SWRC

In Review

2023-2025

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

PUSAT PENYELIDIKAN KESEJAHTERAAN SOSIAL

Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC)

SWRC In Review

2023-2025

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Pusat Penyelidikan Kesejahteraan Sosial
Social Wellbeing Research Centre
(SWRC)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2026

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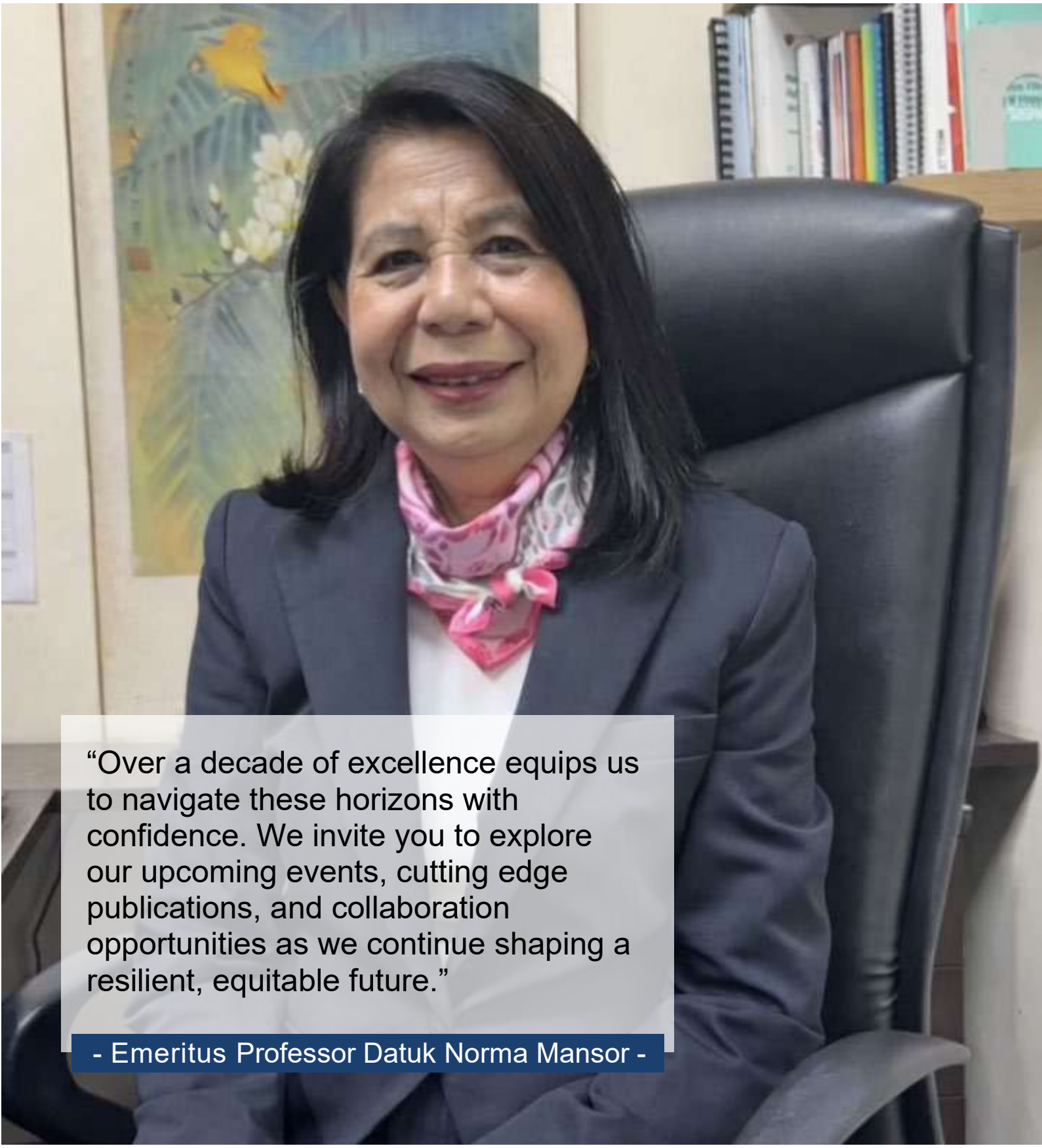
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SOCIAL WELLBEING RESEARCH CENTRE (SWRC)
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Message from Director



"Over a decade of excellence equips us to navigate these horizons with confidence. We invite you to explore our upcoming events, cutting edge publications, and collaboration opportunities as we continue shaping a resilient, equitable future."

- Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor -

As an integral part of Malaysia's innovative university, the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) has, over the past decade, steadfastly pursued its vision of becoming the distinguished thought leader in social protection through cutting-edge scientific research, rigorous training and impactful policy engagement.

Mission and Legacy

Our enduring mission is to enrich the body of knowledge and applied research in social protection, ultimately elevating the wellbeing of all Malaysians. Over more than a decade, SWRC has built a distinguished legacy, bolstered by unwavering support from the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) since 2011 and Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO) from 2016, fostering economic development alongside social cohesion.

Achievements in 2023-2025

In 2023, SWRC relaunched the landmark National Social Wellbeing Blueprint, a comprehensive framework guiding policy on retirement adequacy and social security, while deepening EPF collaborations to model sustainable income frameworks for an ageing Malaysia.

The 2023 Blueprint transitioned Malaysia from a reactive social welfare stance to a proactive wellbeing-centric model. It acknowledges that in the era of increased longevity, "wellbeing" is a dynamic target that requires constant calibration between the state, the private sector and individual responsibility.

2024 marked an expanded global outreach, including key contributions to ADB research on social protection and hosting the inaugural series of Intellectual Discourses that bridged academia with policymakers on youth wages and economic resilience.

In 2025, we built on this momentum with pivotal events like the World Social Security Forum, the Roundtable Discussion regarding expanding EPF coverage to migrant workers in Malaysia, and the MIER Brown Bag Talk on Securing Dignity in Ageing, sparking vital dialogues and driving active roles.

Emerging Challenges in 2026

Looking to 2026, Malaysia confronts escalating demographic pressures. With projections of 6.3 million citizens aged 60+ by 2040, there is heightened need for robust income security, accessible healthcare, and sustainable long-term care to avert old-age poverty. Economic volatilities and rapid societal shifts demand innovative strategies that promote extended working lives, optimised savings mechanisms and prudent investment pathways, while bridging divides between academia, policymakers and communities. Achieving universal social protection for dignified living remains paramount, calling for agile research, inclusive stakeholder partnerships and proactive public education.

Over a decade of excellence equips us to navigate these horizons with confidence. We invite you to explore our upcoming events, cutting-edge publications, and opportunities for collaboration as we continue shaping a resilient, equitable future.

Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor
Director, Social Wellbeing Research Centre.

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About SWRC

The Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) is an academic multi-disciplinary research entity, focusing on conceiving and conducting research in social security and old age financial protection. Since its inception in March 2011 at the Faculty of Economics and Administration (FEA), Universiti Malaya, SWRC has been providing evidence-based inputs and consulting in the aforesaid domains to elevate economic development and social cohesion in Malaysia.

Both developed and developing nations are concerned about social security and old-age financial protection due to increase in life expectancy of the population coupled with decreasing fertility rates. Their current social security provision may be inadequate or unsustainable. On the public finance side, merely incurring further expenditure may not resolve the issues challenging the society. Therefore, innovative policy solutions, stimulated by international collaborations and based on empirical grounding in national data and analysis are essential.

The Employees Provident Fund (EPF) has generously provided an endowment fund to establish the nation's first endowed Social Wellbeing Chair (SWC) in Universiti Malaya to support the research in social security and old-age financial protection.

Aside from being highly privileged to be collaborating and partnering EPF in its research projects, SWRC has also established strategic partnership with other esteemed institutions that includes the Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO), University of Tokyo, University of Michigan and government agencies locally and internationally to provide a steady stream of innovative projects and revolutionary investigations on social security issues.

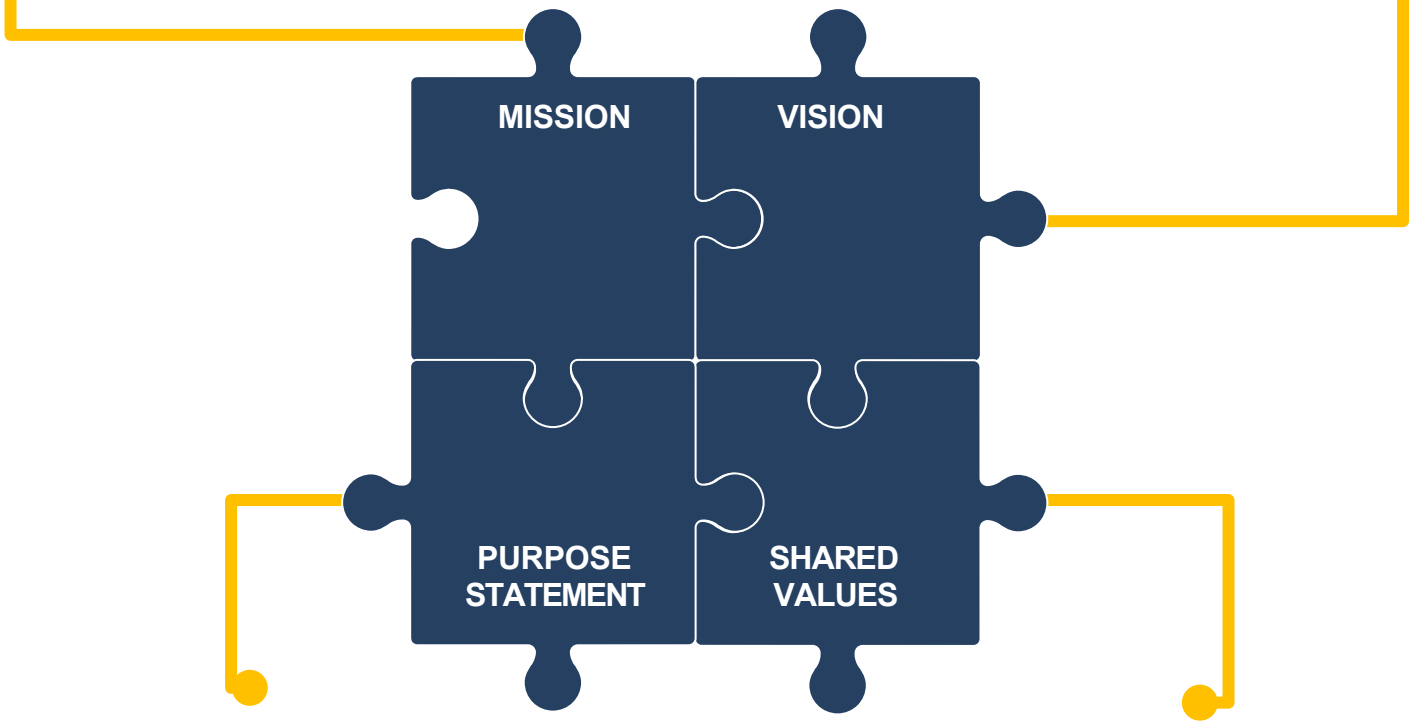
From its inception, SWRC has championed a rigorous interdisciplinary approach. We serve as a global hub where scientists, researchers and consultants from diverse fields converge to pioneer evidence-based solutions for the complex challenges of an ageing society.



Mission, Vision, Shared Values and Purpose Statement

OUR MISSION
To contribute and strengthen body of knowledge and applied research in social wellbeing for the benefit of all

OUR VISION
The leading think-and-do tank and referral point in Malaysia and the region on matters concerning social wellbeing



OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT
Leveraging our expertise in social wellbeing to enrich the lives of people

OUR SHARED VALUES
Integrity, Evidence-based, Relevance and Innovation



Objectives

1. **To enhance awareness on ageing and retirement issues** amongst academia, policymakers, governmental and non- governmental agencies, Malaysian public and the international community.

2. **To build strong fundamentals and knowledge in the field of public policy**, particularly regarding retirement and old age protection amongst faculty members of local universities and new graduates in related field of studies.

3. **To promote public awareness on the potential of the older persons' participation in economic and social activities in an ageing society** besides formulating policies which enable the society to age in a healthy and a financially-secured environment.

Strategic Thrusts



Research Excellence



Evidence-based Policy Input



Wellbeing Advocacy

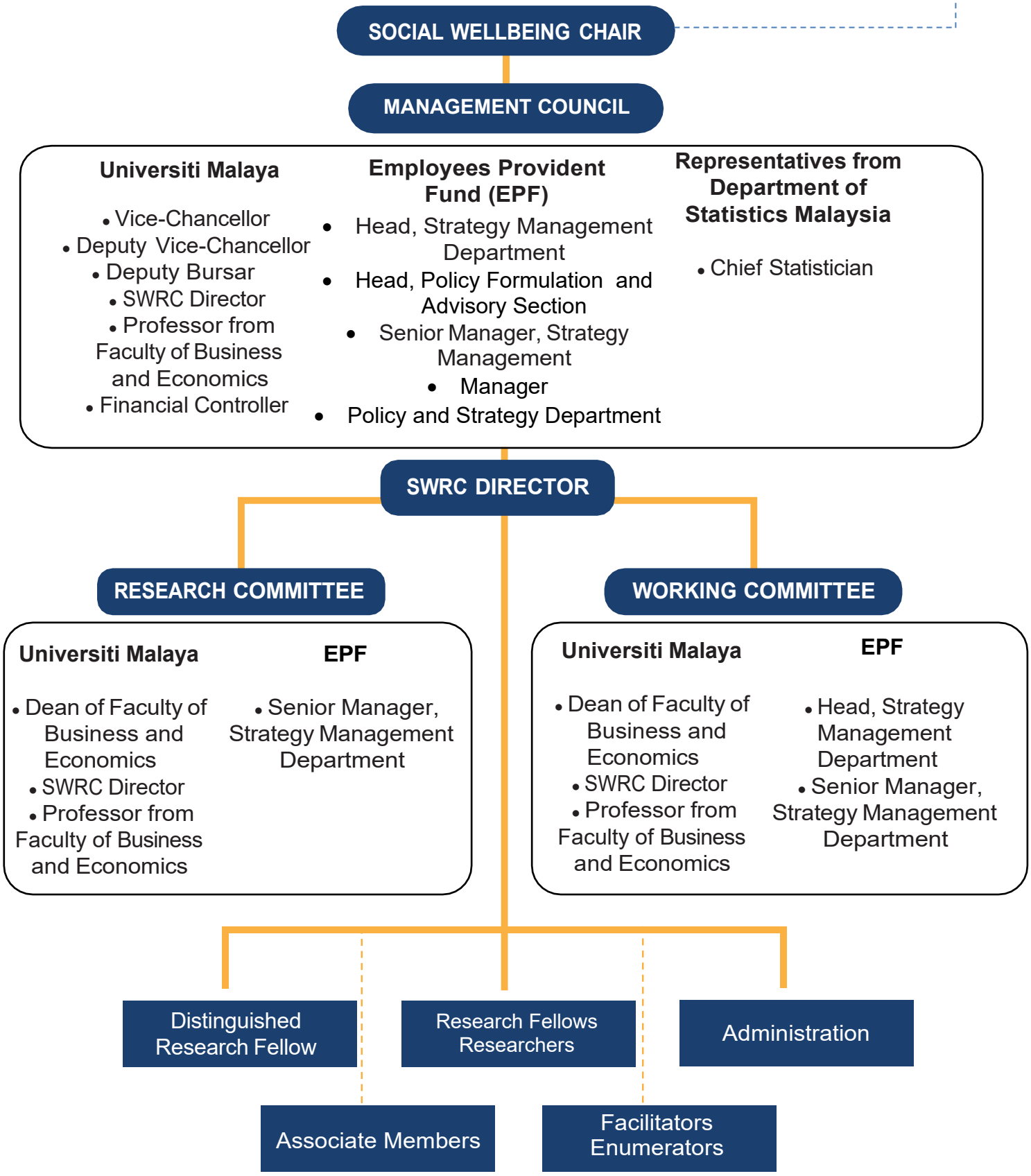


Collaboration and Partnership



Capacity Building

Governance and Administrative Structure
EPF Endowment Fund



Governance and Administrative Structure
EPF Endowment Fund

UNIVERSITI MALAYA



VICE CHANCELLOR UM
Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr Noor Azuan Abu Osman



DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR UM (R&I)
Professor Ir. Dr Kaharudin Dimyati



DEPUTY BURSAR
FINANCIAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Nur Afida Binti Idris



SWRC DIRECTOR
Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor



DEAN OF FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS UM
Professor Dr Yusniza Kamarulzaman

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND



HEAD, STRATEGY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Balqais Yusoff



HEAD, POLICY FORMULATION AND ADVISORY SECTION
Jamal Isnen Hadziri



SENIOR MANAGER
SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH SECTION
Hawati Abdul Hamid



MANAGER
POLICY AND STRATEGY DEPARTMENT
Nor Iskandar Md. Nor

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



CHIEF STATISTICIAN
Dato' Sri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin

Governance and Administrative Structure
PERKESO

PERTUBUHAN KESELAMATAN SOSIAL



GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Dato' Sri Dr Mohammed Azman Bin Dato' Aziz Mohammed



DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (STRATEGY & CORPORATE)
Edmund Cheong Peck Huang



DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (OPERATIONS)
Azirruan Bin Arifin



HEAD OF PREVENTION, MEDICAL & REHABILITATION DIVISION
Dr Azlan Bin Darus



HEAD OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES DIVISION
Gayathri A/P Vadivel

Growth Map

2023



The Launching of Belanjawanku 2022/2023 Guide and Application

It was officially launched on 13 June 2023, by the Minister of Economy Rafizi Ramli, developed by the Employees Provident Fund (KWSP) in collaboration with the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) at the Universiti Malaya. The guide, presented by SWRC Director Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor, provides expenditure benchmarks for various goods and services, tailored to nine different household categories in selected Malaysian cities.

2023

Informatics for Labour Market Analysis (ILMA)

The Informatics for Labour Market Analysis (ILMA) training was held at PERKESO's Melaka Rehabilitation Centre from 28 February to 3 March, 2023. The programme was designed to upskill 48 PERKESO personnels in leveraging digital tools for advanced labour market analysis. Training focused on the core components and strategic applications of a Labour Market Information System (LMIS) to enhance data-driven decision-making.



Townhall Session of the Health White Paper

As a Committee Member of the Health White Paper, SWRC's director attended the townhall session. The **National Health White Paper** is a reform policy document that outlines major challenges in Malaysia's health system. It proposes phased solutions over 15 years to improve healthcare delivery, prevention, funding, and governance as developed with input from various stakeholders and academic experts.

2023

The Launch of Universiti Malaya Awareness Programme, Open Science Initiative

On 6 June 2023, SWRC's director presented case studies and best practices at the launch of Universiti Malaya Open Science (UMOS), a UM initiative promoting FAIR-aligned research data sharing.



2023



2nd AMRO-MEA Roundtable Session on the Malaysian Economy

On 23 May 2023, Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (MEA President & SWRC Director) was a panellist at the 2nd AMRO-MEA Roundtable on Malaysia's economy, discussing pension reform amid an ageing population. Held at Bank Negara's Sasana Kijang, the event was part of AMRO's 2023 Annual Consultation Visit to Malaysia.



Meeting of the HRS Around the World Studies

The Meeting of the HRS around the World on 24 August 2023 saw the participation of many, including MHAS (Mexico), LASSI (India), and CHARLS (China). Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor, the Director of SWRC and Dr Halimah Awang attended the two days meeting in Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma shared MARS data collection process during the meeting.



World Bank Malaysia Economic Monitor 2023 Report Launch and Panel Discussion

The World Bank launched its "Malaysia Economic Monitor" report on 10 October 2023. The report forecasts Malaysia's economic growth and recommends shifting from blanket subsidies to targeted social assistance to reduce inequality and create fiscal space for key investments.

2023

Symposium: "The Path Towards Greater Prosperity for Malaysia"

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim launched SWRC's Symposium on 18 October 2023, in Putrajaya. The event gathered over 700 stakeholders to discuss improving Malaysia's social protection framework and financing through a more effective tax system, with insights from local and international experts.



2023 → 2024



Peranan dan Pendekatan Kerajaan dalam Menoktah Kemiskinan: Perlukan Penyusunan Semula?

The National Symposium 2024: 'Eradicating Poverty' was a significant event organised by the Ministry of Economy, Malaysia. This symposium brought together experts and stakeholders to discuss strategies and initiatives for poverty alleviation in the country. The director of SWRC moderated a session 'The Role and Approach of the Government in Eradicating Poverty: The Need for Restructuring.'

The Launch of Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey Wave 2 (2021-2022) Survey Report

On 29 August 2023, the Social Wellbeing Research Centre and the Asian Development Bank launched the MARS WAVE 2 Survey Report. It provides national data on the wellbeing of older Malaysians to shape evidence-based policy. The event was attended by key stakeholders.





Majlis Anugerah Tokoh Wanita Kebangsaan CUEPECS 2024

On 8 March 2024, Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor, Director of the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), Universiti Malaya, was honoured with the "Tokoh Wanita Kebangsaan CUEPACS 2024" award. This national recognition celebrates her outstanding contributions to social policy, leadership, and academic excellence.

2024

2nd Regional Social Policy Conference, East Asia and Pacific

The 2nd Regional Social Policy Conference, a joint initiative by UNICEF, SWRC, and KPWK Sarawak, convened in Kuching, Sarawak on 22 and 23 October 2024. This significant event brought together over 100 delegates from 14 countries in the East Asia and Pacific region, including policymakers, practitioners, researchers and experts. The conference aimed to foster knowledge sharing, highlight best practices and stimulate transformative change in social policy. The conference sought to create a future where children are prioritised and societies are inclusive, resilient and sustainable.



2024



Design of an Integrated Social Protection Programme in Sarawak

A steering committee meeting was held on 14 March 2024, chaired by the Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development. SWRC's director, served as the national expert for the project.



57th ADB Annual Meeting: Launch of Asian Development Policy Report 2024 - Aging Well in Asia

The launch of "Asian Development Policy Report 2024: Aging Well in Asia" was held on the sidelines of the 57th Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors in Tblisi, Georgia. Over the years, ADB Annual Meetings have become a premier forum for the discussion of economic and social development issues in Asia and the Pacific.

2024

The Launch of Belanjawanku 2024/2025

The Belanjawanku 2024/2025 Media Luncheon was held on 12 December 2024, at Menara KWSP. The event was organised by the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) to launch the Belanjawanku 2024/2025 Guide and the Retirement Income Adequacy (RIA) Framework.





Policy Paper Launch 'Building A Cradle-To-Grave Care Economy'

ISIS Malaysia launched its latest policy paper on 'Building a cradle-to-grave care economy'. It was an introduction to the ongoing national conversation on care. SWRC's director was on the panel, discussing policy gaps and opportunities for growth in Malaysia's social care landscape.

2025



Roundtable Discussion Expanding EPF Coverage to Migrant Workers in Malaysia

This roundtable discussion focused on the Malaysian government's decision to extend Employees Provident Fund (EPF) coverage to migrant workers. The policy aims to enhance social protection for all workers and aligns with international labour standards. Co-organised by SWRC and SUHAKAM, the gathering engaged stakeholders in discussing the implications of this policy change and identifying opportunities to maximise positive societal outcomes.

The Sandwich Generation Rountable

The "Sandwich Generation Crisis: Easing Dual Burdens on Malaysian Families" event, organised by ISIS Malaysia, the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), UNICEF, and the World Bank, took place at the ISIS auditorium on 12 January 2025.



2025



APRU SDG4GC 2025 On-Site Programme

Universiti Malaya hosted 30+ students from 12 Asia-Pacific universities for the APRU SDG4GC programme. Under the theme “Diversity and Inclusivity - Actions for Sustainability,” participants engaged in workshops and cultural activities focused on the UN SDGs.

Kongres Social Synergy 2025 - 'Search & Serve Holistically

SWRC played a key role in the PERKESO Kongres Social Synergy 2025 SWRC’s director served as a panelist, while Dr Halimah Awang and Dr Zulkiply Omar were judges. This involvement highlights SWRC's commitment to advancing social protection and strengthening Malaysia's social protection ecosystem through expert collaboration and evaluation.



2025

Capacity Building Training on Social Protection Policy and Implementation in ASEAN

This training programme equips practitioners with key skills to design, implement, and manage inclusive social protection policies, strengthening regional resilience against economic and social vulnerabilities.





Cambodia Social Security Exposure Visit to Malaysia

The Cambodia Social Protection for All (SP4ALL) coalition, facilitated by the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), Universiti Malaya, conducted a four-day exposure visit to Malaysia to strengthen Cambodia's social protection reforms. The visit drew lessons from Malaysia's social protection ecosystem, including the Employees Provident Fund (EPF), the Social Security Organisation (SOCSO), the Retirement Fund Incorporated (KWAP), the Department of Social Welfare (JKM), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance, civil society organisations, and the Malaysian Bar Association.



Memorandum of Understanding with UNICEF

On 14 August 2025, a signing ceremony for the Memorandum of Understanding with UNICEF was held at Kuala Lumpur City Hall.



World Social Security Forum 2025

The ISSA World Social Security Forum (WSSF) 2025 was held from 29 September to 3 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Under the theme "Shaping Social Security for a World in Transition," the event brought together 1,500 leaders and experts from over 130 countries for 80 sessions covering digitalisation, demographic ageing, sustainability, and labour market changes.

Key Funders

Employees Provident Fund (EPF)

To support the research in social security in general and old-age financial protection in particular, the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) has graciously provided an endowment fund to create the nation's first endowed Chair in Old Age Financial Protection (OAPFC) at Universiti Malaya. OAPFC has since been upgraded to the status of a research centre, SWRC.

Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO)

SWRC has also established partnerships and collaborative agreements with Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO). On 1 March 2016, Universiti Malaya signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with PERKESO to enable more collaborative research activities and joint publications between SWRC and PERKESO especially in the Return-to-Work Programme (RTW). SWRC and PERKESO signed a Strategic Partnerships Agreement in 2021.



University of Michigan

On 7 March 2018, Universiti Malaya representing SWRC and the University of Michigan officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU marked the outset of collaboration between the SWRC and University of Michigan for one of the SWRC's flagship projects, the Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS). MARS research is conducted with technical support from the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan.



Asian Development Bank

Asian Development Bank (ADB) provides knowledge and technical assistance to SWRC that generates policy-relevant knowledge on population ageing by:

(i) supporting the development of internationally comparable panel survey-based databases on ageing in selected countries; and
(ii) coordinating the implementation of comparative and demonstrative studies in selected countries of the region, to provide their governments with useful information towards reforms in health and social security programmes, and for crafting policies to adapt to population ageing.

Charting a Global Footprint

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS & INSTITUTES



The World Bank



United Nations Development Programme



International Training Centre (ITC), ILO



Asian Development Bank



IZA Institute of Labor Economics



World Health Organization (WHO)



United Nations Population Fund



National Institute on Aging



National Institute of Population and Social Security Research



Gateway to Global Ageing, University of Southern California





Wickett Measurement Systems



Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs



Asia Regional Training Centre, Thailand



National Institute for Family Finance Information



Research Institute of Economy, Trade & Industry



Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)



University of Oxford



University of Tokyo



National Institute of Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR)



KDI School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea



Osh State University, Krygyzstan

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS & INSTITUTES

Economic Planning Unit

Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM)

Institute for Public Health @ NIH

United Nations Children's Fund, Malaysia (UNICEF)

Department of Social Welfare Malaysia (JKM)

Bank Negara Malaysia

Pusat Penyelidikan Kesejahteraan Sosial
Social Wellbeing Research Centre
(SWRC)

Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU), Prime Minister's Department (JPM)

Credit Counselling and Debt Management (AKPK)

Kerajaan Negeri Selangor

Securities Industry Development Corporation (SIDC)

National Population and Family Development Board (LPPKN)

Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Private Pension Administrator (PPA)

Federation of Malaysian Consumers Association (FOMCA)

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Key People

DIRECTOR

Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor



Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor is a highly respected academic and policy expert, currently serving as Director of the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) at Universiti Malaya since 2013, where she leads interdisciplinary research on social policy, ageing, and social protection. Prior to this, she was Secretary of the National Economic Advisory Council in the Prime Minister's Department (2009-2011), Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administration (2004-2009), and Executive Director of INPUMA (2001-2004), playing key roles in shaping Malaysia's economic and academic agendas.

Her expertise is widely recognised through advisory and consultancy roles with major international organisations, including the UNDP, World Bank, ILO, OECD, EU, and ADB, as well as various Malaysian public agencies. She has also published extensively in leading academic journals and books on public and social policy, ageing, and social protection.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions, she was awarded the title of Emeritus Professor by Universiti Malaya in 2018. She served as President of the Malaysian Economic Association from 2018 to 2024. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia and was honoured as CUEPEC's Woman Icon of the Year 2024.

In 2025, she was appointed an HRD Corp Thought Leader (HTL), acknowledging her vast expertise and leadership in human capital and workforce development, further highlighting her enduring impact on talent development in Malaysia and beyond.



DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RESEARCH)
Dr Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam

Dr Muhammad Aizat bin Zainal Alam is currently the Deputy Director of Research in SWRC. He is also a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economics at the Faculty of Business and Economics and serves as an Associate Editor of the Institutions and Economies journal. He holds a PhD in Economics from Universiti Malaya, where his doctoral research focused on retirement preparedness, financial literacy, savings behaviour, and the application of machine learning in economic analysis. Prior to joining Universiti Malaya he worked at the Securities Commission Malaysia, where he researched and developed capital market regulations. He obtained his Bachelor of Science (Actuarial Science) from UiTM and Master of Economics from Universiti Malaya.

His current work centres on social protection, with particular interest in addressing coverage and implementation gaps, enhancing inclusivity for underserved populations, and strengthening institutional and policy frameworks. Dr Aizat is actively engaged in interdisciplinary research that bridges academic inquiry with practical policy impact.



DEPUTY DIRECTOR (CAPACITY BUILDING)
Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman

Puan Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman is the Deputy Director of Training and Capacity Building at the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), Universiti Malaya. Before joining SWRC, she spent over 20 years in the banking industry, holding various managerial positions specialising in consumer finance and long-term financial planning.

Her current research focuses on financial literacy and wellbeing, with particular interest in household finance, social protection, and the ageing population. She is the principal researcher for the *Reference Budget for Malaysia* or *Belanjawanku 2019*, an expenditure guide for Malaysian individuals and families - a collaborative research project between Universiti Malaya and the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Malaysia.

Nik Noor Ainoon holds a Bachelor of Economics (Analytical Economics) and a Master of Business Administration with dual concentrations in Islamic Finance and International Business Management, both from Universiti Malaya. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the same university.



PRINCIPAL RESEARCH FELLOW
Dr Halimah Awang

Halimah Awang is a Principal Research Fellow at SWRC. She holds a PhD in Applied Statistics from Macquarie University, Australia. Her research interests include social protection, ageing, and mathematics education. She is the project leader for Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS), an ongoing research project jointly funded by the Employees Provident Fund Malaysia (EPF) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Her other research projects include elder abuse and neglect, savings adequacy among EPF members, social protection programmes in the ASEAN region and the Return-to-Work Programme of injured workers for Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO). She has served as a consultant for the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, National Population & Family Development Board (LPPKN), PLUS Expressways Berhad and the Social Institute of Malaysia.

Before joining SWRC, Halimah was a faculty member at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, UM, for nearly 30 years. As an academician, she has published extensively in various international journals.



SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW
Dr Zulkiply Omar

Dr Zulkiply Omar is a Senior Research Fellow at SWRC. He holds a PhD in Economics from Southern Illinois University, USA. He completed his Bachelor's and Master's Degree at the same university. He holds a Certificate in Leading Economic Growth from Harvard Kennedy School of Harvard University, Cambridge.

He was a Senior Research Fellow at Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) from 2015 to 2019. He was the Head of Economic Research Department of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) from 1997-2000. He was involved in various studies and reports in economic-related areas, mostly for government agencies.

In the academic area, he has a wide range of teaching experience in economic subjects in several universities. He served as a Deputy Rector/Dean Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 2012 to 2014 and is currently a Managing Partner of Econsult Economic Consulting Sdn. Bhd. Dr Zulkiply is an Adjunct Professor at Universiti Tun Abdul Razak.



SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW
Professor Dr Yong Zulina Zubairi

Professor Dr Yong Zulina Zubairi was a Senior Research Fellow at the Social Wellbeing Research Centre and an honorary Professor at Universiti Malaya Institute of Advanced Studies. Her research covered social security for the elderly, poverty, graduate employment, and statistical modelling. Previously, as Associate Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) and Registrar at UM, she had led global strategy and talent management.

With over 30 years in academia, she has published extensively, supervised over 30 postgraduates, and secured grants from the British Council UK-Malaysia Consortium, Asian Universities Alliance, and AKEPT. She contributed to the Institute of Statistics Malaysia and the Journal for Statistical Modelling and Analytics, and organised the MyStats Conference with the Department of Statistics and Central Bank Malaysia. She was also a Commonwealth Fellowship alumnus, working with the Association for Commonwealth Universities and local NGOs.



RESEARCH FELLOW
Dr Yamunah Devi Apalasamy

Dr Yamunah Devi Apalasamy is a Research Fellow at SWRC. She graduated with a PhD in Pharmacology and a Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons) from Universiti Malaya. She was a Post doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya since 2012. Her main research has focused on non-communicable diseases. Her research interest is in the areas of social protection, wellbeing and ageing. She has also served as a consultant for a project on Global Genomic Medicine, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health, United States. During this time, she attended training in health economic evaluation models at the University of Mahidol, Thailand. She has published extensively in many acclaimed international journals such as the British Journal of Dermatology, Human Genetics, Pharmacogenetics and Genomics, Annals of Human Biology, Molecular Biology Report, Journal of Perinatology, Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, among others.

Distinguished Research Fellows



Professor Dr Robert Holzmann
24 December 2016 - 23 December 2017
Governor of Austria's Central Bank



Professor Dr Naohiro Ogawa
24 December 2018 - 23 December 2022
Professor, University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Economics

Visiting Expert



Dr Amjad Rabi
2024-2025
Chief Technical Advisor, ILO

Principal Investigators



Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor
SWRC Director



Dr Halimah Awang
SWRC Principal Research Fellow

Research Associates



Professor Robert Clark
Professor, Department of Economics, North Carolina State University



Dr Roza Hazli Zakaria
Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Professor David Weir
Professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan



Professor Dr Low Wah Yun
Deputy Executive Director (Research and Internationalisation), Asia-Europe Institute, UM



Professor Dr Noran Naqiah
Research Cluster Dean, Faculty of Medicine, UM



Professor Dr M. Niaz Asadullah
Professor, School of Business, Monash Malaysia University



Dr Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin
Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Associate Professor Dr Martin O'Brien
MBA Director,
University of Wollongong



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Deputy Dean of Research, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, UM



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Professor Dr Shahrul Bahyah Kamaruzzaman
Faculty of Medicine, UM



Dr Raudah Mohd Yunus
Faculty of Medicine
Universiti Teknologi Mara



Professor Dr Choo Wan Yuen
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Associate Professor Dr Farizah Mohd Hairi
Faculty of Medicine, UM



Dr Haniza Khalid
Social Wellbeing Research Centre



Dr Adilah Abdul Ghapor
Faculty of Business & Economics, UM



Dr Suhaimi Bin Hj Abd Samad
Faculty of Adminstrative Science & Policy Studies
Universiti Teknologi Mara

Affiliate Members 2023-2025



Associate Professor Dr Kuppusamy Singaraveloo
Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Associate Professor Dr Saidatulakmal Mohd
School of Social Sciences, USM



Dr Nurul Liyana Mohd Kamil
Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Dr Muzalwana Abdul Talib @ Abdul Mutalib
Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Dr Grace Lee Hooi Yean
School of Business, University of Monash Malaysia



Dr Tang Chor Foon
Centre for Policy Research & International Studies, USM



Dr Nurhidayah Abdullah
Faculty of Law, UM



Dr Tahir Aris
Institute for Medical Research (IMR),
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Industry Fellows



Husaini Hussin
CEO, Private Pension Administrator Malaysia (PPA)



Linnet Lee
CEO, Financial Planning Association of Malaysia (FPAM)



Mark O'Dell
CEO, Life Insurance Association of Malaysia (LIAM)

Researchers



Kama Firdaus Subbahi
Social Research Officer



Zahira Adila Zahuri
Research Analyst



Tan Lih Yoong
Social Research Officer



Tan Chin Lung
Research Analyst



Amir Hamzah
Research Analyst



Asyraaf Zawawi
Research Analyst



Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan
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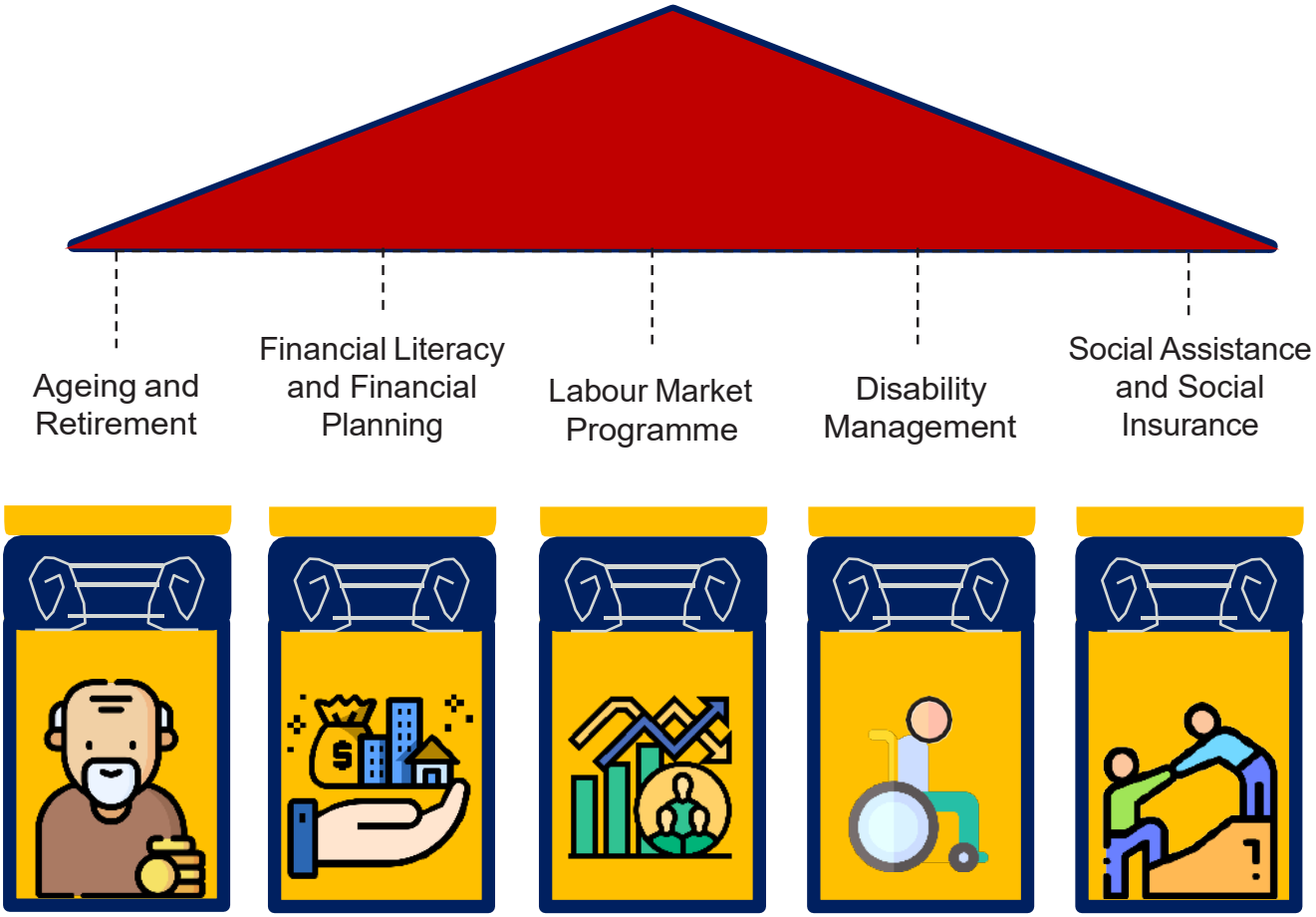
03 Research Excellence

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Research Pillars

The Centre 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. SWRC conducts research, teaching and dissemination of evidence-based knowledge in the area of social security, including old age financial protection aimed at enhancing 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 an ageing population. 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 by spending more 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.



Research Areas



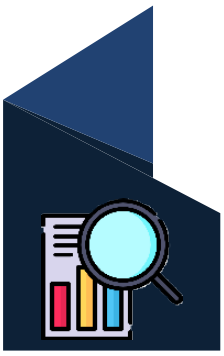
Impact of social security programmes on individuals' retirement decisions



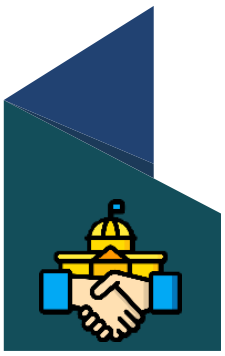
Implications of trends in social security, private pensions and private savings for future retirement income security



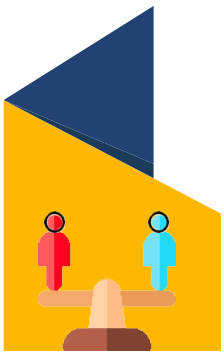
Macroeconomic and financial effects of changes in social security policy on national savings, investment and economic growth



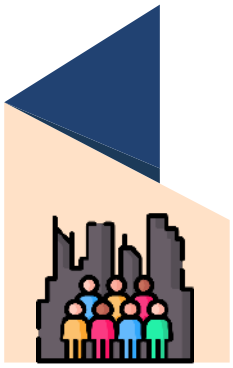
International research on pension and social security issues



Interactions of social security with other public and private programmes



Distributional effects of proposed social security reforms



Impact of demographic and social changes on social security

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

2025 - 2026	Childcare Availability in Malaysia	Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam
2025 - 2026	Financial Planning Industry in Malaysia: Through the Years and Beyond	Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam, Linnet Lee, Norma Mansor, Yong Chen Chen
2025 - 2026	ADB: Assessing Financial Preparedness during Old Age in Asia	Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam, Norma Mansor
2025 - 2026	FWD Insurance Market Studies of the Underserved Community	Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam, Amjad Rabi, Norma Mansor
2024 - 2025	Reviewing and Improving Cash & In-Kind transfer on Social Protection (Selangor)	Suhaimi Abd Samad, Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi, Radduan Yusof, Nurazilah Zainal, Shamshimah Samsuddin
2024 - 2025	Survey of Informal Workers: Self-Employed & Gig Workers in Malaysia	Norma Mansor, Zulkiply Omar, Halimah Awang
2025	EPRI contract with UNICEF: Design of Cash Plus Program for PPRs in Malaysia	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Haniza Khalid, Tan Chin Lung
2023 - 2024	Simulation of Long-Term Care for Older Persons in Malaysia (MyLTC) (with NIH)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Tan Lih Yoong, Kama Firdaus Subahi, Fun Weng Hong, Shakirah Md.Sharif, Nur Balqis Zahirah Ali
2023 - 2024	Subjective Wellbeing among Older Malaysians	Maki Nakajima, Aiko Kikkawa, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang
2023 - 2024	Estimation of Working Life Expectancy (ERIA and OECD)	Halimah Awang, Lai Siow Li
2023 - 2024	Late Life Inactivity & Risk of Cognitive Decline: Evidence from MARS Data	Diana Abdul Wahab, Ahmad Farid Osman
2023 - 2024	The Influence of Psychosocial among Malaysian Retirement Readiness	Rajenthyran Ayavoo, Ezlika Mohd Ghazali, Norbani Che Ha
2023 - 2024	Effect of Demographic Factor on Social Wellbeing & Quality of Life	Sedigheh Moghavvemi, Norbani Che Ha
2023 - 2024	The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Individual Income, Expenditure & Savings Decisions	Noor Sharoja Sapiei, Mazni Abdullah

2023 - 2025	Social Protection Programme in ASEAN+3 Economies (AMRO)	Norma Mansor, Zulkiply Omar
2023 - 2025	Design of Integrated/Cash Plus Programme in Sarawak (UNICEF)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Tan Chin Lung, Amir Hamzah Husani
2023 - 2025	System Development for survey data collection (FSKTM Collaboration)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Siti Hafizah Ab Hamid, Tan Lih Yoong, Tan Chin Lung
2023 - 2025	Belanjawanku (Klang Valley and Other Cities)	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, NurulHuda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli, Ng Yin Mei, Yong Sook Lu, Nawi Abdullah, Rashid Ating, Hazman Abdul Rahman, Muhammad Hazim Noran, Zahira Adila Zahuri, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan bin Mohaimi
2023 - 2025	Malaysia Ageing & Retirement Survey (MARS) Wave 3	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Tan Lih Yoong, Kama Firdaus Subahi, Tan Chin Lung, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani
2022 - 2023	The Fit-for-Purpose Social Protection Policy: Targeted Those in Need	Ong Sheue Li, Nur Hairani Abd Rahman, Ho Chong Mun, Chin Mui Yin, Wong Tee Hao
2022 - 2024	Kajian Penambahbaikan Bantuan Sosial untuk Meningkatkan Kemampanan Fiskal (MOF, DOSM, ICU)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy
2022 - 2023	Silver Dividend and Health Capacity to Work among Older Persons in Developing Asia (ADB)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid, Tan Chin Lung
2022 - 2023	Health Capacity to Work among Older Malaysians (ADB)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid, Tan Chin Lung
2022 - 2023	Challenges and Opportunities of Population Aging in Asia (ADB)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid, Tan Lih Yoong, Kama Firdaus Subahi, Tan Chin Lung, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani
2022 - 2023	Regional Comparative Research on Population Aging in Asia (ADB)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid, Tan Chin Lung
2022 - 2025	A new measurement framework for elder abuse and neglect in older adults (FRGS)	Claire Choo Wan Yuen, Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi, Halimah Awang, Ranita Hisham Shunmugam, Fadzilah Hanum Mohd Mydin

2022 - 2023	Empirical Assessment of Economic and Social Well-Being After Retirement	Elya Nabila Abdul Bahri, Wye Chung Khain
2021 - 2023	The Psychological Distress, Coping Patterns and Social Support during Covid 19 (LPPKN)	Noran Naqiah Hairi, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy
2021 - 2023	Systematic review of functional ability measures (WHO Technical Working Group)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid, Jotheeswaran Amuthavalli Thiyagarajan, Theresa Diaz, Christopher Mikton
2021 - 2023	Impact of Minimum Wage on the economy / employment	Thirunaukarasu Subramaniam, Martin O'Brien
2021 - 2023	Constructing an Active Ageing Index for Malaysia (FRGS)	Azmah Othman, Halimah Awang, Norma Mansor, Rohana Jani, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy
2021 - 2030	Development of National toolkit for monitoring Healthy Ageing (WHO Consortium)	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nur Fakhrina Ab Rashid
2020-2025	Applications of BelanjawanKu as indicator for personal financial wellbeing	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman



Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS)

MARS Wave 3

MARS is one of SWRC's flagship projects, designed to collect nationwide, longitudinal data on ageing and retirement in Malaysia. The study gathers micro-level insights into the demographic, socioeconomic, health, psychosocial, and cognitive factors affecting middle-aged and older individuals. Ultimately, these findings provide vital data to inform policymaking and strengthen the country's social protection system.

The study involved face-to-face interviews with individuals aged 40 years and older using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) by trained field enumerators. The sample was selected by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) based on the 2010 Population and Housing Census using a multistage sampling procedure beginning with urban and rural enumeration blocks (EBs) stratification in each state, followed by selection of EBs in each stratum, selection of households within selected EBs and selection of respondents within selected households.

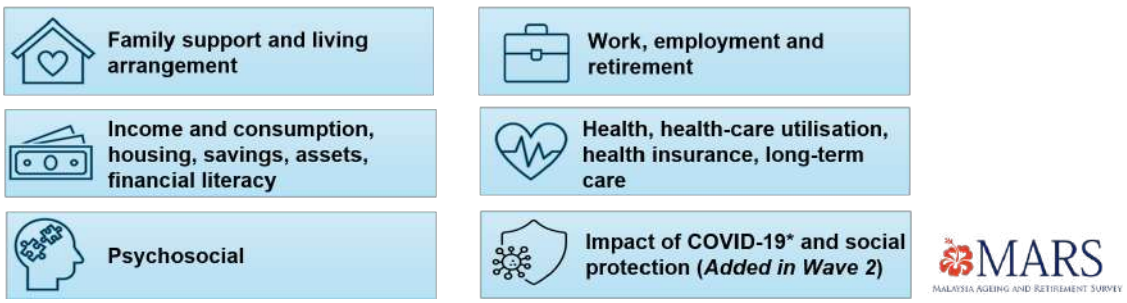
MARS is adapted from the United States' Health and Retirement Study (HRS) through a collaboration between the SWRC and the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Michigan. The SRC supported the MARS study design, training, and technical assistance across all phases of Wave 1 and Wave 2 data production. To ensure high data quality, fieldwork was strictly monitored and verified through random call-backs

MARS Wave 1 was conducted in 2018-2019, securing 5,613 respondents across all states in Malaysia. Wave 2 data collection ran from October 2020 to April 2022; due to COVID-19 and the subsequent Movement Control Orders (MCO), the fieldwork timeline was extended multiple times to ensure thorough follow-up with existing panels and new samples. In total, 4,821 respondents participated in Wave 2, with 75% consisting of returning panel members.

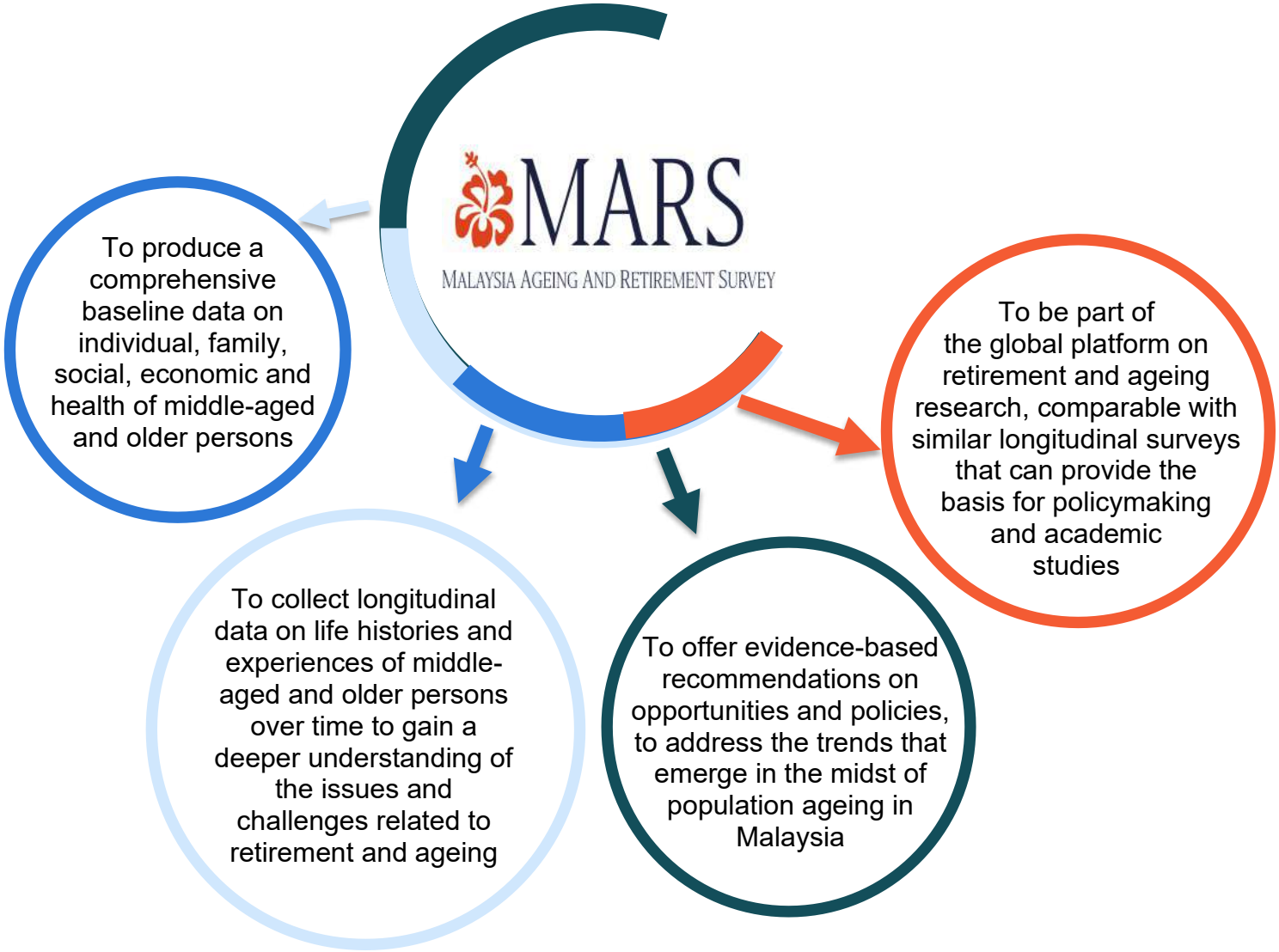
For MARS Wave 3, SWRC collaborates with an expert team from the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, Universiti Malaya, for technical support in the development of the survey software programme and other technical assistance. The whole of 2025 was dedicated to testing the system, training of field enumerators and data collection for Wave 3 scheduled to be completed by the third quarter of 2026.

DATA COLLECTION & MARS COMPONENTS

	Wave 1	Wave 2
Study timeline	July 2018 – April 2019	October 2020 – April 2022
Coverage	Peninsular and East Malaysia	
Respondents	Aged 40 years and older	
Total sample	5,613	4,821



Specific Objectives of MARS



MARS FOOTPRINT 2018-2025





17-20 APRIL 2018 MARS Wave 1 Field Interviewers Training

AUG 2018 - MAY 2019 Data Collection for MARS Wave 1

7-14 APRIL 2018 HRS Training Observations & Personnel Technical Training

20 SEPTEMBER 2019 Townhall Meeting for MARS Wave 1

18 JANUARY 2021 Virtual Launch of the MARS Wave-1 Snapshot

7 MARCH 2018 MoU Signing between SWRC and University of Michigan







13 SEPTEMBER 2022 Roundtable Discussion for MARS Wave 2

17 NOVEMBER 2022 Townhall Meeting for MARS Wave 2



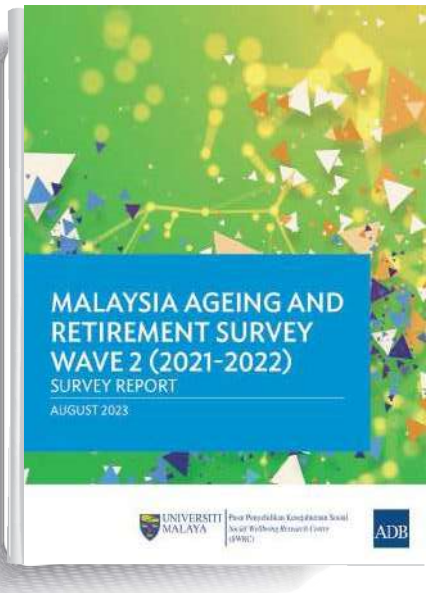
14 JUNE 2021 MoA signing with Asian Development Bank

7-9 DECEMBER 2021 SWRC - ADB Capacity Building Workshop: Conducting a Large-Scale Survey on Older Persons - Experience from MARS

15 FEBRUARY 2023 SWRC - ADB Joint Panel Session Building an Inclusive Pension System for the Ageing Population



OCTOBER 2020 - APRIL 2022 Data Collection for MARS Wave 2



29 AUGUST 2023
Launching of MARS Wave-2 Survey Report



18-16 DECEMBER 2025
2nd MARS Wave 3 Training

MARS
MALAYSIA AGEING AND RETIREMENT SURVEY

FEBRUARY 2025 - JUNE 2026 Data Collection for MARS Wave 3

2024
Development of MARS System



14-16 FEBRUARY 2025
1st MARS Wave 3 Training

MARS Team Members

Principal Investigators, SWRC



Emeritus Professor
Datuk Norma Mansor



Dr Halimah
Awang

Team Members



Lih Yoong Tan



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Management Team, ISR



Professor David Weir



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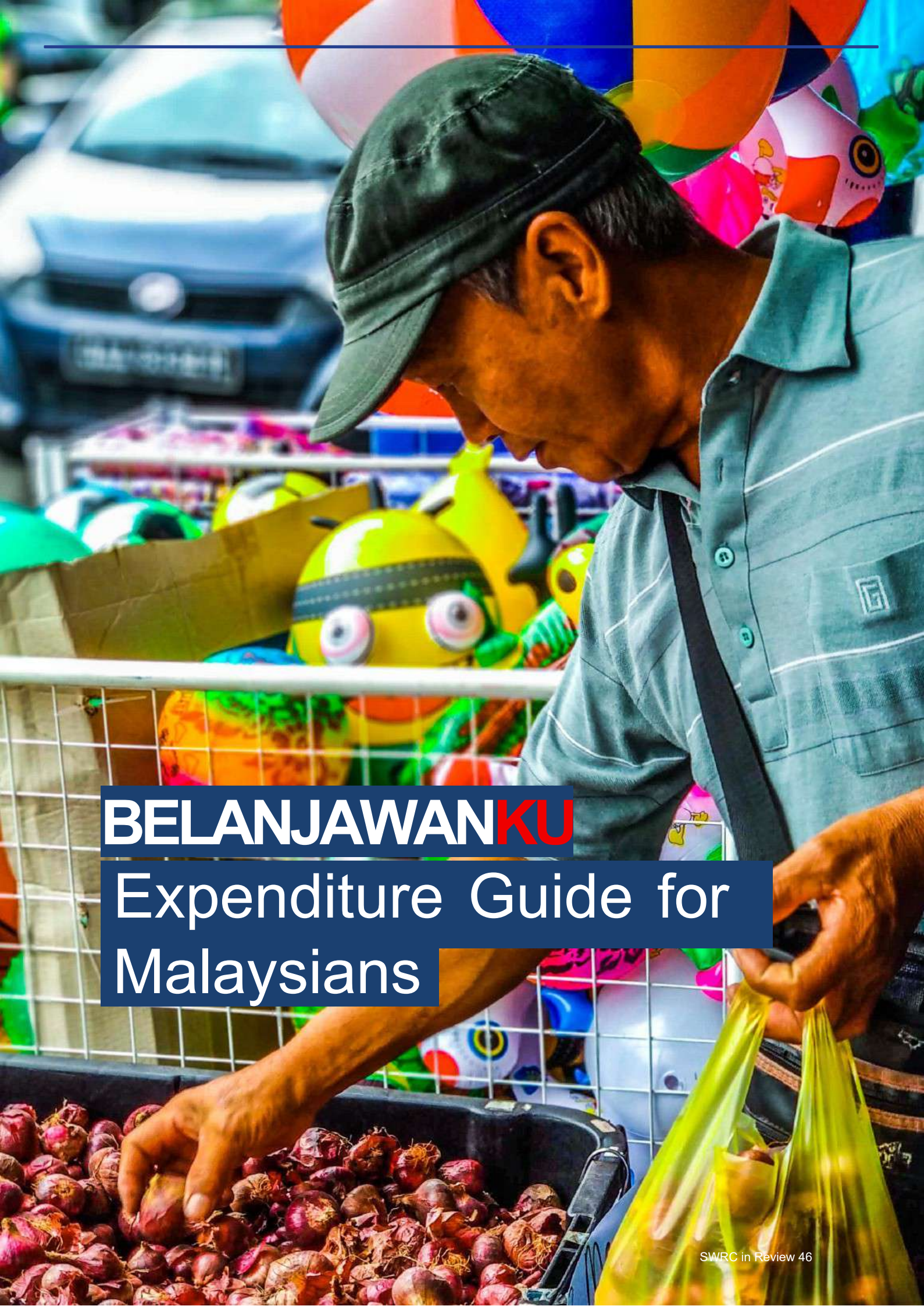
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Peter Sparks
Marsha Skoman
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Emmanuelle Ellis
Genise Pattullo
Holly Ackerman
Ashwin Dey
Zhou Cheng
Lih Shwu Ke
Sarah Broumand



BELANJAWANKU

Expenditure Guide for Malaysians

Belanjawanku: A Framework for Household Expenditure Planning in Malaysia

Belanjawanku serves as a comprehensive monthly expenditure guide, outlining estimated costs across key categories of goods and services for diverse household types in Malaysia. Its primary objective is to enable households to achieve a reasonable standard of living through informed financial planning.

Initially launched in 2019 as an expenditure guide tailored to the Klang Valley population, Belanjawanku has since been expanded to encompass nearly all major urban centres across Malaysia.

The framework is designed to assist individuals and families in personal and household budget development, supporting them in attaining a baseline standard of living that is both practical and sustainable.

Belanjawanku is empirically grounded in observed spending behaviours on everyday goods and services, drawing from data collected from urban households residing in the Klang Valley as well as selected cities throughout Malaysia.





Belanjawanku Research Team

SWRC



Emeritus Professor
Datuk Norma Mansor



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Nik Osman



Dr Halimah
Awang



Dr Zulkiply
Omar



Zahira Adila
Zahuri



Muhammad Amirul Ashraf
Abd Ghani

Faculty of Business and Economics, UM



Dr Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin



Nawi Abdullah



Dr Nurul Huda Mohd Satar



Dr Roza Hazli Zakaria



Dr Yong Sook Lu



Dr Ng Yin Mei

TIMELINE OF BELANJAWANKU 2017-2025



MAY 2019
Belanjawanku 2020/2021 was extended to all cities, except Kangar and W.P. Labuan. Household categories was expanded



MARCH 2020 & MAY 2021
Belanjawanku 2020/2021 data collection was halted due to MCO resulting from the pandemic

JUNE 2017
Beginning of the development of a "Reference Budget" for Klang Valley (KV)

SEPTEMBER 2021
Data collection completed for Belanjawanku 2020/2021

AUGUST 2018
Completed study for KV. Reference budget renamed as 'Belanjawanku'

NOVEMBER 2021-MAY 2022
Data collection period for Belanjawanku 2022/2023

MARCH 2019
Belanjawanku 2019 was launched by the then Minister of Finance, YB Lim Guan Eng







FEBRUARY 2022
Cost of Secondary School Children and College Students (excludes tuition fees) included in Belanjawanku

2025
Data collection/updating for the next Belanjawanku

AUGUST 2022
Study completed for Belanjawanku 2022/2023

DECEMBER 2024
The launch of Belanjawanku 2024/2025

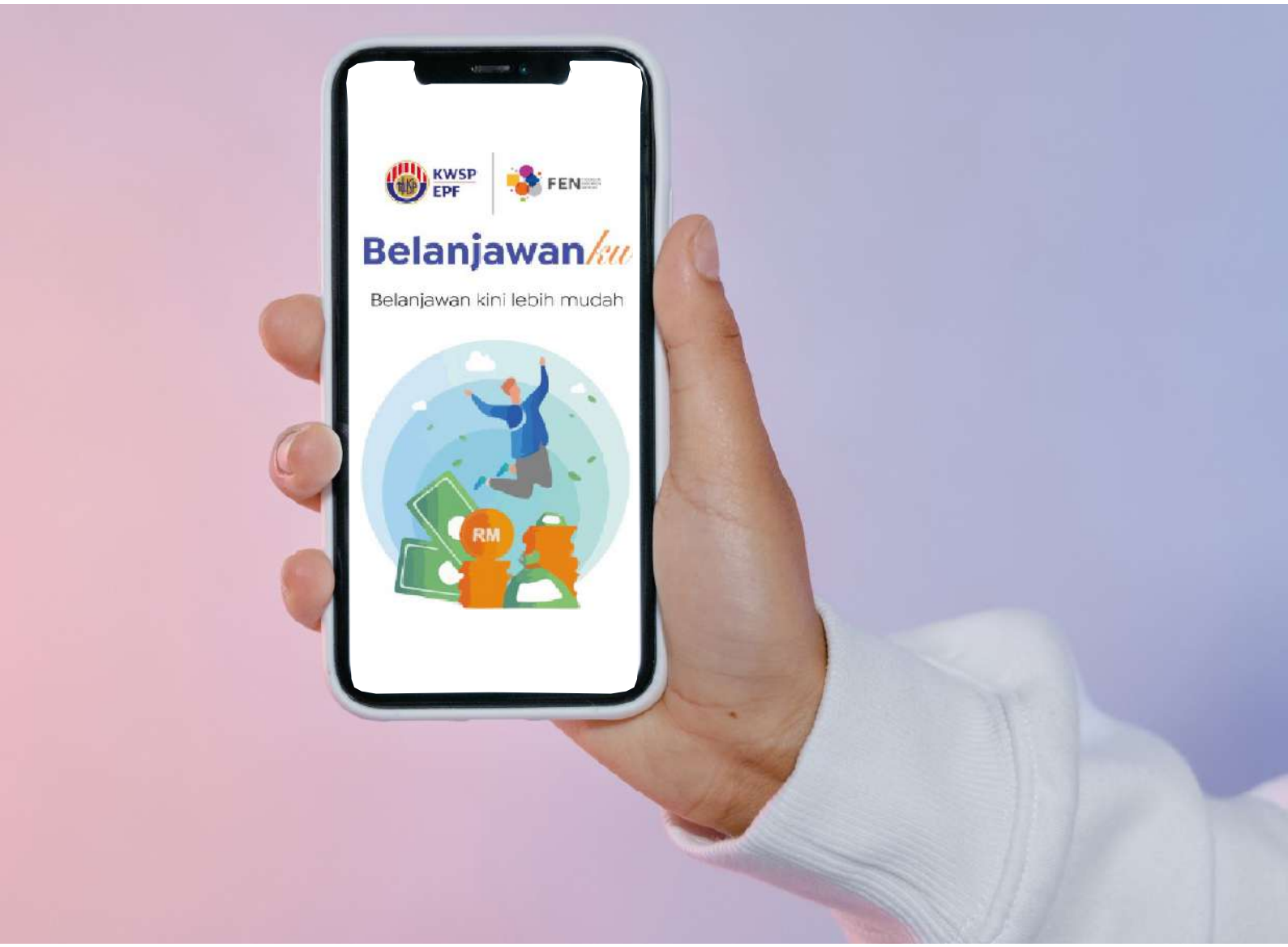




JUNE 2023
Belanjawanku app prototype development completed and launched

2023-2024
Data collection completed for Belanjawanku 2024/2025

Belanjawanku Application



To help Malaysians manage their finances better, the Employees Provident Fund and the Social Wellbeing Research Centre launched the Belanjawanku application for 2021/2022.

It provides price references and integrates real-life spending habits, helping users to minimise budgeting errors and 'keep afloat' even in recessions. The application was created to promote prudent spending and allow people to enjoy a dignified way of living. Belanjawanku app helps individuals and households to assess their financial capabilities before making big purchases that lead to long-term financial commitments.

Using the Belanjawanku App, users can gauge the difference in expenses due to life-style change that include, for example, buying a car, getting married, having children or moving to another place.

Publications

As a leading 'think-and-do' tank in social protection and wellbeing in Malaysia, SWRC produces a wide range of scholarly and policy-oriented publication including journal articles, working papers, policy briefs, books, research reports and bulletins. The publications serve as a key platform for disseminating SWRC's research findings and insights to policymakers, industry stakeholders, academics and the wider public.

Snapshot of SWRC Publications



Publications, Working Papers & Reports

Authors/Contributor	Title	Journals/Book/Chapter
Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi	Belanjawanku Expenditure Guide 2024/2025	Employees Provident Fund, Belanjawanku, Reference Budget for Malaysian, 2025.
Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Norma Mansor	Belanjawanku 2024/2025 Key Findings and Technical Notes	Employees Provident Fund, Social Wellbeing Research Centre, Belanjawanku, Reference Budget for Malaysian, 2025.
Angelina Sutin, Norma Mansor, Martina Luchetti, Yannick Stephan, Antonia Terracciano	Purpose In Life and Cognitive Function in the Malaysian Ageing and Retirement Study	Clinical Gerontologist, 2025, 48(5), pp.1169-1178
Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam, Norma Mansor	Advancing Women's Economic Participation: Strengthening Inclusive Policies for a Sustainable Future	Social Protection Insight, EPF, Vol. 8, 2025, pp.110-115
Ikmal Kadir, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	The Price of Peace: Retirement Savings, Income Security and Mental Health in Ageing Societies	Social Protection Insight, EPF, Vol. 8, 2025, pp.50-57
Haniza Khalid, Norma Mansor	Introducing Long-Term Care Benefits in the Malaysian Social Security System	Social Protection Insight, EPF, Vol. 8, 2025, pp.66-75

SWRC, UNICEF	2nd Regional Social Policy Conference East Asia and Pacific 22-23 October, 2024.	United Nations Children's Fund Malaysia & Social Wellbeing Research Centre, Universiti Malaya. (2025). Conference Report.
Amjad Rabi, Norma Mansor	Sandwich Generation: The Case for a Consumption-Based Contributory Pension	Book Publication by SWRC, September, 2024.
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Donhyun Park	Health Capacity to Work among Older Malaysians	Asian Development Review Vol. 41, No. 1, pp. 147-168
Lee Min Hui, Calvin Cheng Kah Weng, Shazana Agha, Anis Farid, Norma Mansor, Teoh Ai Hua, Sofea Azahar	Building A Cradle-to-Grave Care Economy for Malaysia	Policy Paper, ISIS Malaysia, 2024.
Tan Chin Lung, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Noran Naqiah Hairi	Active Ageing Landscape in Malaysia	The Handbook of Public Health in the Asia-Pacific, Springer Reference Work, pp 1-16.
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	Aging Well in Asia: Asian Development Policy Report	ADB Publication
Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi, Nik Ainoon Osman	Social Protection Gaps in Malaysia	Chapter 3 of Oxford Handbook for Social Welfare in the Global South.
Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Halimah Awang, Norma Mansor, Azmah Haji Othman, Rohana Jani, NIK Nik Ainoon Nik Osman, Chin Lung Tan.	Factors Influencing Mental Well-being Among Older Malaysians	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health. 2024
Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Halimah Awang, Noran Naqiah Hairi, Chin Lung Tan, Massita Mohamed, Aina Faisan Zainal Abidin	Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) and Psychological Distress Among Urban-Living Older Malaysians	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health. 2024, 36(8), pp.797-800

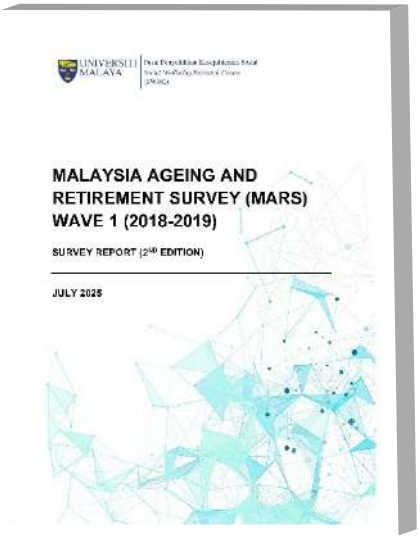
Hiziani Hidzir, Noran Naqiah Hairi, Shahrul Bahyah Kamaruzzaman, Halimah Awang	Prevalence and Factors Associated with Frailty Among Community-Dwelling Middle-Aged and Older Adults in Malaysia	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, Vol. 36(5) 486-492
Chin Lung Tan, Noran Naqiah Hairi, Halimah Awang	Does Active Ageing Reduce Mortality Risk Among Older Adults? A Survival Analysis in Malaysia	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, Vol. 35(5), 366-372
Halimah Awang, Chin Lung Tan	Lonely in Malaysia? Relationships and support matter	360 info Southeast Asia. Monash University Malaysia, 2024.
Maki Nakajima, Aiko Kikkawa, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	Subjective Well-Being Among Older Malaysians	Background Paper, Japanese Economic Review, 2024
Mayuening Eso, Rhysa McNeil, Halimah Awang	Parental Opinion toward Problem Behaviors among Preschool Children in Pattani Province, Thailand	Advances in Public Health, Volume 2024 Article ID 9349140
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Jotheeswaran Amuthavalli Thiyagarajan, Christopher Mikton, Theresa Diaz	Measures of Ability to Learn, Grow and Make Decisions among Older Persons	Age and Ageing, October 2023, 52(4), pp. iv118-iv132
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Donghyun Park	Health Capacity to Work among Older Malaysians	Asian Development Review. 2024;41(1): pp.147-168
Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Zahira Adila Zahuri, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani	Belanjawanku 2022/2023	Employees Provident Fund, Belanjawanku, Reference Budget for Malaysian, 2023.

Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi, Edmund Cheong Peck Huang, Muhammad Farqani Mohd Noor, Zuhad Zubir, Nurul Diyana Kamarulzaman, Balqais Yusoff, Mohamed Rizwan Habeeb Rahuman, Christopher Choong Weng Wai, Hawati Abdul Hamid, Ismail Zakaria, Nor Shafaleena Shaik Abdul Shukkor, Zulkiply Omar, Kama Firdaus Subbah	National Social Wellbeing Blueprint	Book published by SWRC 2023. ISBN 978-629-96636-3-8
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	Social Assistance: Evidence from the Malaysia Ageing Retirement Survey (MARS)	Social Protection Insight, EPF, Vol. 6, 2023, pp.8-15
M Niaz Asadullah, Norma Mansor	Human Resources Development in the D-8: A Three-Pillar Model	In book "Economic Integration among D-8 Muslims Countries"; Published by World Scientific Publishing 2023, chapter 12, pp. 341-368.
Halimah Awang, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	Examining Intergenerational Transfers in Malaysia	International Journal of Population Studies, International Journal of Population Studies, 11(4),1326.
Halimah Awang, Tan Chin Lung, Norma Mansor	Preparedness to Age in Place Among Older Adults in Malaysia	Ageing International, Vol. 49 (3), pp.720-735.
Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam, Yong Chen Chen, Norma Mansor	Mental Accounting And Savings Behaviour: Evidence from Machine Learning Method	Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning; Vol. 34 (2)
Tan Chin Lung, Noran Naqiah Hairi, Halimah Awang	Does Active Aging Reduce Mortality Risk Among Older Adults? A Survival Analysis in Malaysia	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, Vol. 35(5) 366-372

Tan Chin Lung, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Noran Naqiah Hairi	Active Ageing Landscape in Malaysia	In the Handbook of Public Health in the Asia Pacific. Springer Nature, 1-16
Halimah Awang, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Nurfakhrina Ab Rashid	Examining i-Sinar and i-Lestari Withdrawals among Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Members during COVID-19 Crisis	Malaysian Journal of Consumer and Family Economics (MAJCAFE), Vol. 30, 2023, pp.175-213
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Nurfakhrina Ab. Rashid, Lih Yoong Tan, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy	Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS) Wave 2 - 2021/2022: Survey Report	Report on MARS Wave 2 key findings
Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Zahira Adila Zahuri, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Hazman Abdul Rahman	Belanjawanku 2019	Employees Provident Fund, Belanjawanku, Reference Budget for Malaysian, 2019.
Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Halimah Awang, Norma Mansor, Azmah Othman, Rohana Jani, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Tan Chin Lung	Mental Wellbeing of Older Adults in Malaysia: Findings from Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey	Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health. 1-6.

Research Reports

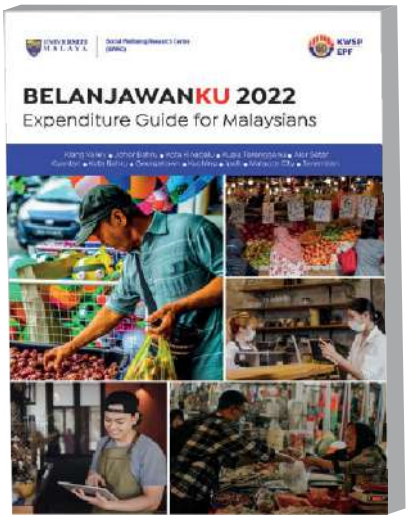
Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS) and Reference Budget Belanjawanku are SWRC's flagship projects.



Malaysia Ageing And Retirement Survey (Mars) Wave 1 (2018-2019) Survey Report (2nd Edition) (July 2025)



Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey Wave 2 (2021-2022): Survey Report (August 2023)



Belanjawanku 2022/2023: Expenditure Guide for Malaysians



Belanjawanku 2024/2025: Expenditure Guide for Malaysians

Policy Brief Series

The Policy Brief Series provide critical insights into Malaysia's evolving socio-economic landscape. To date, five editions have been published, addressing pivotal themes such as social protection frameworks, financial literacy, and the integration of women into the labour market.

Authors	Title	Series
Naohiro Ogawa, Taiyo Fukai, Norma Mansor & Nurul Diyana Kamarulzaman	Cognitive Functioning among Older Adults in Selected Countries: In Search of a Better Way to Remeasure Population Ageing	Policy Brief 2025 - 2
Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang & Donghyun Park	Health Capacity to Work among Older Malaysians	Policy Brief 2025 - 1
Diana Abdul Wahab & Norma Mansor	The Role of Occupational and Non-Occupational Activities in Promoting Cognitive Health in Ageing Populations	Policy Brief 2024 - 3
Rajenthyran Ayavoo & Ezlika Mohd Ghazali	Enhancing Retirement Planning through Comprehensive Strategies	Policy Brief 2024 - 2
Sheue Li Ong, Mui-Yin Chin, Nur Hairani Abd Rahman, Tee-Hao Wong, Chong-Mun Ho & Norma Mansor	The Fit-For-Purpose Social Protection Policy	Policy Brief 2024 - 1

SWRC Working Paper Series

SWRC Working Paper Series was initiated in 2014 as a platform for social policy experts to discuss the issues and challenges in implementing an efficient social protection system in Malaysia. The working paper series offered valuable policy recommendations for policymakers to improve the existing system.

Authors	Title	Year
Amjad Rabi, Norma Mansor & Aiko Kikkawa	**WP2025/5** Securing Dignity in Ageing: A Framework for Malaysia's Integrated Old-age Income Protection in Advancing RMK13	2025
Haniza Khalid & Norma Mansor	**WP2025/4** Securing the Future: A Model of Social Insurance for Long-term Care in Malaysia	2025
Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam & Norma Mansor	**WP2025/3** Universal in Name, Equitable in Quality: Re-framing Malaysia's Public Healthcare Expenditure from Spending to Investment	2025
Haniza Khalid & Norma Mansor	**WP2025/2** Living Longer and in Need of Care: Should Long-Term Care Benefits Be Introduced in Malaysia's Social Protection System	2025
Amjad Rabi & Norma Mansor	**WP2025/1** Food Affordability in Malaysia: When Markets and Money Decide What to Eat	2025
Amjad Rabi &Norma Mansor	**WP2024/2** Towards Equitable Transition: Safeguarding Welfare Amidst Subsidy Reform in Malaysia	2024
Amjad Rabi & Norma Mansor	**WP2024/1** Resurrecting Goods and Services Tax (GST): The Case for A Comeback	2024

SWRC Social Protection Bulletin: Protect, Promote and Prevent

Protect, Promote, and Prevent is SWRC's quarterly bulletin dedicated to the critical analysis of Malaysia's social protection landscape. The publication addresses significant gaps in the system, specifically the inadequate coverage for informal and migrant workers. Beyond its thematic focus, the bulletin serves as a strategic platform for communicating SWRC's latest research milestones and scholarly publications.

Title	Authors/Working Group	Output / Impact
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 5 No. 2	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 5 No. 2 (Jun 2025)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 5 No. 1	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 5 No. 1 (Jan 2025)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 4	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 4 (Oct 2024)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 3	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 3 (Jul 2024)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 2	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 2 (Apr 2024)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 1	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 4 No. 1 (Jan 2024)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 4	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Profesor Emeritus Datuk Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Vol. 3 No. 4 Bulletin (Oct 2023)

Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 3	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 3 (Jul 2023)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 2	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 2 (Apr 2023)
Protect, Promote and Prevent: SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 1	Zulkiply Omar, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Norma Mansor	SWRC Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 1 (Jan 2023)

Promotion of Research



Title / Activity	Presenter / Participant	Date	Category
PEM/MPGN Sharing Session: Minimum Wage - Policy briefing on youth minimum wages and spillover dynamics	Norma Mansor, Martin O'Brien	18 November 2025	Seminar
MIER Brown Bag Talk: Securing Dignity in Ageing - Dissemination of research findings	Norma Mansor, Zulkiply Omar, Amjad Rabi	11 November 2025	Seminar
ADB Comparative Research on Ageing (Wave 2) - Comparative analysis using MARS data	Norma Mansor	4-5 Nov 2025	International Meeting
HRS Around the World (ATW) Meeting - Presentation of MARS Longitudinal Data	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Tan Chin Lung	29-30 Oct 2025	International Meeting
World Social Security Forum - Showcasing Malaysia's universal protection commitment	Norma Mansor	29 Sep - 3 Oct 2025	International Meeting
6th Annual Meeting of the HCAP International Network	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Nur Fatihah Mohd Ali, Yong Zulina Zubairi	29-30 Sep 2025	International Meeting
Certified International Pension and Retirement Professional training	Nik Noor Ainoon, Saadiah Manap	23-25 September 2025	Training
Harnessing Digital Transformation for Good (ADPR) - Assessing opportunities and risks of digital technology	Donghyun Park	11 September 2025	Conference

Cambodia Social Security Exposure Visit - Knowledge exchange with Cambodian policymakers	Amjad Rabi, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	9-12 September 2025	Knowledge Exchange
Kongres Sosial Synergy 2025 - Strengthening Inter-Agency Service Delivery	Norma Mansor	4-5 August 2025	Conference
APRU SDG4GC 2025 Programme - Youth roles in advancing SDGs and social protection	Amjad Rabi, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	21 July 2025	Conference
Training on Social Protection Policy in ASEAN - Capacity building for ASEAN policymakers	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	7 July 2025	Training
FGD on Study of EPF Policy Enhancements - Feedback on enrolment and contribution structures	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	3-4 June 2025	Focus Group Discussion
Bengkel Dasar Perlindungan Sosial Negara - Policy consultation on the national framework	Norma Mansor	22 May 2025	Workshop
Bengkel Belanjawanku (Pulau Pinang Series) - Outreach on living standards and financial planning and financial literacy engagement	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi	9-10 May 2025	Workshop

Zamara Annual International Conference - Global Insight on Malaysia's Pension Framework	Norma Mansor	7 May 2025	Conference
Universal Basic Income in Malaysia - Seminar on feasibility and policy implications	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	19 April 2025	Seminar
Webinar: Meninjau Kepelbagaian Bidang Kesejahteraan - Introduction to social protection	Norma Mansor	18 April 2025	Webinar
ADB Regional Research: Old-Age Financial Preparedness - Comparative research kick-off	Norma Mansor, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	18 March 2025	International Meeting
RA Milestone Programme (Central Region EPF) - Strengthening advisory capacity	Ng Yin Mei	27 February 2025	Training
MARS Wave 3 Interviewers Training Batch 2 - Final training phase for survey fieldwork	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Tan Chin Lung, Kama Firdaus	25-28 February 2025	Training
RA Milestone Programme (Central Region EPF) - Enhancing member advisory	Roza Hazli Zakaria	24 February 2025	Training
RA Milestone Programme (Sabah Region EPF) - Budget guidance alignment for East Malaysia	Yong Sook Lu	20 February 2025	Training

MARS Wave 3 Interviewers Training Batch 1 - Preparation for fieldwork data collection	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Tan Chin Lung, Kama Firdaus	13-16 February 2025	Training
RA Milestone Programme (Northern Region EPF) - Strengthening financial advisory capacity	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	13 February 2025	Training
RA Milestone Programme (Eastern Region EPF) - Training on Belanjawanku	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	6 February 2025	Training
RA Milestone Programme (Southern Region EPF) - Enhancing advisory practices with cost-of-living insights	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	3 February 2025	Training
Sesi Perkongsian Ilmu: Taklimat Belanjawanku - Briefing for EPF frontline staff	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	23 January 2025	Briefing / Presentation
Kolokium Kebajikan Negeri Selangor - Consultative session on social protection lifecycle approach	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	16 January 2025	Seminar
SWRC Research Seminar - Sharing research findings with researchers and students	Zulkiply Omar, Amjad Rabi, Haniza Khalid, Matthew Dornan	27 November 2024	Seminar
ICAS2024 - NCDs and Active Ageing: Quantile Regression Approach	Tan Chin Lung	24-25 October 2024	Conference

International Conference on Applied Statistics (ICAS2024) - Challenges in longitudinal studies using MARS	Halimah Awang	24-25 October 2024	Conference
2nd Regional Social Policy Conference, East Asia and Pacific	Norma Mansor	22-23 October 2024	Conference
Conference: Living Your Golden Years - Vision for Social Protection in Malaysia	Norma Mansor	19 October 2024	Conference
Forum Hak Warga Emas - Keynote on economic, social and cultural rights of older persons	Norma Mansor	2 October 2024	Forum
Simposium Kebangsaan: Menoktah Kemiskinan - Discussion on restructuring government roles in poverty eradication	Norma Mansor	30 September 2024	Conference
Malaysia Pension Mini-Core Course - Panel on Pension Reform in Malaysia	Norma Mansor	27 September 2024	Panel Discussion
Roundtable Discussion: Ageing Well in Asia - ADB policy report deliberation	Norma Mansor, Aiko Kikkawa	27 September 2024	Roundtable
CIPRP Panel Session - Investing in care and building a resilient care economy	Norma Mansor	26 September 2024	Panel Discussion

ISIS Malaysia Care Economy Conference - Paper on care economy policies and regulations	Norma Mansor	24 September 2024	Conference
Kick-Off Conference Rancangan Malaysia Ke-13 - Discussion on social protection reform	Norma Mansor	5 September 2024	Conference
ISSA Technical Seminar 2024 - Job transition solutions in the platform economy	Zulkiply Omar	28 August 2024	Seminar
ISSA Technical Seminar 2024 - Social security for self-employed and platform workers	Norma Mansor	27 August 2024	Seminar
Kick-off Workshop on Contributory National Pension (CNP) - Discussion on pension system design	Norma Mansor	22 August 2024	Workshop
Sesi Kumpulan Fokus Belanjawan 2025 - Consultation input for the national budget	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	21 August 2024	Focus Group Discussion
Roundtable: MARS Wave 3 Questionnaire - Designing the third wave survey instrument	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Tan Chin Lung, Kama Firdaus	8 August 2024	Roundtable
Bengkel Pemurnian Penambahbaikan Bantuan Sosial - Policy intervention recommendations	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy	29 July 2024	Workshop

Bengkel Belanjawanku (Ipoh Series) - Financial literacy outreach and Outreach to single parents, elderly, and families	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan	19-20 July 2024	Workshop
Bengkel Projek Simulation of Long-Term Care (MyLTC) - Data analysis and manuscript writing using MARS data	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy	16 July 2024	Workshop
INSAP Economic Forum 2024 - Panel on balancing economic and sustainable social development	Norma Mansor	12 July 2024	Forum
Bengkel Belanjawanku (Melaka Series) - Indicators for living standards and financial literacy and Insights for financial product development	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi	30-31 May 2024	Workshop
Bengkel Belanjawanku (Seremban Series) - Understanding living standards and financial literacy and Inputs for policy decisions on living wage	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi	27-28 May 2024	Workshop

Belanjawanku Facilitators Training Workshop - Training facilitators for Belanjawanku outreach	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani, Muhammad Harith Haziq Aznan, Muhammad Mirzan Mohaimi	21 May 2024	Training
National Ageing Blueprint Validation Workshop - Policy inputs using MARS data	Norma Mansor	16 May 2024	Workshop
Exploring the Wellbeing of Older People in Malaysia, Monash University - Research sharing session	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Tan Chin Lung	15 May 2024	Seminar
Workshop on Promoting Active Ageing in Southeast Asia (OECD & ERIA), Paris - Estimating working life expectancy for Malaysia	Halimah Awang, Lai Siow Li	22-24 April 2024	Workshop
Interviewer Training for the 2024 Panel Wave of HRS Michigan	Yong Zulina Zubairi, Yamunah Devi Apalasamy, Kama Firdaus Subahi	23-29 April 2024	International Meeting
Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Strategi KWSP - Presentation of MARS Wave-2 findings	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	15 February 2024	Briefing / Presentation
Japanese Economic Review Conference, Tokyo - Paper on subjective well-being among older Malaysians	Maki Nakajima, Aiko Kikkawa, Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	2-3 Feb 2024	Conference

Economist Forum 2024: Healthy and Productive Aging in Asia - Presentation on health capacity to work among older Malaysians	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang, Donghyun Park	19 January 2024	Forum
Securities Commission Forum on Improving Long-Term Retirement Planning - Discussion on pension reform and savings behaviour	Norma Mansor	6 November 2023	Forum
Securities Commission Malaysia - World Bank Conference 2023 - Panel on investing in social impact programs	Norma Mansor	2 November 2023	Conference
Issues and Challenges on Ageing Nation Agenda - Presentation to Jawatankuasa Kluster Modal Insan	Halimah Awang	2 November 2023	Seminar
Mental Health Well-being of Main Caregivers for Parents - Presented at the 54th APACPH Conference	NIH, SWRC	30 Oct - 2 Nov 2023	Conference
Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pilihan Khas Wanita, Kanak-kanak dan Pembangunan Masyarakat - Briefing on initiatives for 60% female labour force participation	Norma Mansor	31 October 2023	Briefing / Presentation
Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey - 5th Annual Meeting of the Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol (HCAP)	Norma Mansor	12-13 October 2023	International Meeting

Penemuan utama Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey Wave 2 - Presentation to EPF Exco	Norma Mansor	9 October 2023	Briefing / Presentation
Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey Wave 2 - Asian Impact Webinar	Norma Mansor	8 September 2023	Webinar
Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey - HRS Around the World meeting, Dublin	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	22-23 August 2023	International Meeting
Ageing and Retirement: Sharing of MARS findings - Presentation at Bengkel Pembangunan SARA, Ministry of Home Affairs	Halimah Awang	6 August 2023	Workshop
Belanjawanku 2022/2023 Presentation - Briefing to Ministry of Finance	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	20 June 2023	Briefing / Presentation
Pembangunan Profiling Indeks Kos Sara Hidup Rakyat - Roundtable session with KPDN	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	7 June 2023	Roundtable
The Benefits of Sharing MARS Findings - Launching of Universiti Malaya Open Science	Norma Mansor	6 June 2023	Seminar
Belanjawanku Workshop 2022/2023 - Discussion on Belanjawanku estimates and comparison with DOSM HES and CPI	Norma Mansor, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Halimah Awang, Zulkiply Omar, Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin, Nawi Abdullah, Nurul Huda Mohd Satar, Roza Hazli Zakaria, Yong Sook Lu, Ng Yin Mei, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani	17 March 2023	Workshop

SWRC - ADB Joint Panel Session: Building an Inclusive Pension System for the Ageing Population - Policy discussion with 56 participants	Norma Mansor, Balqais Yusoff, Amjad Rabi, Albert Park, Yusuyuki Sawada	15 February 2023	Panel Discussion
ADB Economists' Forum 2023 - Sharing of expertise with policymakers and the public	Norma Mansor	18-20 January 2023	Forum

04 Capacity Building

Snapshot of Training & Workshops	77
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Snapshot of Training & Workshops





Certified Disability Management Professional (CDMP) & Certified Return to Work Coordinator (CRTWC)

Since 2007, the Social Security Organisation (Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial, PERKESO) has pioneered the Return-to-Work (RTW) programme, a comprehensive initiative that assigns a dedicated case manager to every injured worker. This programme employs a multidisciplinary, biopsychosocial framework to facilitate tailored interventions. By integrating advanced disability and vocational rehabilitation, the programme ensures the seamless reintegration of workers into the productive labour market, effectively restoring their livelihoods.

To ensure high-quality service for injured members, PERKESO requires all RTW programme staff, including case managers, work placement officers, and PERKESO Rehabilitation Centre employees, to hold a professional certification in disability management practice.

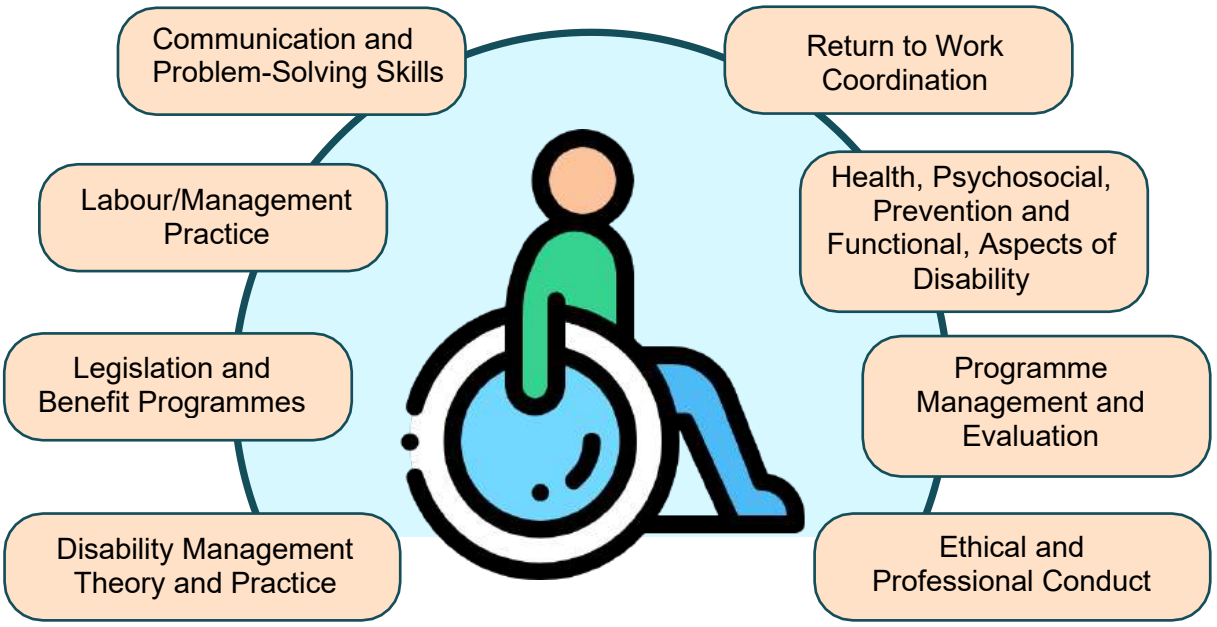
In 2017, PERKESO appointed the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) as its Test Agency to manage, administer, and develop local content for the Certified Disability Management Professional (CDMP) and Certified Return-to-Work Coordinator (CRTWC) examinations. These two professional certifications are recognised globally by the International Disability Management Standards Council (IDMSC), through its secretariat, the National Institute of Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR), in Vancouver, Canada. Building on this partnership, PERKESO officially appointed SWRC as its Certification Agency in 2021.

The CDMP and CRTWC designations are also referenced in the global Return to Work Best Practice guidelines developed, validated, and published by the International Social Security Association (ISSA), a UN-affiliated agency located in Geneva.

SWRC has been working closely with SOCSO in adapting and updating the 26 modules NIDMAR training programme in accordance to the Malaysian context. The modules were developed based on the nine domain areas identified as core skills and competencies for effective disability management practice.

In 2019, eligibility for the CDMP and CRTWC examinations was extended to the general public, provided applicants hold at least a diploma in a health-related field. To support candidates, intensive training is conducted before each exam. This initiative establishes Malaysia as the only ASEAN country to offer this specialised training, and one of only two in Asia alongside Hong Kong. Moving forward, the goal is to expand the programme across the region.

CDMP & CRTWC Domain Areas



CDMP & CRTWC Modules

NIDMAR CDMP Modules (19)

- Introduction to CDMP, Related Domains and Learning Plans
- Effective Disability Management Programmes
- Introduction to Return-to-Work Coordination
- Physical Impairments, Rehabilitation Services & Return to Work
- Mental Health Issues, Rehabilitation Services & Return to Work
- Job Analysis
- The Role of Assessments
- Communications, Interviewing and Helping Skills
- Legislation and Disability Management
- Introduction to Conflict Resolution
- Disability Management in Unionized Organisations
- Disability and Diversity in the Workplace

- Disability Management from a Human Resources Perspective
- Assistive Devices
- Evaluating Disability Management Programmes and Assessing RTW Processes
- Managing Information, Marketing and Education
- Injury Prevention and Health Promotion
- Professional Conduct
- Managing the Return-To-Work Process

CDMP Module - Malaysia Context (7)

- SOCSO Scheme and Benefits to Its Contributors
- The Role of Social Welfare Department (JKM)
- The Role of Department of Trade Union Affairs (JHEKS)
- The Role of Department of Labour (JTK)
- The Role of Industrial Relations Department (JPP)
- The Role of Industrial Court Malaysia (MPM)
- The Role of Department of Occupational Safety and Health (JKKP)









Pension and Retirement Professional Programme (PRPP)





As Malaysia and ASEAN transition into ageing societies, the economic landscape demands a strategic approach to attracting and retaining intellectual capital. Towards achieving leadership in pension and retirement services and overall economic wellbeing, a robust and adaptable workforce is essential. This workforce must be multidisciplinary, results-driven, and equipped with cutting-edge skills.

To address this challenge, the industry requires practitioners who possess a deep understanding of social protection concepts and the implications of an ageing population. These individuals must also be agile enough to navigate the evolving landscape and embrace technological advancements. Achieving this goal necessitates a comprehensive educational and training programme that produces a steady supply of skilled professionals. A collaborative learning environment, fostering close partnerships between industry, academia and the public sector, is crucial to reinforce knowledge and ensure its practical application.

The Pension and Retirement Professional Programme (PRPP) is a three-level course to train social protection practitioners to become specialists in the retirement and pension industry.

PRPP Objectives

The Social Wellbeing Research Centre aims to produce successful and certified professionals in the pension and retirement industry that are able to meet these criteria:

Prepare practitioners to meet the evolving needs of an ageing society

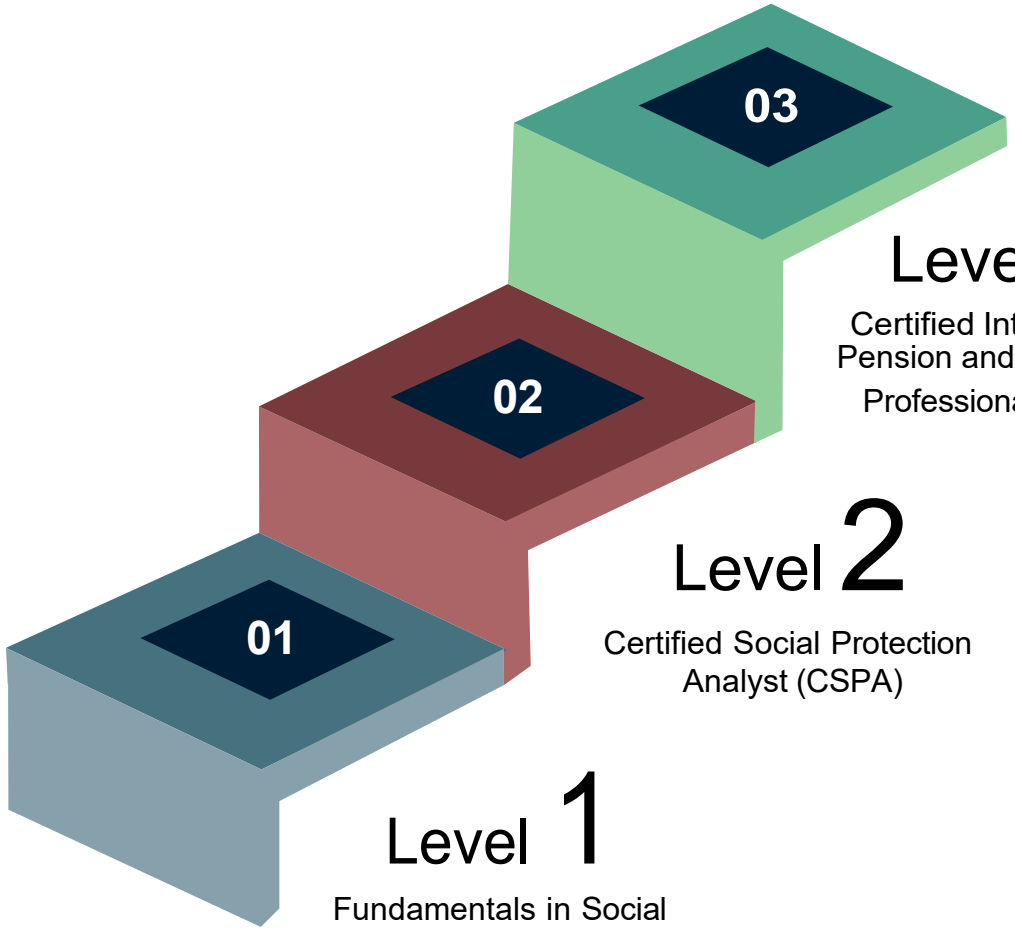
Promote economic development and social wellbeing

Develop a robust and dynamic workforce in the field of pension and retirement services

PRPP Courses

The Pension and Retirement Professional Programme is taught by a combination of lectures, practical sessions, guided studies and exercises. The course is facilitated by academics and social protection industry experts from all around the world. All educational reading materials are provided by SWRC before the start of each course.

To ensure a dynamic learning experience, SWRC has developed three progressive levels of certification:



Level 3
Certified International Pension and Retirement Professional (CIPRP)

Level 2
Certified Social Protection Analyst (CSPA)

Level 1
Fundamentals in Social Protection (FSP)



PRPP Modules

Fundamentals in Social Protection (FSP) is the first level of the Pension and Retirement Professional Programme (PRPP). This introductory course is designed to equip participants with knowledge of social protection, ageing and the basics of retirement planning.



Certified Social Protection Analyst is the second level of the Pension and Retirement Professional Programme (PRPP). This intermediary course is designed to equip participants with advanced knowledge along with practical and technical skills to analyse the pension and retirement system. Participants will also gain skills in investment planning strategies and portfolio management through practical learning while exploring ageing issues and long-term care.



Certified International Pension and Retirement Professional (CIPRP) is the highest level of the Pension and Retirement Professional Programme (PRPP). This advanced course is designed to prepare practitioners as professionals in the pension and retirement industry.

In this course, qualified participants will practise and apply enhanced knowledge of the pension and retirement system while being directly supervised by social protection specialists and technical advisors. Participants will undergo technical training and incorporate knowledge gained from previous courses and apply them to case studies and real-life simulated situations. At the end of the course, participants will be evaluated based on their competency and capability to contribute towards institutional and professional development.









Informatics for Labour Market Analysis (ILMA)



The Informatics for Labour Market Analysis (ILMA) guides learners in harnessing the power of digital technology to transform data and information into actionable knowledge for labour market analysis.

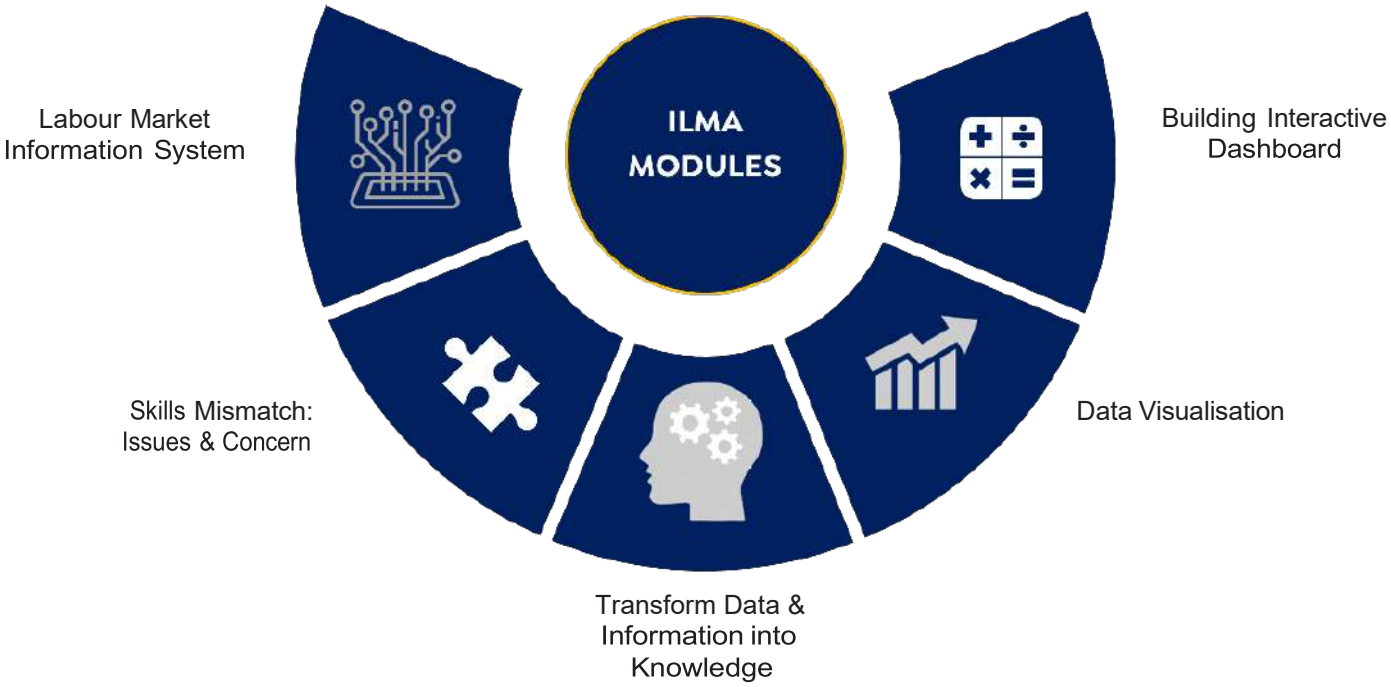
Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the Labour Market Information System (LMIS), encompassing its purpose, functions, components, and data sources, as well as its indicators and caveats. The training further equips participants to extract meaningful insights from national survey data and develop data visualisations that stimulate scientific inquiry and facilitate evidence-based decision-making.



At the end of the programme participants are expected to:

- Evaluate the value of labour market information.
- Transform data and information into insightful information and knowledge.
- Develop effective data visualisation for labour market analysis.

ILMA Modules



05 Evidence-based Policy Input

Membership In Public Policy Committees 87

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National High-Level Policy Input Meeting 90

Membership in Public Policy Committees

SWRC is committed in providing evidence-based policy inputs for government and relevant agencies. SWRC Director, Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor held several memberships in public policy committees as listed below:

Technical Working Group Member, **Malaysia Social Protection Council (MySPC)**

Committee Member, **Economic Action Council (EAC)**

Committee Member, **National Wages Consultative Council (MPGN)**

Member, **National Unity Advisory Council (MPPN)**

Member, **Special Focus Group for Economics Curriculum Development, Ministry of Education (MOE)**

Committee Member, **Employment Insurance System (EIS)**

Health White Paper (HWP) Advisory Council Member **Ministry of Health (MOH)**

Chairman for Social Sciences and Humanities Discipline Group, **Akademi Sains Malaysia**

Member, **High Tech Nation Council, Ministry of Science, Technology dan Innovation (MOSTI)**

Committee Member,
Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM)

Honorary Fellow,
Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA)

Engagements with Ministries, Agencies and Statutory Bodies

SWRC held several engagement sessions with various ministries, government agencies and statutory bodies to build and maintain linkages and trust with public agencies and policymakers to successfully pitch policy inputs and recommendations for strategic reforms on social protection.

Department of Social Welfare (JKM), Ministry of Women, Family & Community Development

Employees Provident Fund (EPF)

Social Security Organisation (SOCSO)

Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU)

Department of Statistic Malaysia (DOSM)

Ministry of Women, Family & Community Development (KPWKM)

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Health (MOH)

Economic Planning Unit (EPU)

Malaysia Social Protection Council (MySPC)

Economic Action Council (EAC)

National Wages Consultation Council (MPGN)

National Unity Advisory Council (MPPN)

National High-Level Policy Input Meeting

Title	Member(s) & Role	Output / Impact	Active Years
Jawatankuasa Pembangunan Strategik Gaji (JPSG)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Pengerusi)	Policy input	2024 - 2025
Malaysia Impact Alliance (MYImpact)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Vice Chair)	Policy input	2025 only *
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor, Dr Halimah Awang (Subject Matter Expert)	Policy input	2024 - 2025
Institut Penyelidikan Sistem Kesihatan (IHSR), Institut Kesihatan Negara	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Team Member)	Simulation for elderly long-term care (MyLTC)	2024 - 2025
Fiscal and Economics Division (FED), Ministry of Finance Malaysia	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	Policy input	2023 - 2025
Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Felo Kehormat)	Policy input	2023 - 2025
Ministry of Health Malaysia (Health White Paper Advisory Council)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Advisory Council Member)	Policy input	2023 - 2025
National Unity Council (MPN)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Member)	Policy input	2023 - 2025

Jawatankuasa Insurans Pekerjaan	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	Policy input	2024 - 2025
Employment Insurance Scheme (EIS)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	Policy input	2023 only
National Wages Consultative Council (MPGN)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	Policy input	2023 - 2025
Economic Action Council	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	Preparation of Social Protection presentation to EAC	2023 - 2025
Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Vetting Committee for Social Sciences and Humanities Discipline Group)	Evidence-based research (Policy Input)	2023 - 2025
Jawatankuasa Kerja Insurans Sosial (JKSI)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Committee Member)	National Social Wellbeing Blueprint (Policy Input)	2023 - 2025
Majlis Perlindungan Sosial Malaysia (MySPC)	Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (Technical Working Group)	National Social Wellbeing Blueprint (Policy Input)	2023 - 2025

06 Wellbeing Advocacy

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Media Appearances and Coverage 102

Public Advocacy and Media Appearance Snapshot



Public Advocacy Programmes

Title	Presenter / Participant(s)	Date	Output / Impact
Belanjawan: Kesejahteraan Awam & Kos Sara Hidup	Zulkiply Omar	10 Oct 2025	Understanding national budget direction
DBKL - UNICEF: Open Day 3 (PPR Pinggiran Bukit Jalil 1)	SWRC Team	27 Sept 2025	Community Engagement
DBKL - UNICEF: Open Day 2 (PPR Pinggiran Bukit Jalil 1)	SWRC Team	26 Sept 2025	Community Engagement
DBKL - UNICEF: Open Day 1 (PPR Seri Aman)	SWRC Team	21 Sept 2025	ASUHKL Programme
Community Outreach: PPR Jalan Jelatek	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Mastura Bt Rambli	23 August 2025	Financial Literacy Session (Sesi Celik Kewangan)
APRU SDG4GC 2025 On-Site Programme	Amjad Rabi, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	21 July 2025	Youth Engagement in SDGs
Capacity-Building Training on Social Protection	Amjad Rabi	19 June 2025	Insight Exchange and Capacity Hub
International Social Wellbeing Conference (ISWC) 2025	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi, Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam	17 June 2025	Pension Innovation & Financial Wellbeing
FGD on Study of EPF Policy Enhancements	Norma Mansor	3 June 2025	Member enrolment & contribution structures
Third Age Media Association	Norma Mansor	24 May 2025	Rights & welfare of older persons

Sesi Libat Urus Projek Wacana Awam RMK-13	Norma Mansor	16 May 2025	Input for 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK-13)
Bengkel Inisiatif 1000 Hari Pertama Kehidupan	Norma Mansor	13 - 15 May 2025	UNICEF and DBKL Cash Plus Programme
Zamara Annual International Conference	Norma Mansor	7 May 2025	Decoding Malaysia's Pension Sector
Pembentangan Dasar-Dasar Kerajaan Kementerian Ekonomi	Zulkiply Omar	5 May 2025	National Social Policy Framework
Universal Basic Income in Malaysia: Insights	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	19 April 2025	Fireside Chat on UBI and welfare
Webinar Menjalin Sinergi: Kesejahteraan Sosial & Ekonomi	Norma Mansor	18 April 2025	Interdisciplinary approach to wellbeing
ECONOVERSE 2025: Economic Forum (IIUM)	Amjad Rabi	16 April 2025	Youth in Bridging Communities
Bengkel Penyediaan Anggaran Bajet 2026	Norma Mansor	10 April 2025	Strengthening budget planning systematic
Employment Services Rebranding	Norma Mansor	09 April 2025	Workforce Demand and Trends
Policy Dialogue: The Sandwich Generation Crisis	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	12 March 2025	Alleviating dual burdens on families
Realising the Right to Food in Malaysia (SUHAKAM)	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	26 Feb 2025	Keynote: "When Markets and Money Decide What to Eat”
Sesi Perundingan: Pendekatan Kitaran Hayat	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	16 Jan 2025	Understanding social protection

Roundtable: Expanding EPF Coverage to Migrant Workers	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	14 Jan 2025	Dialogue on migrant worker's social security
Forum on Multidimensional Approach to Poverty Reduction	Norma Mansor, Halimah Awang	10 Jan 2025	Yayasan MySDG & ASEAN Research
Festival Idea Putrajaya (Putrajaya FOI)	Norma Mansor	27 Nov 2024	Redefining Social Economic Status
Sesi Libat Urus Advokasi Indikator Kos Sara Hidup (KSH)	Norma Mansor	21 Nov 2024	Cost of Living Indicators
Perdana Discourse Series: Economic Growth & Social Equity	Norma Mansor	14 Nov 2024	Building an Equitable Future
Community Outreach: Universiti Malaya	AKPK perwakilan, PERKESO perwakilan, KWSP perwakilan	12 Nov 2024	Financial literacy for students & staff
Asia Impact Webinar: Old-age economic security	Norma Mansor	24 Oct 2024	Webinar on Asian economic security
Regional Social Policy Conference, East Asia and Pacific	SWRC-UNICEF Team	22 Oct 2024	Child-sensitive Social Protection
National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) Validation	Norma Mansor	19 Sept 2024	ICU JPM-UNDP Project Strengthening
United Nations Annual UN Country Team Retreat	Norma Mansor	9 Sept 2024	Malaysia 2026-2030 Priorities
SEETERRA Dialogue: National Caregivers Conference	Norma Mansor	8 July 2024	Private Sector Synergies in Care Economy

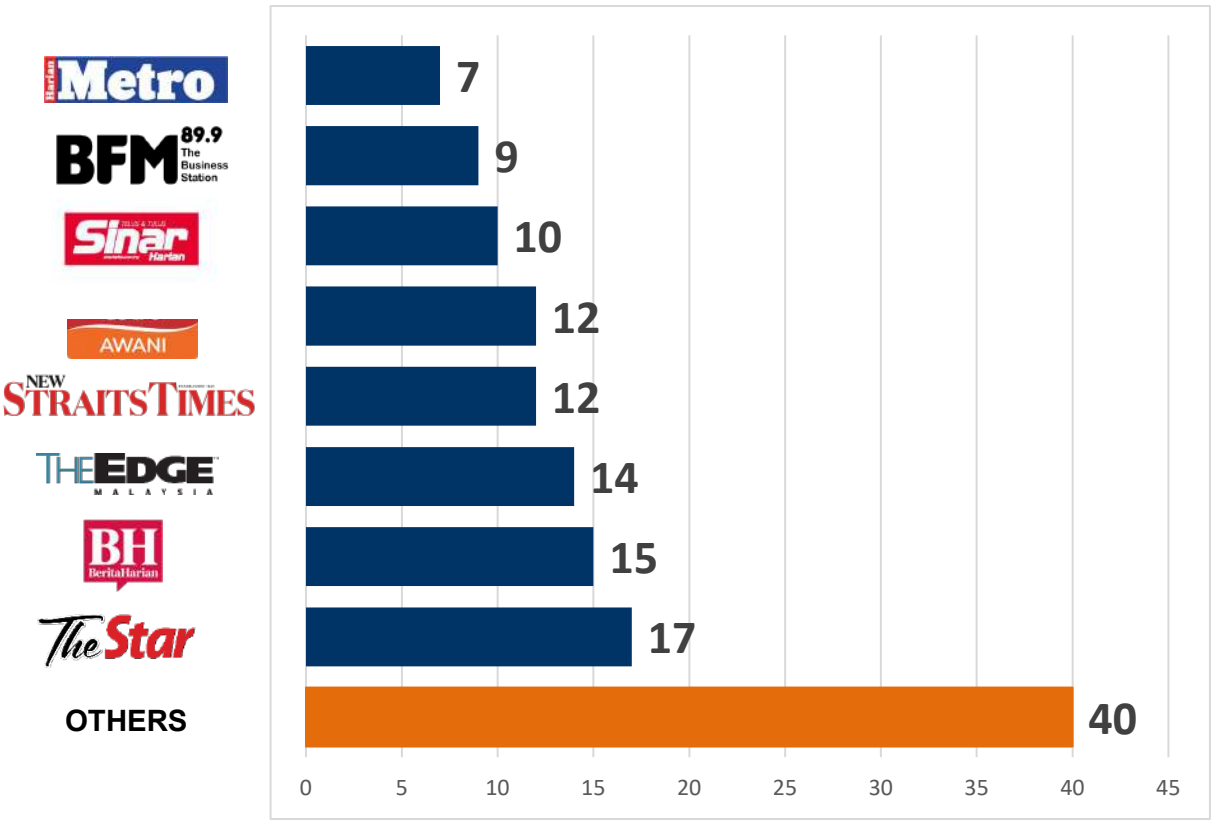
Community Outreach: Desa Mentari Apartment	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Farizan Kamaluddin, Gayathri Vadivel	4 August 2024	Financial literacy & SOCSO schemes
Workshop on Empowering Governance & Democracy (AI)	Norma Mansor	22 July 2024	Role of AI in Governance
ISIS MY Policy Paper Launch: Cradle-to-grave Care Economy	Norma Mansor	21 June 2024	Policy Paper Launch & Discussion
KPKT Policy Leadership Programme 2024	Norma Mansor	14 June 2024	Mentor Coaching on Policymaking
BNM Sasana Symposium 2024	Norma Mansor	12 June 2024	Sharing of expertise
International Social Wellbeing Conference 2024	Norma Mansor	4 June 2024	Sharing of expertise
BNM Engagement: July 2024 Monetary Policy Statement	Norma Mansor	17 May 2024	Sharing of expertise
Bengkel Validasi Kajian National Ageing Blueprint	Norma Mansor	16 May 2024	Sharing of expertise
Centre for Global Development: Aging Well in Asia	Norma Mansor	8 May 2024	Virtual Event expertise sharing
Launch of Asian Development Policy Report: Aging Well in Asia	Norma Mansor	02 May 2024	Sharing of expertise in Tbilisi
Deputy Prime Minister Engagement	Norma Mansor, Amjad Rabi	23 April 2024	Sharing of expertise
KDI-WB Programme: Demographic Change and Pension Systems	Norma Mansor	15 - 20 April 2024	Sharing of expertise in Seoul

BNM Governor's Address & Panel Discussion	Norma Mansor	25 March 2024	Sharing of expertise
2024 Global Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum (GESOF)	Norma Mansor	30 Jan 2024	Sharing of expertise
Wacana Pemikir Global 2024 Universiti Malaya	Norma Mansor	22 Jan 2024	Sharing of expertise
Reforming Gasoline Subsidies (Meetings with MITI, KPDN, etc.)	Amjad Rabi	23 Jan - 5 Feb 2024	Sharing of expertise
Cabinet Retreat: Fuel Subsidy and Social Protection Reform	Amjad Rabi	17 Jan 2024	Sharing of expertise
Access to Affordable Cancer Care in Malaysia (PAUM)	Norma Mansor	17 Jan 2024	Sharing of expertise
Forum Majlis Peluncuran Pangkalan Data Utama (PADU)	Norma Mansor	02 Jan 2024	Sharing of expertise
Simposium Ekonomi Penjagaan (Care Economy) Selangor	Norma Mansor	30 Oct 2023	Keynote Speaker
PRAXIS 2023: Building a cradle-to-grave care economy	Norma Mansor	24 Oct 2023	Sharing of expertise
SSM Conference 2023 (Peringkat Kebangsaan)	Norma Mansor	19 Oct 2023	Keynote Speaker
SWRC Symposium: The Path Towards Greater Prosperity	SWRC Team	18 Oct 2023	Sharing of expertise
Post IPEF - Employment Insurance System (EIS) Workshop 2023	Zulkiply Omar	15 Oct 2023	Sharing best practices of PES by SWRC

IPEF 2023: Empowering marginalised groups in the workforce	Zulkiply Omar	12 Oct 2023	Sharing of expertise with policymakers
International Public Employment Forum (IPEF) 2023	Norma Mansor	11 Oct 2023	Sharing of expertise with policymakers
28th Malaysia Economic Monitor: Raising the Tide	Norma Mansor	10 Oct 2023	Sharing of expertise
UMPodcares Episode 2: Perlindungan Sosial: Pendekatan Kitaran Hayat	Norma Mansor	27 Sept 2023	Sharing of expertise
10th Malaysia Statistics Conference (MyStats 2023)	Norma Mansor	26 Sept 2023	Sharing of expertise
Community Outreach: Karnival Kesejahteraan UM	SWRC Team	17 June 2023	Sharing of expertise
Sharing session with ACFIN Subsidy & Social Protection Taskforce	Norma Mansor, Kama Firdaus Subbahi, Muhammad Amirul Ashraf Abd Ghani	25 May 2023	Sharing of expertise
Bengkel Latihan Nasional: Pendidikan dan Latihan Warga Emas	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman, Yamunah Devi Apasalamy	24 - 25 May 2023	Sharing of expertise
2nd AMRO-MEA Roundtable: Pension reform in face of ageing	Norma Mansor	23 May 2023	Sharing of expertise
Roundtable: Comprehensive Social Protection for Senior Malaysians	Norma Mansor	06 May 2023	Sharing of expertise
Social Protection Policies for an Ageing Society	Norma Mansor	05 April 2023	Sharing of expertise

2023 BNM Governor's Address & Panel Discussion	Norma Mansor	03 April 2023	Sharing of expertise
Tendency of Social Protection Outlay: A World Regional Analysis	Halimah Awang	21 March 2023	Sharing of expertise
Pension Reform Workshop	Norma Mansor, Zulkiply Omar	16 March 2023	Sharing of expertise
Malaysia in Transition: Rethinking Social Protection	Norma Mansor	09 March 2023	Sharing of expertise
UMPodcares Episode 1: Biar Sesak. Asalkan “Trendy”	Norma Mansor	22 Feb 2023	Sharing of expertise
Focus Group Belanjawan 2023: Kemiskinan dan Kos Sara Hidup	Norma Mansor	10 Feb 2023	Sharing of expertise
Launch of the 27th Malaysia Economic Monitor	Norma Mansor, Zahira Adila Zahuri	09 Feb 2023	Sharing of expertise
Syarahan bagi Kursus Pertahanan Nasional 2023	Norma Mansor	02 Feb 2023	Sharing of expertise
Makmal Kos Sara Hidup di Bawah Agenda Advokasi Kepenggunaan	Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman	11 - 14 Jan 2023	Sharing of expertise

Media Appearance and Coverage



Others:

Free Malaysia Today (FMT)	5	UMPodcares / UMCares	2	E-central.my	1
Malay Mail	4	Daily Express	2	SumberTV	1
Malaysian Reserve	4	Human Resources Online / hrmasia	2	DagangNews.com	1
Utusan Malaysia	4	Malay Gazette	1	The Vocket	1
Berita RTM / BizMalaysia	4	Siakap Keli	1	CodeBlue	1
The Sun / The Sun Daily	3	Berita Kini	1	Dayak Daily	1
Bernama / Buletin Bernama	2	ADB Development Blog	1	CNA (Channel News Asia)	1
Nasional FM	2	Dewan Masyarakat	1	The Rakyat Post	1
TV3 / Bulletin TV3	2	FUH.MY	1		
Sin Chew Daily	2	Carsome.my	1		

Media Appearance and Coverage

The Star Malaysia	30 Sept 2025	Driving reforms in social security
	30 Sept 2025	United for protection
	15 Sept 2025	Malaysia at centre of global social security conversation
	07 June 2025	Will 65 cut it as the new 60?
	01 Oct 2024	Targeted subsidies will help M40
	25 Aug 2024	Reducing child food poverty
	18 April 2024	Don't simply withdraw funds, experts caution
	02 March 2024	Fading population dividend
	02 Jan 2024	Govt needs regular security audits on Padu
	20 Aug 2023	With savings and budgeting, it's best to start somewhere
	14 July 2023	Grocery bills burn a hole in wallets
	11 April 2023	Need to plug the financial literacy gap
	04 Feb 2023	Allow employers to pay for coverage in one lump sum
	04 Feb 2023	Improving pool of supply (Article 2)
	04 Feb 2023	Improving pool of supply (Article 1)
	04 Feb 2023	Allow employers to pay for coverage in one lump sum
	03 Feb 2023	119 graduates from Socso professional programmes
New Straits Times (NST / NSTTV)	02 May 2025	GLICS implement living wage policy
	14 March 2025	Stagnant wages, rising food cost push low-income to poor diets
	14 Jan 2025	Malaysia could see RM7bil in savings: Migrant EPF
	04 Dec 2024	Insurers will make public medical procedure costs
	08 March 2024	Study, learn from better retirement systems
	09 Feb 2024	Beyond the Headlines: Pensions lifeline
	30 Jan 2024	Look at structural issues in attracting FDI

	01 Jan 2024	Poverty after retirement?
	30 Dec 2023	Mother Malaysia, at 67, can propel us to a great future
	16 Dec 2023	Prepare for an ageing nation with sustainable policies
	14 May 2023	Increasing employers' EPF contribution should be gradual
	30 Jan 2023	Belanjawanku app helps us to spend wisely
Berita Harian / BH Online	12 Nov 2025	Usia pengeluaran KWSP wajar dinaikkan kepada 60
	24 March 2025	Kaji kadar gaji pastikan akses makanan sihat
	02 Feb 2025	Malaysia Perlu Contohi Sistem Persaraan Singapura
	14 Jan 2025	Caruman KWSP pekerja asing jana RM7 bilion
	25 Sept 2024	Generasi sandwic tanggung beban berganda
	11 Sept 2024	Minyak beri manfaat ekonomi meluas, subsidi cabaran
	08 Aug 2024	GLIC, GLC komited pastikan gaji wajar RM3,100
	24 July 2024	Minyak beri manfaat ekonomi meluas, subsidi cabaran
	02 Feb 2024	Malaysia perlu contohi sistem persaraan Singapura
	01 Feb 2024	Ramai pekerja belum sedia bersara
	22 Jan 2024	Golongan muda semakin sukar menabung
	13 July 2023	Jaringan keselamatan sosial jana pertumbuhan ekonomi
	13 June 2023	Kos hidup selesa keluarga dua anak RM6,890
	12 April 2023	Usaha perkasa prasekolah bantu lahir modal insan
	03 Feb 2023	Majikan buang pekerja tempatan boleh ditindak

Astro Awani	30 Oct 2025	Consider This: Budget 2026 Spending
	12 June 2025	Consider This: Rethinking Retirement
	01 April 2025	AWANI Tonight: Food Affordability & Work Hours
	09 March 2025	Fokus Minggu Depan: Makanan Mampu Milik
	18 Oct 2024	Consider This: Social Security Protections
	16 July 2024	Consider This: Care Economy — Business of Care
	26 April 2024	Consider This: EPF Flexible Account Explained
	26 April 2024	Penstrukturan Akaun KWSP: Disiplin & Fleksibiliti
	31 Jan 2024	Malaysia harus tangani isu struktur bawa FDI
	30 Aug 2023	Kaji Selidik MARS: 60 peratus tidak kisah bersara
	04 Feb 2023	Manpower - Malaysia focuses on foreign worker cost
	03 Feb 2023	Awani 501-1945: Return To Work Programme
	03 Feb 2023	Tindakan tegas majikan henti pekerja tempatan

The Edge Malaysia	14 Oct 2025	My Say: Health spending must be treated as investment
	01 July 2025	Ageing Malaysia needs stronger fiscal planning
	23 May 2025	Wasted potential: the economic case for educating non-citizen children born in ageing Malaysia
	23 April 2025	Malaysia lost billions by not educating non-citizens
	17 March 2025	Affordable Food: When Markets/Money Decide
	03 Feb 2025	Cutting leakages: Foreigner EPF palatable
	18 June 2024	My Say: Malaysia must build care economy now
	05 June 2024	Private sector urged to stand with govt on ageing
	06 May 2024	My Say: Resurrecting GST Case for a Comeback
	06 March 2024	My Say: Subsidy reform & cushioning welfare loss
	23 Nov 2023	Social protection reform: Life-cycle approach
	20 Sept 2023	MEA calls for GST to boost investor confidence
	27 June 2023	Is life really that hard in the Klang Valley?

BFM 89.9 / BFM Podcast	17 July 2025	Is Rakan KKM Privatisation of Healthcare?
	30 May 2025	Will 65 be the new 60?
	14 March 2025	Malaysia Food Affordability In Focus
	13 May 2024	The Stark Reality of Urban Poverty
	21 March 2024	What Should a New Cost of Living Index Look Like?
	12 March 2024	Subsidy Rationalisation: A Must Do But How?
	12 Feb 2024	Subsidy Rationalisation: No Need To Reinvent
	01 Sept 2023	Widening Social Protection for the People
	16 June 2023	Changing minimum income narrative to living wages
Sinar Harian / Daily / Plus	25 Aug 2024	Seminar Teknikal ISSA 2024 pakar antarabangsa
	18 June 2024	Implementation challenges if Malaysia joins BRICS
	12 Sept 2023	5 bandar paling tinggi kos sara hidup
	07 July 2023	Minimum wage rise may see price hike vs growth
	28 June 2023	Apa di sebalik Belanjawanku
	18 May 2023	Salary deductions for homemakers: Voluntary?
	27 April 2023	Focus on production subsidies to remedy debt
	27 Feb 2023	Forum on Madani Budget 2023: Rational or Strange
	03 Feb 2023	Tindakan tegas majikan henti pekerja tempatan
Malay Mail	03 Nov 2025	Working until 65: Lifeline or broken ladder?
	10 Jan 2025	Should Malaysia mandate EPF for GIG Workers
	18 June 2023	Single parents with two kids need RM5,650 in KL
	15 June 2023	RM6,890 monthly budget for Klang Valley families

Free Malaysia Today (FMT)	23 April 2025	RM208bil potential in educating non-citizen children
	12 July 2024	Local govts facilitate care services for special needs
	28 Oct 2023	Malaysian youths face challenge of ageing society
	12 Oct 2023	Ensure all retirees have monthly income
	03 April 2023	Ageing East Asia needs social security support
Harian Metro / Metro Ahad	17 Sept 2023	KWSP sambut baik usaha tingkat gaji
	09 Aug 2023	Beri 'pancing' bantu survive
	30 June 2023	Aplikasi Belanjawanku didik disiplin kewangan
	14 June 2023	Kos hidup di bandar meningkat
	13 June 2023	84 peratus rakyat tiada simpanan tetap
	05 Feb 2023	Majikan bakal berdepan tindakan
Malaysian Reserve	27 May 2025	Perkeso elevating prevention, rehab and reintegration
	14 Jan 2025	Employers concerns over EPF extension
	14 Jan 2025	Bilateral agreements to improve social protection
	15 Jan 2024	EPF performance faces global headwinds
Utusan Malaysia	25 Aug 2024	1,000 peserta hadiri Seminar Keselamatan Sosial
	31 Jan 2024	Gaji rendah sebabkan masalah brain drain?
	31 Oct 2023	Malaysia belum sedia jadi negara tua
	18 June 2023	Rakyat Malaysia buta kewangan
Berita RTM /BizMalaysia	11 March 2025	BizMalaysia: Rasional caruman KWSP pekerja asing
	01 Feb 2024	FDI: Tambah baik modal insan, perkasa kemahiran
	24 Feb 2023	RTM Berita Perdana: Belanjawan 2023
	04 Feb 2023	Graduan profesional pengurusan hilang upaya

The Sun / The Sun Daily	06 Feb 2024	Ensure Comfort and Security for Retirees
	03 Feb 2023	Action against employers replacing locals with foreigners
	03 Feb 2023	Tindakan tegas majikan henti pekerja tempatan
Bernama / Buletin Bernama	03 Feb 2023	Tindakan tegas majikan henti pekerja tempatan
	03 Feb 2023	BernamaTV-2000: Perceptions of the disabled
Nasional FM	10 Oct 2025	Belanjawan 2026: Menjunjung Aspirasi Rakyat
	09 Oct 2023	Pra Bajet 2024: Kos Sara Hidup
TV3 / Bulletin TV3	11 Nov 2025	Cukai kepenggunaan warga emas 70 tahun ke atas
	04 Feb 2023	Buletin Pagi-0900: Action against employers
Sin Chew Daily	31 May 2025	Loneliness Among Older Malaysians
	04 Feb 2023	SOCSO raises periodic benefits and disability
Malay Gazette	03 Feb 2023	Tindakan tegas majikan henti pekerja tempatan
Siakap Keli	03 Feb 2023	Pensijilan Profesional PERKESO & Modal Insan
Berita Kini	03 Feb 2023	119 graduan dari program profesional Perkeso
UMPodcares / UMCares	27 Sept 2023	Episode 2: Perlindungan Sosial: Kitaran Hayat
	22 Feb 2023	Episode 1: Biar Sesak, Asalkan Trendy
Daily Express	27 Aug 2023	How hard life in Klang Valley?
	30 June 2023	Kota Kinabalu: Most expensive cities to retire

ADB Development Blog	22 Sept 2023	Learning from a crisis: Protecting the elderly
Human Resources Online / hrmasia	16 Oct 2023	Employers looking beyond academic credentials
	23 June 2023	Malaysia's 2022/2023 Belanjawanku guide
Dewan Masyarakat	17 July 2023	Kajian komprehensif panduan Belanjawan
FUH.MY	16 July 2023	Belanjawanku 2023 KWSP panduan & aplikasi
Carsome.my	20 July 2023	Kereta apa boleh beli: Belanjawanku 2023
E-central.my	24 July 2023	Belanjawanku KWSP: Kos sara hidup
Sumbertv	14 Oct 2023	Reformasi bersasar 'wajib' dilakukan
DagangNews.Com	23 Jan 2024	Golongan muda bergelut membina daya tahan
The Vocket	23 Jan 2024	Ini sebab golongan muda sukar menabung
CodeBlue	10 Sept 2024	Reallocate subsidies to fund social health insurance
Dayak Daily	22 Oct 2024	Sarawak, UNICEF child sensitive initiatives
CNA (Channel News Asia)	13 March 2025	In Focus: Ticking time bomb of ageing population
The Rakyat Post	12 March 2025	Malaysia's wage problems
AKPK The Insights	04 June 2025	Are sports heroes, artists and gigs protected?

07 Collaboration & Networking

Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) 111

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) 112

Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)



Asian Development Bank
2020 - present



Employees Provident Fund (EPF)
2008 - present



Social Security Organisation (SOCSO)
2016 - 2025

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The Osh State University
2018 - present

National Institute of Disability Management & Research (NIDMAR)
2017 - 2025

Michigan Retirement & Disability Research Centre, University of Michigan (MRDRC)
2018 - present

Gateway to Global Ageing, University of Southern California (USC)
2019 - present

World Health Organisation (WHO)
2020 - present

United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)
2020 - present



National Institute on Aging (NIA)
2020 - present



National Population and Family Development Board (LPPKN)
2021 - present



Credit Counselling and Debt Management (AKPK)
2022 - present



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
2024 - present

08 Activities & Galleries

Activities and Galleries

2025

SWRC

15 January

"Roundtable Discussion Expanding EPF Coverage to Migrant Workers in Malaysia"



24 - 26 February

"Level 1 PRPP: Fundamentals in Social Protection Programme"



"Level 2 PRPP: Certified Social Protection Analyst Course"



12 March

"The Sandwich Generation Roundtable"
organised by ISIS Malaysia, SWRC, UNICEF and World Bank



24 May

"Living Your Golden Years: Reaching Out, Touching Lives"



19 June

"Capacity Building Training on Social Protection Policy and Implementation in ASEAN"



21 July

"APRU SDG4GC 2025 On-Site Programme"



4 - 5 August

"Kongres Social Synergy 2025 - 'Search & Serve Holistically"



9 - 12 September

"Cambodia Social Security Exposure Visit to Malaysia"



11 November

"Mier Brown Bag Talk: Securing Dignity In Ageing"



29 September - 3 October

"World Social Security Forum 2025"



23 - 25 September

"Level 3 PRPP: Certified International Pension & Retirement Professional"



2024

SWRC

30 January

"The 2024 Global Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum"



27 February

"Level One PRPP - Fundamentals in Social Protection Programme"



2 March

"SOCSO CDMP/CIPRP Graduation Ceremony"



4 June

"ISWC 2024 Ageing and Longevity - Towards a Meaningful Retirement"



2 May

"57th ADB Annual Meeting: The Launch of Asian Development Policy Report 2024 in Asia"



14 March

"Design of an Integrated Social Protection Programme in Sarawak"



8 March

"Majlis Anugerah Tokoh Wanita Kebangsaan CUEPECS 2024"



21 June

"Policy Paper Launch 'Building a Cradle-To-Grave Care Economy"



12 July

"INSAP Economic Forum"



23 July

"BBC News Interview and Courtesy Visit"



1 August

"3rd ASEAN Conference on Healthy Ageing"



12 December

"The Launch of BELANJAWANKU"
organised by Employees Provident Fund (EPF)



22 October

"2nd Regional Social Policy Conference, East Asia and Pacific"



30 September

"Peranan dan Pendekatan Kerajaan dalam Menoktah Kemiskinan: Perlukan Penyusunan Semula?"
organised by Ministry of Economy, Malaysia



19 September

"Research Associate Visit"

5 August

"MYImpact Strategy Retreat & Q3 Board Meeting"



2023

SWRC

2 February

"Malaysian Economy - Prospect, Challenges and Way Forward"



14 - 16 February

"Certified International Pension & Retirement Professional (CIPRP)"



15 February

"ADB Joint Panel Session - Building an Inclusive Pension System for the Ageing Population"



16 May

"Townhall Session of the Health White Paper (East Coast Region)"



7 - 9 March

"Fundamentals in Social Protection (FSP)"



3 March

"Meeting Between Fiscal & Economics Division and SWRC"



28 February - 2 March

"Informatics for Labour Market Analysis"



23 May

"2nd AMRO-MEA Roundtable Session on the Malaysian Economy"



6 June

"The Launch of Universiti Malaya Awareness Programme, Open Science Initiative"
organised by IPP



9 June

"Pre-Launch of Belanjawanku"



5 July

"International Social Wellbeing Conference 2023"



28 June

"CIPRP Examination 2023"



13 June

"Pelancaran dan Aplikasi Belanjawanku 2022/2023"



"Certified Social Protection Analyst (CSPA)"



6 July

"International Wellbeing Conference 2023 - Putting Social Protection at the Forefront"



24 August

"Meeting of the HRS Around the World Studies"



29 August

"The Launch of Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey Wave 2 (2021-2022) Survey Report"



5 September

"Pre Praxis 2023: Social Security Roundtable



10 October

"World Bank Malaysia Economic Monitor October 2023 Report Launch and Panel Discussion"



9 October

"Pra Bajet 2024: Kos Sara Hidup & Keterjaminan Makanan"



26 September

"10th Malaysia Statistics Conference"



8 September

"Asian Impact Webinar: Survey Insights on Ageing and Retirement in Malaysia"



12 October

"Kata Sumber - Reformasi Subsidi, Siapa Untung?"



"International Public Employment Forum (IPEF) 2023"



15 October

"Post IPEF EIS Workshop 2023"



18 October

"Symposium 'The Path Towards Geater Prosperity for Malaysia"



28 November

"National Economic Outlook Conference"



2 November

"Investing in Social Impact Programmes by the Private Sector"



"Issues and Challenges on an Ageing Nation"



"Spearheading Social Protection Initiatives for All"



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