

JAMIL A GHANI

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia June 2022 - August
(A Company Limited By Guarantee Under The Prime Minister's Department)
Public Sector Engagement Manager, Chief Executive's Office

- Assisted the Chief Executive in the planning, administration and implementation of the Institute's engagement with the Malaysian public sector, with both the federal and state governments.
- Oversaw, developed and implemented strategies to promote the Institute's policy research and development capabilities with the government, including – among others – economic development, foreign trade and investment, sustainability, innovation, and education and skills development.
- Cooperated with the Chief Executive, directors and research heads in identifying the requisite capabilities, resources and skills for the Institute to engage in policy research and development projects for the government.
- Oversaw the design and implementation of activities to improve the Institute's access to information on the government's decision-making process.
- Designed and implemented activities that strengthened relationships and cooperation between the Institute and key stakeholders in federal ministries, state governments, civil society organisations, and other relevant and influential individuals/groups.
- Primary liaison on behalf of the Institute in the planning, development and delivery of policy research and development projects for the federal and state governments. Worked closely with the research teams to ensure that the product delivered matches the requirements and expectations of the client.

Associate Researcher, Chief Executive's Office September 2021 - Present

- Assisted in the preparation of speeches for the Senior Minister of Defence:
 - The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Manama Dialogue Plenary Session 2: "The Gulf And Asia".
 - 11th Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) Defence Ministers' Meeting: An Assessment for the 11th FPDA Defence Ministers' Meeting - "Responding to Emerging Security Challenges in the Context of Multilateralism".
- Researched and prepared advisory papers (on-going):
 - "Stress-Testing Malaysia's Position on the Passage of Nuclear-Powered Vessels and Vessels Carrying Nuclear Materials" for the Ministry of Defence.
- Opinion editorials and publications in newspapers and news portals (on-going):
 1. ["My Say: Mine the data to fight pandemics", The Edge Malaysia \(The Edge\), April 11, 2022.](#)
 2. ["Asean must lead the way in tackling cheap migrant labour", The New Straits Times \(NST\), June 11, 2022.](#)
 3. ["My Say: What it takes to remove subsidies", The Edge, August 29, 2022.](#)
 4. ["Set aside politicking, focus on stateless time bomb", NST, October 8, 2022.](#)
 5. ["New National SDG Centre can resolve statelessness in Sabah", NST, October 20, 2022.](#)
 6. ["Proposed autism council can improve awareness, acceptance", NST, December 3, 2022.](#)
 7. ["China must do more to bridge confidence gap", NST, January 25, 2023.](#)
 8. ["Scrapping subsidies, controls will reduce prices in long run", NST, March 8, 2023.](#)
 9. ["My Say: Make defence spending reforms a priority", The Edge, March 13, 2023.](#)
 10. ["It's time the govt introduced a national flood-insurance scheme", NST, March 30, 2023.](#)
 11. ["My Say: There is an alternative to East versus West in 5G rollout", The Edge, June 21, 2023.](#)

Office of the Senior Minister (Security) and Minister of Defence, Malaysia September 2021 - March 2022
Research Officer

- Prepared ministerial memos and reports for bilateral talks, parliament sessions and policy meetings:
 - The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM).
 - Malaysia's position on AUKUS (parliamentary question and answer session).
 - COVID-19 Ministerial Quartet Meetings: Pandemic Management.

Ekovest Berhad

July 2019 - August 2021

Senior General Manager (GM), Special Projects Division

- Prepared corporate presentations and letters for the Malaysian Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI):
 - Secured the Bandar Malaysia Project, a 486-acre project with a Gross Development Value of US\$33.3 billion.
- Led a team of five staff (plus consultants) as Project GM for a Request for Proposal (RFP) by the Langkawi Development Authority. Won the 30-acre beachfront mixed-commercial Chenang 2 Project located next to Langkawi International Airport, Kedah, Malaysia, beating out three other companies:
 - Carried out a feasibility study and financial analysis. Obtained the development order and secured internal funding / approval from the Board of Directors with a GDV of US\$250 million.
 - Secured investors such as Aman Resorts, Accor, Greenland Holdings and other corporations.
 - Cleared 100 over squatters (illegal homestays and chalets). Incorporated 'fishing net to table' ecotourism model with new jetty and wharf for local 127 fishermen affected by the project.

Eco World Development Group Berhad (Eco World)

October 2013 - May 2019

Senior Manager, Group Business Development Division

- Secured corporate-to-corporate lease agreements (Shell, Caltex, Starbucks, McDonalds, 7-Eleven, San Francisco Coffee etc) for the company's retail developments and helped increase profits.
- Market researched, appraised and acquired 533 acres of land to contribute to the company's growth.
- Worked with technical-planning teams to prepare land feasibility studies to maximise project profits.
- Led business units to create new forms of financing for industrial property customers:
 - Secured Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) support and partnerships with lending institutions.
 - New financial solutions approved by the CEO and adopted by business units nationwide.
- Prepared special reports and strategic solutions to Eco World's Board of Directors:
 - Identified national public housing shortage problems and presented solutions to the PMO.
 - Studied transit-oriented developments in Greater Kuala Lumpur. Identified suitable locations.
 - Identified regions in Malaysia suitable for port-oriented developments. Recommended guarded and gated industrial parks (a brand new concept for Malaysia at the time).

Manager, Group Corporate Finance Division

- Assisted in the reverse take-over (RTO) of Focal Aims Holdings Berhad, by liaising with internal departments, financial regulators and investment banks (CIMB Bank was the primary).
- Advised the Board of Directors on corporate disclosures and ensured compliance with Malaysian Company and Securities Commission's regulations.
- Coordinated the preparation and publication of Eco World's first annual report (2013).
- Summarised the impact of the newly introduced Goods And Services Tax (GST) on Malaysia's construction industry to the CEO and Board of Directors (post government budget 2015).

Malaysia Petroleum Resources Corporation

August 2011 - October 2013

(An Agency Under The Prime Minister's Department, [Now Under The Ministry Of Economy](#))

Senior Analyst, Corporate and Special Projects | Oilfield Services and Equipment

- Facilitator for the Johor Cities & Corridors Performance Management & Delivery Unit (PEMANDU) Lab:
 - Developed the Pengerang Integrated Petrochemical Complex Masterplan (PIPC), a 22,000-acre project with an estimated US\$4.32 billion in Gross National Income (GNI).
 - Setup a new federal agency, Johor Petroleum Development Corporation to manage the PIPC.
- Point of contact for Oil & Gas industry (O&G) players in industry-related initiatives:
 - Oil, Gas, and Energy (OGE) National Key Economic Area (NKEA) of the Malaysian Government's Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) to achieve high income nation status by 2020.
 - Coordinated stakeholders on ETP programs to transform Malaysia into an O&G services hub (MIDA, MATRADE, MITI, Economic Planning Unit, Ministry of Higher Education, Iskandar Regional Development Authority, PETRONAS and Royal Vopak).
- As a corporate advisory team member, oversaw tenders and provided recommendations to the Board.

MPRC's Inaugural Oil And Gas Funding Forum June 2013 (Chief Organiser)

- Organised the event, secured panelists', prepared talking points for the forum and managed 10 staff.

- Increased industry engagement with Bank Negara Malaysia, 18 commercial banks and seven agencies.

EEW Malaysia

February 2011- July 2011

Manager, Business Development Department

- Prepared quotations for foreign and local O&G line pipe tenders.
- Secured contracts, executed projects and ensured delivery of pipes to clients (PETRONAS).

Securities Commission of Malaysia (SC)

July 2009 - August 2010

Graduate Management Executive (GME)

- Rotated through three key departments within the SC to gain exposure to different regulatory functions.

Securities Issues Department (SID III)

- Reviewed initial public offerings (IPO) submitted for SC approval (Oldtown Berhad Main Board listing).
- Recommended appropriate decisions on offer and listing of equity and equity-linked securities pursuant to section 32 of the Securities Commission Act 1993.
- Monitored compliance with terms and conditions of approval for corporate proposals, achievement of profit forecasts and utilisation of proceeds.
- Recommended appropriate actions for non-compliance with securities laws, regulations and guidelines/requirements in relation to corporate proposal applications.
- Formulated and implemented the department's systems, processes and procedures relating to the evaluation of corporate proposals and compliance monitoring.

Risk Management Department

- Monitored, assessed and reviewed risks arising from developments in global and domestic financial markets through analyst reports, central bank publications, financial dailies etc.
- Prepared Systemic Risk Group Integrated Weekly Market reports.
- Presented Economic and Market reviews for Management Committee and Commission Members.
- Assisted risk analyst team in preparing studies on pertinent risk issues and themes.

Investor Affairs and Complaints Department

- Conducted (legal and factual) assessment of findings and recommendation of assigned cases.
- Communicated and gathered information from complainants.
- Undertook preliminary investigations into assigned cases (civil, criminal or administrative) effectively and recommended appropriate actions.
- Maintained rapport with internal departments and complainants to coordinate information sharing.

SC Corporate Governance Blueprint 2011 | Published July 2011 (Audit Member & Team Lead)

- Led survey on the practice of separation of Chairman and CEO among Malaysian Public Listed Companies (PLC). Was able to show 72.5% of PLCs practiced this via spreadsheets, graphs & charts.
- Data was mined (using classification, clustering and regression methods) on all PLCs and created a repository of Corporate Governance statistics for the government.

SC Capital Market Masterplan 2 | Published April 2011 (Team Member)

- Identified market enablers and listing incentives to improve the competitiveness of the Malaysian capital market vis-a-vis regional competitors i.e. Singapore Stock & Hong Kong Stock Exchanges etc.
- Recommended cross-border marketing of Islamic financial products, dual listings etc.

SOCIAL WORK

Eco World Foundation

2013 to 2019

Student Aid Programme | Quarterly Home Visits

Team Leader & Volunteer (the programme supports 2,600 primary, 400 secondary and 16 tertiary students)

- Volunteered in Eco World's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme to help underprivileged school children from families with a combined income of less than US\$500 a month.
- Registered recipients and made home visits to ensure students were genuinely deserving of aid and that their educational needs (tuition fees, clothing and school meals) were met.

- Led visits of up to 15 homes every quarter, to monitor the home environment of students living in the social housing projects of Greater Kuala Lumpur.

Eco World Foundation's Educational Tools Initiative For Orang Asli Preschools

April 2019

Team Leader & Volunteer

- Developed educational tools for underprivileged Orang Asli (aboriginal people) preschools, as part of a 252-hour Corporate Social Responsibility initiative. Organised 42 volunteers to make 150 educational tools for 10 Orang Asli preschools in the states of Perak, Pahang and Kelantan.
- Led a group of 3 volunteers in charge of helping children correctly identify emotions and feelings. Produced 20 units, distributed them to the preschools and trained the teachers.
- Resulted in 81% of registered students attending classes regularly and staying in school in 2020 despite COVID-19 disruptions.
- Organised company-wide book donation campaigns for Eco World Berhad staff to donate used or new books for the preschools, which were subsequently delivered.

Eco World Foundation Refurbishment / Painting of the Ideas Academy

August 2018

Volunteer

- Refurbished the five-storey Ideas Academy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. A non-profit secondary learning centre for underprivileged children that educates refugees, stateless and undocumented minors.

Tangkak Divisional Deputy Youth Chief & Branch Youth Chief of Sungai Mati

2014 - 2018

United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), Ledang Division, Johor, Malaysia (Political Party)

- Sourced funding for district e-commerce cottage industries, upskilling programs, sporting events and tournaments (badminton, futsal, soccer etc) to provide employment, foster unity and promote sports.
- Led "gotong royong" events (traditional communal work) in villages (places of worship, markets, cemeteries, rivers etc) to inoculate a culture of public service among youths and foster local civic pride.
- Held speaking engagements to help villagers understand national economic issues such as the GST (introduced in April 2015) and the 1Malaysia Development Berhad financial scandal of 2016.
- Chaired UMNO Branch Annual General Meetings (AGM) and was an observer at other branch AGMs.

Graduate Students Reference Group

2008

International Students Representative | The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

- Supported faculty to focus on student issues, improve programs and enhance service delivery.
- Assisted the Faculty in receiving feedback from international students on their wellbeing.
- Ensured that concerns, outcomes and recommendations were adopted by the Graduate Committee.

Law Student Placement: Australian Commonwealth Government Family Law Assistance Program 2004

Faculty Placement | Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Five-week placement at the Monash Oakleigh Legal Centre (mostly underprivileged clients and refugees)

- Met with clients, updated client cases and file notes.
- Drafted affidavits, letters, lodged and filed divorce applications for clients.

EDUCATION

The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

2008 – 2009

Master of International Politics, Second Class Honours A Division (H2A)

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

2002 – 2007

- Bachelor of Arts Honours, H2A (Distinction) | History Major
Honours Thesis: Malay Perception of Place - Investigating the concept of place in Malay Hikayat (Malay Epics) and to test the relevance of geopolitical borders in pre-modern Malay thinking.
- Bachelor of Arts, H2A (Distinction) | History Major / English Literature
- Bachelor of Laws (Deferred & enrolled in a Masters of International Politics at the University of Melbourne)

United World College of Southeast Asia (UWCSEA), Singapore

1998 – 2001

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma (32 points)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES, LANGUAGES & INTERESTS

Professional Certificates

Coursera Online Professional Certificate Program (Overall Grade of 95%)

- **Course Name: Introduction to Statistics**

Education Provider: Stanford University

Completion date: 7 November 2021

Certificate URL: <https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/certificate/SFAVNGDM9GUM>

Summary. 8-week course covering descriptive statistics for exploring data, producing data and sampling, probability, normal approximation and binomial distribution, sampling distributions and the central limit theorem, regression, confidence intervals, tests of significance, resampling, analysis of categorical data, one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and lastly, multiple comparisons.

- **Course Name: Microeconomics Principles**

Education Provider: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Completion date: 25 October 2021

Certificate URL: <https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/certificate/EJNGPRXN2GHE>

Summary: 8-week course covering supply and demand, market efficiency and government policies, elasticities, production and costs, competitive output, firms with market power and lastly, public goods, common resources, and externalities.

Languages & Interests

- Native Malay speaker and exceptionally fluent in English.
- Certified Advanced Open Water PADI scuba diver.
- Military history aficionado, soccer fanatic and automotive enthusiast.