and innovative skills of its scientists. Individual scientists, or self-organized teams of researchers provide the impetus and direction of funded research projects. They determine their research agendas and benefit from SSRC facilities. Research fellows and research associates conduct research projects supported by administrative staff and research assistants.

Our researchers are highly committed and experienced faculty members from Faculty of Economics and Administration and Faculty of Business and Accountancy as well as from other higher institutions and government agencies.

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ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

A Regional Study on Social Protection Coverage: ASEAN Countries

A new comprehensive study is needed to investigate the coverage of social protection system in ASEAN.

The objectives of this research are to:

- i. Identify and examine social protection policies among ASEAN countries
- ii. Analyse the social protection measures and programmes
- iii. Identify the major obstacles to implementing policies
- iv. Analyse ongoing reforms on social protection in ASEAN

Researchers:

Dr. Yong Sook Lu
 Dr. Halimah Awang
 Dr. Sharifah Muhairah
 Dr. Ahmad Farid Osman
 Prof. Norma Mansor
 Dr. Grace Lee
 Dr. Mario Estrada

Post MDGs and Beyond: Lessons and Policy Challenges for Malaysia and ASEAN Countries

The objectives of this research are to:

- i. To examine the broad patterns in MDG progress within the ASEAN region and to evaluate the uniformity of the progress across indicators
- ii. To compare and contrast MDG progress within the ASEAN region with that of Malaysia?
- iii. To determine how Malaysia/ASEAN differ from other developing countries/regions in terms of pathways - whether it is growth mediated or public expenditure led. If the former, how central was successes in reducing income inequality to progress in non-income MDG targets? If the latter, how central were social policies relating to poverty, health and education?

Researchers:

1. Professor M. Niaz Asadullah
 2. Professor Datuk Norma Mansor
 3. Dr. Antonio Savoia (University of Manchester)
-

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Influence of time perspective, perceived moral obligation and financial competence on decision to plan financially for retirement

The main objective of this research is to understand the factors that influence individuals' decision to plan financially for retirement.

Other research objectives:

- i. To study the influence of decision to plan on financial planning for retirement.
- ii. To study the influence of individuals' time perspective on decision to plan financially for retirement
- iii. To examine the influence of perceived competency in financial planning on decision to plan financially for retirement
- iv. To examine the moderating effect of the availability of resources on the relationship between decision to plan and financial planning for retirement

Researcher:

1. Choo Siew Ming (PhD Candidate)
2. Professor Datuk Norma Mansor

Cost Benefit Analysis of Return-to-Work (RTW) by SOCSO

Research objectives

- i. To evaluate the costs incurred by SOCSO in implementing the RTW programme
- ii. To assess the quantitative and qualitative benefits of injured workers who have successfully returned to work
- iii. To compare the benefits and costs of implementing the RTW programme from SOCSO's perspective

Researcher:

1. Dr. Halimah Awang

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Financial Literacy of Malaysian Young Working Adults: Knowledge, Attitude and Behavior

The main objective of this research is to understand the factors that influence individual's decision to plan financially for retirement.

- i. To determine the level of financial literacy among Malaysian young working adults
- ii. To examine the socio-economic factors (comprising parents' income, gender, marital status/dependents, and type of employment) in influencing the financial attitude and behavior
- iii. To assess the influence of religion beliefs, faith and value system, and personality traits on financial attitude and behavior
- iv. To evaluate the effectiveness of financial education towards financial literacy, attitude and behavior

Researcher:

1. Dr. Yong Chen Chen
2. Dr. Yew Siew Yong
3. Dr. Wee Chu Kok (PhD Candidate)

Malaysian Informal Sector: How Are They Protected Against Main Contingencies

Research objectives:

- i. To estimate the size of the informal sector of Malaysia and of other neighbouring countries in the region and to deliberate on whether the presence of the informal sector contributes towards a resilient national economy
- ii. To establish whether the livelihood of those in the informal sector is recession-proof. If indeed they are in a recession-proof sector, what are their social security needs as compared to those in the formal sector
- iii. To establish the motivation for participation in the informal sector. This is to ascertain whether the participation is by virtue of family tradition or by heritage/lineage or due to retrenchments from the formal sectors

Researchers:

1. Professor Tan Eu Chye
2. Dr. Kuppusamy Singaravelloo
3. Dr. Roza Hazli Zakaria
4. Dr. Tang Chor Foon
5. Professor Datuk Norma Mansor

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Closing the Coverage Gap for Old Age Protection in Malaysia: The Case for Universal Social Pensions

The main objective of this research is to investigate the weaknesses of the current retirement programs available in Malaysia and the role of a universal social pension in closing the gap.

Researchers:

1. Dr. Saidatulakmal Mohd (USM)
2. Dr. Abdelhak Senadjki (UNITAR)

Specifically, the research intends to:

- i. Analyze the more effective scheme (social assistance through welfare cash transfer or social pension instead of provident funds or social insurance scheme) as a safety net against poverty in old age
 - ii. Calculate the cost-benefit of implementing social pension scheme in Malaysia under various social pension scheme categories
 - iii. Project retirement benefits under social pension and other retirement schemes
 - iv. Propose policy implications on pension reforms to tackle the issue of poverty among the elderly
-

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Welfare of the Elderly: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

The main objective of this research is to assess the well being of the elderly in Malaysia drawing heavily on the Household Income Survey 2012 and compare the results from the earlier 2009 survey.

Researchers:

1. Dr. Saidatulakmal Mohd (USM)
2. Dr. Abdelhak Senadjki (UNITAR)

The specific objectives of this research are:

- i. To profile the socio-demographic pattern of the Malaysian elderly
 - ii. To investigate the poverty level of households living with elderly and the elderly poor
 - iii. To determine the factors influencing the living arrangement of the elderly and to investigate the role of social protection in the living arrangement of the elderly
 - iv. To evaluate the key factors and the role of social protection that affect the risk of household poverty i.e. probability of being poor by having an elderly member in the family and the probability of being an elderly poor
 - v. To evaluate the factors influencing elderly's decision to continue working after retirement
 - vi. To provide some policy implications to enhance the well-being of the Malaysian elderly
-

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

EPF Sample Data: Cleaning, Processing and Initial Analysis

The main objective of this research is to process a dataset of 30,000 EPF members historical transactions record into simpler format for research purposes.

Researchers:

1. Noor Ismawati Mohd Jaafar
2. Professor Robert Holzmann
3. Professor Dr. Noor Azina Ismail

Specifically, the research objectives are:

- i. To explore the social-demographic, economic characteristics and financial records of EPF members in the dataset including level of measurement and types of data presented by the variables available in the dataset.
- ii. To clean the dataset for missing value, ambiguity and data reduction for variables with large categorization.
- iii. To reduce the complexity of the data from a large dataset into more manageable size and understandable format.
- iv. To transform the dataset into multiple format compatible for data analysis with various statistical software

Stock Take on Players, Available Products and Databases on Social Security in Malaysia

The main aim of this study is to provide an overview of social security in Malaysia.

Authors:

The focus is on relevant services, players and databases in the country

1. Norma Mansor
 2. Sharifah Nabilah Syed Salleh
 3. Tan Lih Yoong
 4. Evangelos Koutronas
 5. Sarala Aikanathan
-

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Understanding Ageing and Retirement in Malaysia: An Exploratory Study

This study aims to explore the hopes, preparedness for later life, needs and worries for long term care among Malaysians.

Researchers:

1. Dr. Halimah Awang
2. Mr. Tei Nay Peng

Methodology: Primary data were collected using three approaches:

- i. Self-administered survey
- ii. Focus Group Discussion
- iii. In-person Interview
- iv. Life story essay

Savings Adequacy among Retirees in Malaysia: Issues and Options

The aims of this study are as follows:

- i. To examine savings adequacy among Malaysian retirees
- ii. To identify the antecedents of savings motives
- iii. To analyse factors that affect savings adequacy among Malaysian retirees.
- iv. To investigate the sources of post retirement income among Malaysian retirees and its relationship with savings adequacy

Researchers:

1. Professor Noor Azina Ismail
2. Dr. Halimah Awang
3. Tei Nay Peng
4. Dr. Rafat Beighpoor
5. Dr. Evangelos Koutronas

To achieve the above objectives, an in-depth analysis of the financial standings of retirees was carried out in the study

OUR PUBLICATIONS

24
Publications
(2012-2016)

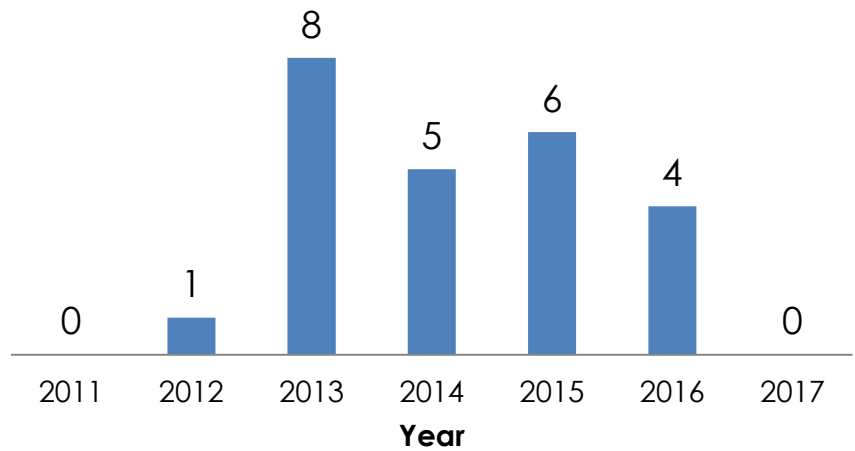
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Authors

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Citations

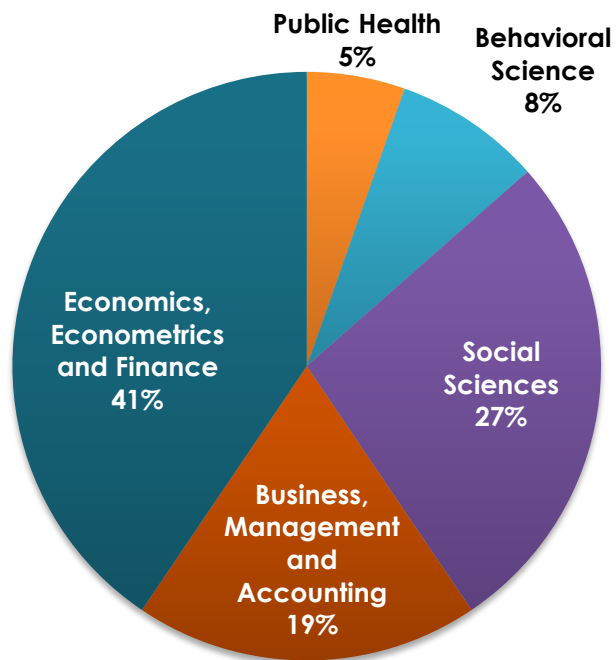
1.1
Citations
per
publication

0.91
Field-
weighted
citation
impact

Scholarly Output by Year



Scholarly Output by Field



JOURNAL ARTICLES

Title	Authors	Year	Journal
Terrorist attack assessment: Paris November 2015 and Brussels March 2016	Ruiz Estrada, M.A., Koutronas, E.	2016	Journal of Policy Modeling
The mega distributed lag model	Estrada, M.A.R., Koutronas, E., Knippenberg, R.	2016	Contemporary Economics
Economics and development: Socioeconomic progress in Malaysia and FEA at 50	Mansor, N., Yeoh, K.-K.	2016	Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies
Trend of Poverty among Elderly: Evidence from Household Income Surveys	Mohd, S., Senadjki, A., Mansor, N.	2016	Journal of Poverty
Portability of social benefits: Research on a critical topic in globalization	Holzmann, R., Werding, M.	2015	CESifo Economic Studies
Portability of pension, health, and other social benefits: Facts, concepts, and issues	Holzmann, R., Koettl, J.	2015	CESifo Economic Studies
Royal Professor Ungku Abdul Aziz: A key pillar in Malaysia's development	Rasiah, R., Mansor, N., Chandran, V.G.R.	2015	Institutions and Economies
Self-help groups as modalities for poverty alleviation for Women in India	Hemavathy Nithyanandhan, S., Mansor, N., Nair, S.	2015	Institutions and Economies
Self-help groups and women's empowerment	Hemavathy Nithyanandhan, S., Mansor, N.	2015	Institutions and Economies
Work Related Injury And Illness: Exploring the Return-To-Work Program In Malaysia	Awang, H., Mansor, N., Rodrigo, S.K.	2015	The Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health

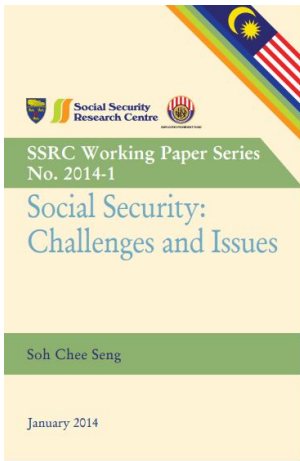
JOURNAL ARTICLES

Title	Authors	Year	Journal
Knowledge of sexually transmitted diseases and sexual behaviours among Malaysian male youths	Awang, H., Wong, L.P., Jani, R. and 1 more	2014	Journal of Biosocial Science
Public administration in Malaysia: Origins, influence and assessment	Mansor, N., Ariffin, R.N.R.	2014	Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Malaysia
Global Pension Systems	Holzmann, R.	2014	International Handbook on Ageing and Public Policy
Assessing the performance of co-operatives in Malaysia: an analysis of co-operative groups using a data envelopment analysis approach	Othman, A., Mansor, N., Kari, F.	2014	Asia Pacific Business Review
Malaysia's Employees Provident Fund and Social Security	Yew, S.-Y.	2014	Asset-Building Policies and Innovations in Asia
Population Ageing and Social Protection in Malaysia	AbdSamad, S., Mansor, N.	2013	Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies
Ageing and the Economic Welfare of Southeast Asian Nations	Yew, S.Y., Cheong, K.C.	2013	Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies
An Optimistic Perspective on Population Ageing and Old-Age Financial Protection	Holzmann, R.	2013	Malaysian Journal of Economic Studies

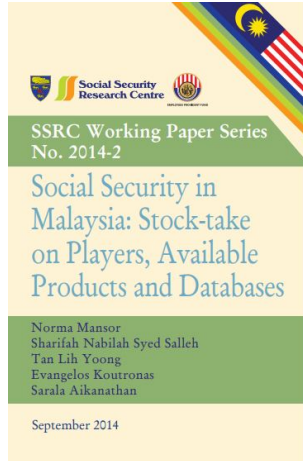
JOURNAL ARTICLES

Title	Authors	Year	Journal
An Assessment of the "Capital" Indicators for Measuring Socioeconomic Status of High School Students and the Influence on Family and School Stressors	Shahabudin, S.M., Low, W.Y.	2013	Child Indicators Research
Narrowing Disparities via the New Economic Model (NEM): Is Malaysia Set to Excel Beyond Its MDGs Targets	Rodrigo, S.K.A., Mansor, N.	2013	Millennium Development Goals and Community Initiatives in the Asia Pacific
Humane Orientation as a New Cultural Dimension of the GLOBE Project: A Validation Study of the GLOBE Scale and Out-Group Humane Orientation in 25 Countries	Schlösser, O., Frese, M., Heintze, A.-M. and 28 more	2013	Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology
Global Pension Systems and Their Reform: Worldwide Drivers, Trends and Challenges	Holzmann, R.	2013	International Social Security Review
Keeping ahead of the game: Innovations and challenges in e-government in Malaysia	Abdullah, N.R.W., Mansor, N.B., Hamzah, A.	2013	Economic and Labour Relations Review
Conceptualizing, measuring and financing the legacy costs in an NDC reform	Holzmann, R., Jousten, A.	2012	Journal of Pension Economics and Finance

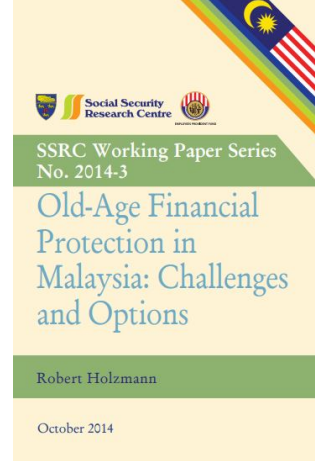
SSRC WORKING PAPER SERIES



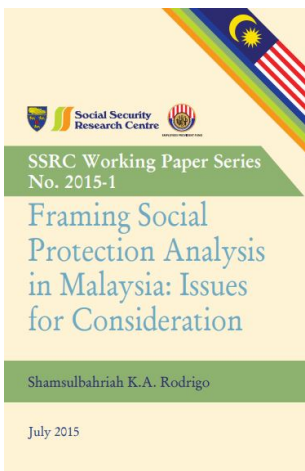
No. 2014-1:
**Social Security:
Challenges and Issues**



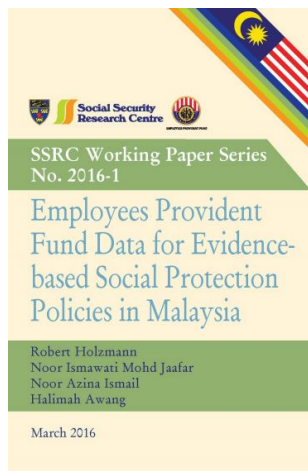
No. 2014-2:
**Social Security in
Malaysia: Stock-take on
Players, Available
Products and Databases**



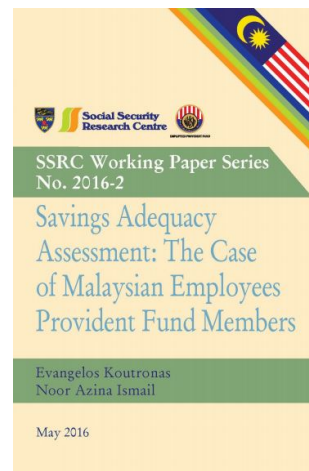
No. 2014-3:
**Old-Age Financial
Protection in Malaysia:
Challenges and Options**



No. 2015-1:
**Framing Social Protection
Analysis in Malaysia:
Issues for Consideration**

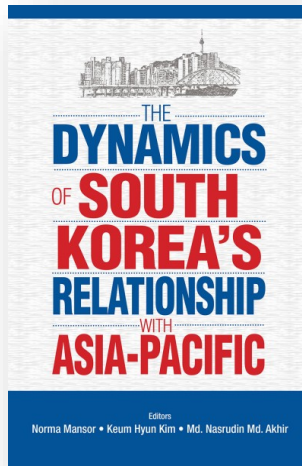


No. 2016-1:
**Employees Provident
Fund Data for Evidence-
based Social Protection
Policies in Malaysia**



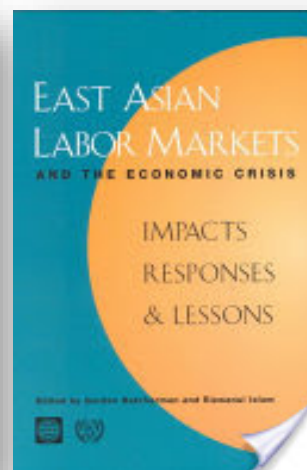
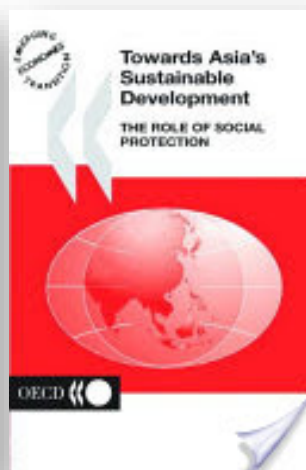
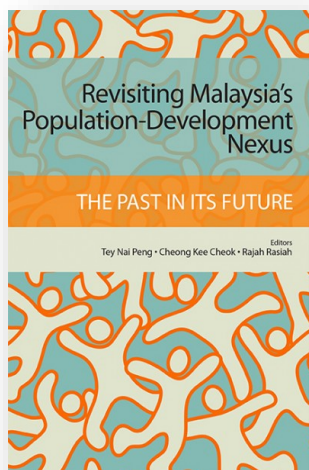
No. 2016-2:
**Savings Adequacy
Assessment: The Case of
Malaysian Employees
Provident Fund Members**

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS



Chapter Title	South Korea and ASEAN: Strategic Partnership for Building an East Asian Community. The Dynamics of South Korea's relationship with Asia-Pacific.	The Impact of State Capacity and Leadership Changes on National Development: Drawing Comparisons between Malaysia and South Korea. The Dynamics of South Korea's relationship with Asia-Pacific.	Components of Social Protection: A Comparison between South Korea and Malaysia.
Year	2016	2016	2016
Author	Bong Ryull Yang & Norma Mansor	Norma Mansor, Keum Hyun Kim & Md. Nasrudin Md. Akhir	Norma Mansor & Nur Fakhrina Ab. Rashid
Source	In Norma Mansor, Keum Hyun Kim & Md. Nasrudin Md. Akhir (eds.), The Dynamics of South Korea's relationship with Asia-Pacific. (pp: 3-22). UM Press, University of Malaya.	In Norma Mansor, Keum Hyun Kim & Md. Nasrudin Md. Akhir (eds.), The Dynamics of South Korea's relationship with Asia-Pacific. (pp: 43-68). UM Press, University of Malaya.	In Norma Mansor, Keum Hyun Kim & Md. Nasrudin Md. Akhir (eds.), The Dynamics of South Korea's relationship with Asia-Pacific. (pp: 69-90). UM Press, University of Malaya.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS



Chapter Title	Population Ageing, Poverty and Social Pension in Malaysia	The Role of Social Safety Nets in Malaysia	Malaysia: Protecting Workers and Fostering Growth
Year	2015	2012	2011
Author	Saidatulakmal Mohd, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang & Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad	Norma Mansor & Halimah Awang	Norma Mansor, Tan Eu Chye, Ali Boehanoeddin, Fatimah Said & Saad Mohd Said
Source	In Revisiting Malaysia's Population-Development Nexus: The Past in its Future, UM Press, Kuala Lumpur.	Trends and Prospects in Towards Asia's Sustainable Development: The Role of Social Protection, OECD Publications: France.	In Batcherman, G and Islam, R, (eds.), East Asian Labor Markets and the Economics Crisis: Impacts Responses and Lessons, The World Bank: Washington, U.S.A.

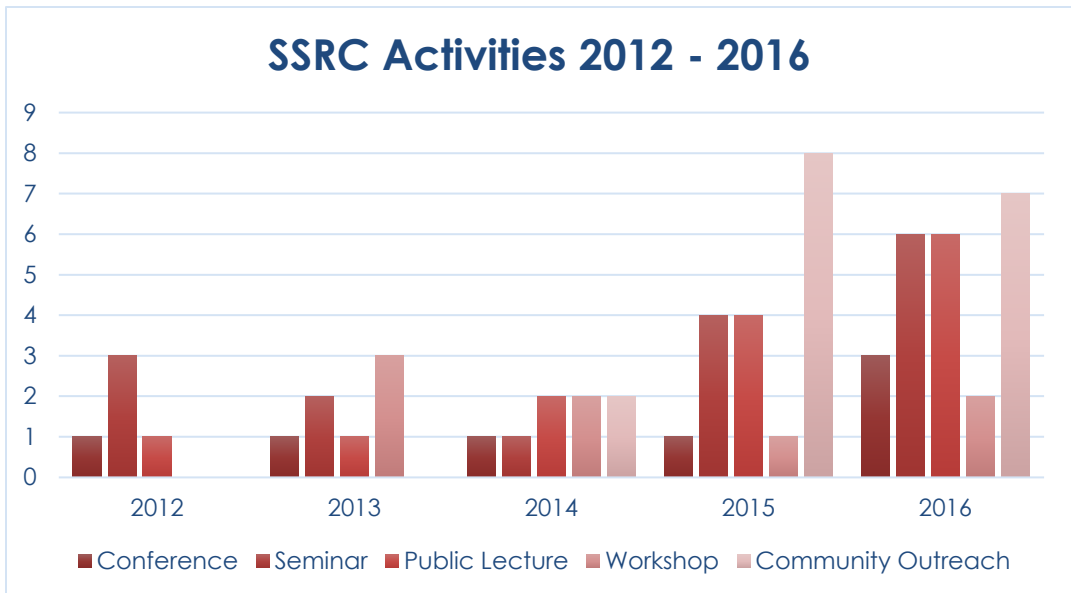
OUR ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES BY SSRC

SSRC has organized various activities throughout the years. Central to social security, these activities aim to increase awareness, share knowledge and improve understanding on the topic. Through its programs, SSRC also aims to provide a platform for interaction and collaboration between the relevant stakeholders and policymakers. In organizing the programs, it has engaged with academics, institutions and industry experts both local and international in organizing its programs.

The table below presents a summary of SSRC's activities held from 2012 to 2016:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
<i>Conference</i>	1	-	1	-	-	2
<i>Seminar</i>	3	1	1	3	4	12
<i>Public Lecture</i>	3	1	1	3	4	12
<i>Workshop</i>	-	3	4	1	3	11
<i>Community Outreach</i>	-	-	2	8	7	17
<i>Total</i>	7	5	9	15	18	54



CONFERENCE

International Conference on Population Ageing: Issues and Challenges

Date: 11 July 2012

Venue: Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur

The conference was jointly organized by the Social Security Research Centre (SSRC) and the National Population and Family Development Board (NPFDB), Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia.

Considering the changing family and socioeconomic scenarios, the conference objective was to discuss the issues and challenges of population ageing in Malaysia and other Asian countries. The conference acknowledged that the global ageing phenomenon needed urgent attention as policy adjustments are needed to manage the socioeconomic impact of an increasing number of elderly persons. An increasing number of elderly persons will place greater pressure on labor markets, social security systems and particularly defined benefit pension schemes. Policy recommendations from the conference called for the exploration of more innovatively defined contribution schemes.

Papers presented at the conference covered the following topics:

1. A Global Perspective of Population Ageing and Old Age Financial Protection
2. Role of Family in Meeting the Challenges of Population Ageing in Malaysia: Policies and Interventions
3. Population Ageing and Social Protection in Malaysia
4. Financing Old Age in a Rapidly Ageing High Income City State: The Case of Singapore
5. Home Care for Older People in ASEAN Member Countries
6. Social and Economic Aspects of Elderly in Thailand
7. Income Security Systems in the Republic of Korea: Directions for Development
8. Retirement Planning – A Dynamic and Holistic Approach in Bridging the Gaps and Mitigating the Risks
9. Meeting the Needs of Older Malaysians: Expansion, Diversification, and Multi-Sector Collaboration
10. Ageing Population and Delivery of Social Protection for the Older People in Vietnam: Challenges and Reform Options
11. Population Ageing in China: Features, Challenges and Strategies
12. The Philippine Pension System: Promoting Fairness and Sustainability
13. Productive Ageing: Role of NGO

Second International Conference on Social Security 2014
Social Dimensions of Economic Development and Productivity: Lessons, Challenges and Opportunities for South East Asia

Date: 3-5 December 2014

Venue: Hilton, Petaling Jaya

The conference was jointly organized by the Social Security Research Centre (SSRC), Department of Development Studies of the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya and the Institutions and Economics Journal (IE).

The objectives of the conference were:

- i. Analyze the consequences of the Global Financial Crisis and associated socio-economic changes for the future of social security.
- ii. Identify the new demographic context encompassing the challenges of an evolving life-cycle and consequences of increasing migration.
- iii. Assess current and innovative social security responses to the emerging global economic trends.
- iv. Derive implications and key policy lessons for developing countries, especially for Southeast Asia.





Themes and papers presented at the conference covered the following topics:

Theme 1: Health and Education: Inequality, Informality and Security

1. Government Efforts to Improve Community Access to Health Care and Education: A Story from Indonesia
2. Macroeconomic foundations with disparity issues in income and education: A causal inquiry on ASEAN countries
3. The Microeconomic Determinants of Demand for Social Security: Evidence from the Algerian Labor Market
4. Assessing Burden of Household Health Care Spending and Its Influencing Factors Among Chronic Kidney Disease Patients in Selangor
5. Expanding the boundaries of social security protection for informal economy workers in South East Asia

Theme 2: Demographic Shifts: Migration Flows, Ageing Population and Youth Employment

1. Demographic Risks and Youth Employment: Lessons on Social Security from Nigeria
2. Social characteristics of senior citizens in Sabah and Sarawak: Financial protection and living arrangement
3. Population ageing amidst social demographic changes in Malaysia
4. Health-Related Protection Of The Foreign Workers In Malaysia: A Suggestive Recommendation For Bangladeshi Workers.
5. Protecting and integrating migrant workers in ASEAN social security systems
6. Readiness of Youth to Get Employed and the Challenges for Higher Educational Institutions in Building Sustainable Human Capital.

SEMINARS



Seminar: “Remeasuring Ageing in Southeast Asia”

Date: 17 December 2015

Venue: Econo-Cube, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya



Seminar on Personal Financial Management

Date: 14 September 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya



International Dialogue Forum: “The Impact of Social Security and Economic Development Policies in Preventing Terrorism”

Date: 30 November 2016

Venue: Chancellery Building, University of Malaya

Other seminars

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
Seminar on Global Pension Systems and Their Reforms: Worldwide Drivers, Trends and Challenges	5 July 2012 Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar on Healthcare Financing (HCF): Options for Malaysia	29 September 2012 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar and Book Launch: Nonfinancial Defined Contribution Pension Schemes in a Changing Pension	7 December 2012 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar and Book Launch: "Matching Contributions for Pensions - A Review of International Experience"	11 April 2013 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Business and Accountancy, UM
Roundtable Discussion on Social Security Reform in Malaysia	18 April 2013 Chancellery Building, UM
Social Security and Pension Policy Executive Discourse	5 November 2014 Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar on Personal Financial Management Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desmond Chong Kok Fei (Agensi Kaunseling and Pengurusan Kredit, AKPK) • Mohamed Farith Mohamed Jamal (Private Pension Administrator, PPA) 	30 September 2015 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM

Other seminars

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
SSRC Research Seminar 2015	10 December 2015 Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Forum: Poor vs Rich Malaysians: Is The Income Gap Widening Speaker: Dr. Sharifah Muhairah (SSRC)	21 April 2016 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar Pengurusan Kewangan Peribadi oleh Agensi Kaunseling & Pengurusan Kredit (AKPK)(Malay Version)	4 May 2016 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Seminar on "Introduction to Modgen" by Dr. Rafat Beigpoor Shahrivar (Visiting Research Fellow, SSRC)	5 May 2016 PEM/SSRC Meeting Room

PUBLIC LECTURES



A Talk on "Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)" by Professor Axel Borsch-Supan

Date: 25 March 2015

Venue: Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya



Public Lecture on "A New Paradigm for Sustainable Pension Systems: Reform, Inform, Educate" by Professor Elsa Fornero

Date: 10 October 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya



Public Lecture for CEO Faculty Programme 2016/2017 by Datuk Shahril Ridza Ridzuan

Date: 1 December and 6 December 2016

Venue: Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya

Other public lectures

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
<p>Lecture to MPA Students: "Framing Pension Policy: International Trends and Lessons"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>22 November 2012 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>
<p>Lecture to MEC Students: "The Middle-Income Trap, Labor Markets and Pension Policy"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>4 December 2012 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>
<p>Management Talk: "Multi-pillar Pension System After 18 years: What Has Been Learned?"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>13 December 2012 Employees Provident Fund, Kuala Lumpur</p>
<p>Public Lecture: "Population Aging and Retirement Income Systems - Issues, Choices and Selection"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>19 June 2013 Hilton, Petaling Jaya</p>
<p>A Lecture to Postgraduate Students: "The Middle Income Trap, Labor Markets and Pension Policy"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>26 March 2014 Lecture Hall 2, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>

Other public lectures

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
<p>A Lecture to Postgraduate Students: "Social Protection and Retirement Income Policy: Objectives, Concepts and Challenges"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>18 March 2015 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>
<p>Public Lecture: "Addressing Longevity Risk through Private Annuities: Issues and Options"</p> <p>by Professor Robert Holzmann</p>	<p>24 March 2015 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>
<p>Presentation: The Independent Malaysian Unit Trust Data and Analytics</p> <p>by Novagni Analytics and Advisory Sdn. Bhd.</p>	<p>26 April 2016 Econo-Cube, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM</p>

WORKSHOPS

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
Training Workshop for EPF Executives: "Introduction to Social Protection-Objectives, Instruments and Implementation."	15 April to 17 April 2013 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Personal Financial Management Workshop by Madam Habibah (AKPK)	28 May 2013 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Personal Financial Management Workshop by Madam Nor Akmar Yaakub (AKPK)	12 December 2013 Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Workshop on the EPF Data Sample: Structure, Content and First Analysis by Professor Robert Holzmann	27 March 2014 Pullman Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur
Workshop on "Public Sector Governance for Private Sector Led Growth – Input for RMK-11 In collaboration with Malaysian Productivity Corporation (MPC)	23 May 2014 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Workshop on "Way Forward For SSRC"	11 June 2014 Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM
Workshop On Managing Financial Capabilities & The Effectiveness Of Interventions by Professor Robert Holzmann and Dr Joanne Yoong	19 June 2014 Postgraduate Conference Room, Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
A Follow-up Workshop on the EPF Data Sample: Structure, Content and Analyses	27 March 2015 Hilton, Petaling Jaya
Survey on the Savings of EPF Members: Preliminary Findings	22 April 2016 PEM/SSRC Meeting Room
Training "Introduction to Modgen" for SSRC's staff by Dr. Rafat Beigpoor Shahrivar (Visiting Research Fellow, SSRC)	16 May 2016 PEM/SSRC Meeting Room

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Community Outreach initiative is a platform for bringing together members of the campus community through educational activities that highlight issues related to social security. Besides increasing the community's knowledge and awareness on social security, such initiatives also aim to build their interest on the topic hence developing advocates of the cause.

Activities organized under this initiative are as such:

- **SSRC Creative Learning:** The Centre is looking at creative ways of learning more about social security, life after retirement and how we can carry on with lifestyles that are fulfilling and active as it is important to ensure that we lead stable lives with lifelong security and care.
 - Movie screening - SSRC has initiated movie screenings as a creative learning program. Over the years we have screened films that not only highlight lessons on social security but also lessons on various aspects of life learned from other countries and cultures.



- **Campus Policy Input Consultation:** SSRC values any input towards the betterment of the Centre and social security as a whole. The aim of this initiative is to provide the campus community with an avenue to share their ideas, concerns and feedback on policies and issues related to social security or even for the Centre.

OUR PARTICIPATION

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
Private Retirement Schemes (PRS) Conference	25 June 2013 Securities Commission
Document Preparation Workshop “Revitalisation Programme for Urban Vulnerable Group”	23 July – 24 July 2013 Economic Planning Unit
International Seminar on Financial Literacy and Retirement Savings: Towards Securing a Comfortable Retirement - Moderator for the session “Empowering Employees with Financial Education: Case Study”	17 September – 18 September 2013 Employees Provident Fund, Kuala Lumpur
Grand Challenge Workshop: Living Life to the Fullest –. Presentation to University fraternity on the functions of SSRC	19 September 2013 Institute of Research Management & Monitoring (IPPP), UM
Input/contribution for RMK -11 on the Scope of Inclusive Development In collaboration with Social Services Section EPU	30 December 2013 Economic Planning Unit
Input/ contribution for RMK-11 on Social Safety Net In collaboration with Social Services Section EPU	3 January 2014 Economic Planning Unit
8th Annual International Conference on Sociology “Intersecting Inequalities in Malaysia” Presenter: Dr. Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad	5 May – 8 May 2014 Athens, Greece

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
<p>National Population Conference on the Inter-Relationship between Population Dynamics and Development</p> <p>Presenters: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor, Dr. Shamsulbahriah Ku Ahmad, Dr. Saidatulakmal Mohd</p>	<p>26 June 2014 IOI Resort, Putrajaya</p>
<p>Panel member: Forum/discussion session on National Professors Congress: Sub-Theme "Globalization and National Resilience"</p>	<p>9 November – 10 November 2014 National Professors Congress</p>
<p>Input Kepada EPU untuk RMK-11</p> <p>Speaker: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>1 January 2015 Putrajaya</p>
<p>Public Sector Reform</p> <p>Speaker: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>10 February 2015 Sheraton Kuala Lumpur</p>
<p>Knowledge Sharing Session: "Developments in Sharing Reform"</p> <p>Speaker: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>9 April 2015 EPF Learning Centre, Bangi</p>
<p>1st KF-KRI Regional Policy Workshop: "Comparative Public Policy Research between Southeast Asia and Korea-State Capacity for Public Sector Reform for National Growth"</p> <p>by Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>24 April 2015 Phnom Penh, Cambodia,</p>

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
<p>International Social Security Conference 2015:Sustainable Social Security Ecosystem within an Ageing Society A talk "Social Security Research: Impacts of Ageing Population in Malaysia "</p> <p>by Dr Halimah Awang</p>	<p>19 May – 20 May 2015 Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur</p>
<p>23rd NISPAcee Annual Conference</p> <p>Presenter: Profesor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>21 May – 23 May 2015 Tbilisi, Georgia</p>
<p>Roundtable Discussion on "Priority Research Areas on Social Security in Malaysia"</p>	<p>16 June 2015 Lanai Kijang Bank Negara Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur</p>
<p>3rd APA Conference</p> <p>Moderator: Profesor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>30 July 2015 Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur</p>
<p>Public Lecture: "Dimensions of Social Protection- Comparing Malaysia and Republic of Korea"</p> <p>by Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>28 October 2015 Wisma R&D, University of Malaya</p>
<p>Majlis 2017 Budget Discourse : "Co-creating The Future – Upward Migration From B40 to M40: New Pathways"</p> <p>by Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>4 April – 6 April 2016 Ministry of Finance, Putrajaya</p>

Title/Speaker	Date/Venue
<p>National Population Conference on Sustainable Development Goals: "Sustainable Social Security and Old-Age Financial Provision in Malaysia"</p> <p>by Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>20 July 2016 Dewan Perdana Nur, KPWKM, Putrajaya</p>
<p><i>Task Force mengenai Isu dan Cabaran Penuaan: "Pembiayaan Kewangan Dalam Perlindungan Sosial kepada Warga Emas"</i></p> <p>by Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>29 July 2016 Dewan Perdana Nur, KPWKM, Putrajaya</p>
<p>International Social Security Conference 2016 – Active Ageing: Live Longer and Prosper</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>10 August 2016 Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral</p>
<p>Khazanah Megatrends Forum 2016</p> <p>Speaker: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>26 September – 27 September 2016 Kuala Lumpur Convention Cente</p>
<p>7th Korean Studies Association of Southeast Asia (KoSASA) Biennial Conference</p> <p>Speaker: Professor Datuk Norma Mansor</p>	<p>28 September – 30 September 2016 University of Philippines, Manila</p>

WAY FORWARD 2017 - 2020



FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES

6  **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

2  **TRAININGS**

3  **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES



RESEARCH PROJECTS

Impact of Return-to-Work (RTW) Program on EPF Contributions and National Economy

The objective of the study is to examine the impact of RTW program on the injured workers, employers, SOCSO, EPF and the national economy. This study was done in collaboration with SOCSO to enhance and promote its RTW program that will result in improved successful RTW strategies, lower public assistance costs for tax payers and lower personnel costs for employers.

Malaysian Ageing and Retirement Survey

The purpose of this study is to conduct longitudinal survey among the elderly aged 50 or older throughout Malaysia. The survey replicates some questions from SHARE and (Japanese Study of Aging and Retirement) JSTAR with the objective to find out information on the elderly aged 50 or older relating to their economic, financial and sociological condition. By employing the same method and questionnaire as JSTAR, a comparative study with Japan could be done in the future.

Reference Budget for Malaysian Households: A Preliminary Study

The purpose of this study is to propose a reference budget for households in Malaysia by exploring spending patterns of the households, their needs and costs according to different characteristics that reflect the circumstances of individual family units and the expenses required for a minimum standard of living. Findings from this research is intended to assist with regards to debt management among households, credit scores, poverty alleviation and purchasing power parity.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES



RESEARCH PROJECTS

Malaysia National Transfer Accounts (NTA) Study

The objective of the project is to develop the system of NTA for Malaysia, which measures economic flows across age groups, for each of the member countries. The NTA provides a comprehensive framework for estimating consumption, production, and resource reallocations by age. With the NTA system, we will be able to gain important new information relevant to the following issues - Intergenerational Equity and Poverty, Aging Policy, the First Demographic Dividend and the Second Demographic Dividend.

Social Protection Indicator

The purpose of this project is to develop a Social Protection Indicator for ASEAN countries. Such an indicator would assist countries to monitor and assess the development and adequacy of the three major types of social protection programs – social insurance, social assistance and labor market programs in their respective countries. The comparability of this indicator will also allow cross-country comparison of social protection system performance.

Labor Force and Wages Study

The objective of this study is to examine wage differences by age, gender, employment sector and region. The proposed analysis will also estimate how wages by these characteristics have changed over time in response to government policies and economic conditions. This will also help us understand the issues of inequality and poverty.

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES



TRAININGS

Social Protection Course (Masters in Economics)

This course examines issues related to social policy, economic risks mitigation and social protection schemes; economics of social security; trends in social security reforms; role of social security in times of economic and financial crisis; choice of an appropriate social protection system and issues of sustainability, access, coverage and inter-generation equity; challenges to developing economies; and Malaysia's social security schemes and legislative codes.

Personal Financial Management

This seminar aims to promote and educate participants to plan and manage their finances for future retirement. It intends to equip the participants with basic and essential financial knowledge. Conducted at least twice a year, it is held in collaboration with trainers or speakers from various institutions such as Employees Provident Fund (EPF), Private Pension Administrators (PPA), Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations, Credit Counseling and Debt Management Agency (AKPK).

FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Certified ASEAN Social Protection Professional

The pension industry enhances the vitality of the national economy by providing hundreds of thousands of high skilled, well-compensated jobs and by constantly developing sophisticated new technologies that benefit the entire economy. This requires the pension industry to continuously have a highly skilled, stable, secure, and growing workforce. This certification aims to provide personnel training of the skills necessary at all levels for the pension industry. Such training will then help the pension industry to identify and create strategies and opportunities that will keep the pension workforce "pipeline" filled.

Certified Disability Management Professional (CDMP)

CDMP is accredited by the International Disability Management Standards Council (IDMSC), Canada with its secretariat based at the National Institute for Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR), Canada. As a test agency, SSRC will be responsible for the management and administration of the CDMP examinations in Malaysia. The translation and localization of the modules and enhancement of training shall create a larger number of CDMPs and enable Disability Management to become a growing professional industry in Malaysia, similar to many developing nations globally.

Certified Return-to- Work Coordinator (CRTWC)

CRTWC is accredited by the International Disability Management Standards Council (IDMSC), Canada with its secretariat based at the National Institute for Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR), Canada. As a test agency, SSRC will be responsible for the management and administration of the CRTWC examinations in Malaysia. The translation and localization of the modules and enhancement of training shall create a larger number of CRTWCs and enable Disability Management to become a growing professional industry in Malaysia, similar to many developing nations globally.

NEWS AND MEDIA



AGING

Be positive about growing older

MALAYSIA is currently experiencing a steady increase in the population of older people relative to the total population as a result of declining fertility and increasing life expectancy.

The number of Malaysians aged 60 and above is projected to reach 2.5 million in 2020 and 6.3 million in 2040 (about 20 per cent of total population).

Ageing can entail multiple losses, including loss of work and physical functions. As much as people want to be able to stay youthful and enjoy life to its fullest, no matter what lengths they go to to stay young, there will always be some kind of fear in the back of their minds about getting old, such as the fear of mental and physical decline, losing a spouse, and losing one's income and financial capability to support one's self or loved ones.

In spite of these depressing thoughts, ageing can also be associated with many rewarding experiences. Positive ageing is a term used to describe the process of maintaining a positive attitude, feeling good about oneself, keeping fit and healthy, and engaging fully in life as a person ages.

Research shows that those who age positively live longer, are healthier and enjoy a good quality of life. How people manage, think, about and cope with the challenges can affect how well they cope with ageing.

There are many factors that can influence people's attitudes towards ageing.

Our survey on 518 Malaysians aged 40 and above indicates that key factors, such as individual problems/worries in life, fears of disabling disease and long-term illness, longer life expectancy, old age care, post-retirement financial adequacy and sufficiency of government financial support, influenced respondents' attitude towards ageing.

The majority of respondents are employed and the number of men and women surveyed were almost equal in number. It is noteworthy that a majority of those surveyed stated that they expected to live between six to 20 years more after 60.

Therefore, it becomes imperative that people be adequately prepared physically and financially if they are to live a quality life.

It then becomes important to understand the public's perception of ageing as it also has government policy implications and economic impact, inevitably.

PROF DATUK NORMA MANSOR, Director, Social Security Research Centre (SSRC), Faculty of Economics & Administration, University of Malaya

Areas of concern as we move on in life

MALAYSIA is currently seeing a steady increase in the proportion of older people relative to the total population.

This comes as a result of declining fertility and increasing life expectancy.

The number of Malaysians aged 60 years and above is projected to reach 2.5 million in 2020 and 6.3 million in 2040 (about 20% of total population).

Ageing can entail multiple losses, including loss of work and physical functioning. Much as people want to be able to stay youthful and enjoy life to its fullest, there will always be some kind of fear in the back of their minds about getting old, such as the fear of mental and physical decline, losing a spouse, losing one's income and financial capability.

In spite of these depressing thoughts, ageing can also be associated with many rewarding experiences. Positive ageing is a term used to describe the process of maintaining a positive attitude, feeling good about oneself, keeping fit and healthy, and engaging fully in life as a person ages.

Research has shown that those who age positively are healthier, live longer and enjoy a good quality of life. How people manage, think about and cope with the challenges to some extent can affect how well they cope with ageing.

There are a myriad of factors that can influence people's attitude towards ageing.

Our survey on 518 Malaysians aged 40 years and above indicates that seven main factors influenced the respondent's attitude towards ageing. These include individual problems/worries in life, fears of disabling disease and long-term illness, longer life expectancy, old age care, post-retirement financial adequacy and sufficiency of government financial support.

A majority of the respondents are in employment and the gender proportion is almost equal. It is noteworthy that a majority of those surveyed stated that they would expect to live between six and 20 years more after attaining the age of 60, as such, it becomes imperative that people be adequately prepared physically and financially if they were to live a quality and healthy life as they move in the cycle of life.

It then becomes important to understand the general public's perception on ageing as the dynamism of factors associated with it inevitably has policy implications (Government's) and economic impact.

PROF DATUK NORMA MANSOR, Faculty of Economics & Administration, Universiti Malaya

NEWS AND ARTICLES

Date	Newspaper/Title
1 January 2017	The Star: Experts discuss related to terrorism.
December 2016	Professional Designations expand throughout Southeast Asia
07 December 2016	NST: Be positive about growing older
07 December 2016	The Star: Areas of concern as we move on in life.
19 April 2015	The Star: Too Poor to Retire.
12 April 2015	The Star: Keeping Aside Some Money for Your Retirement.
20 December 2014	The Star: The Squeezed Middle.
15 November 2014	NST: Set up Social Security Council to Help the Aged.
20 June 2013	Sin Chew JitPoh: 馬大教授：公積金計劃須轉型.
19 June 2013	UM News: Holzmann - There is Hope for Old Age, Needs Appropriate Policies.
11 July 2012	My Sinchew: Malaysia will be ageing nation by 2030.

MEDIA APPEARANCES



TV3

*Bilangan Warga Emas naik
35 Peratus Menjelang Tahun
2035*



Astro Awani

*Ageing Phenomena in
Malaysia*



TV1

Kualiti IPT ke Taraf Global



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