

[MALAYSIA]

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10 Years of ASEM – Malaysia and ASEM

1A. Overview

The Asia-Europe Meeting or ASEM is a multilateral dialogue process that was founded in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1996 to address “dis-connectivity” and initiate and smoothen relations on various fronts of mutual interest among the member states of the two regions, Asia and Europe. Although in the beginning ASEM was not represented by all of the member states of the two regions, they do so now with all ten countries of ASEAN (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam), the three countries of Northeast Asia (China, Japan, and Korea) and the twenty-six countries of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom). In short, ASEM is a non-interfering conglomeration of thirty-nine independent and sovereign nations seeking to uphold the national agenda and goals of each other while, at the same, creating a common platform for cooperation, collective welfare, and peaceful co-existence.

Over the last ten years of its existence, ASEM has embraced principles of openness and transparency, informality and interactivity, and consensus as its *modus operandi*. It may be appropriately described as a unique interregional forum that is driven by leaders who draw on operational policies and act in accordance to the principles and consensus agreed upon. The general impression prevails that ASEM aims to be or will be a non-institutional engagement of the different states of the two regions; hence, there are no formal organizational structures of a steadfast and binding nature.

The highest leadership participation in the ASEM process takes place at the Summit, which is typically represented by heads of state/government. The Summit takes place biennially with the venue alternating between the two regions of Asia and Europe. To date there have been five Summits including the inaugural one in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1996. The next ASEM Summit will take place in Finland in 2006. Apart from the Summits, there are the Foreign and other Ministerial and Senior Officials’ meetings that

convene during the interim period of the Summits to coordinate and operationalize ASEM initiatives and decisions. The interim-level meetings also ensure continuity and the effectiveness of ASEM.

Since its inception in 1996, ASEM has objectively explored its sense of purposefulness and fulfillment that manifested a wide range of initiatives to benefit both regions. The initiatives have been clustered, categorized, and endorsed as three strategic pillars of ASEM: political, economic and financial, and sociocultural and intellectual. The political pillar covers areas such as justice and home affairs issues, human rights, environment, and health. The economic and financial pillar covers both the stated areas as well as information technology and globalization. Finally, the sociocultural and intellectual pillar covers areas such as the Asia-Europe Foundation and human resource development.

1B. Malaysia as a Member State of ASEM

Malaysia has experienced a long period of political and economic stability. In recent decades, it has witnessed an outstanding economic and social development to a level not matched by most other countries in the region. GDP per capita is one of the highest in South East Asia at US\$3,853 in 2000. The poverty level is 8%, and healthcare standards are relatively high. However, the present global economic slowdown has brought challenges to further development such as the need to accelerate deregulation and corporate restructuring, to reform the financial system, to eliminate weaknesses in the labor market, and to address sectoral overcapacity and overinvestment. Malaysia's trade surplus is a sign of economic vigor, but further effort is needed to stimulate domestic demand and broaden growth and development. Under these circumstances, Malaysia's participation in the ASEM process is a big plus to the nation.

Malaysia has positioned itself as a staunch supporter and proactive member of ASEM. At the first ASEM Summit, Malaysia initiated several projects including the establishment of an Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) and the Trans-Asian Railway Network. While the former is up and running offering higher education and research opportunities in Information Management, Regional Integration, and ASEAN Studies, which are in line with the objectives of ASEM, for students from both regions, the latter has been put

on hold requiring further study in view of a long-term commitment and huge capital involvement. Moreover, Malaysia consented and continues to work with other ASEM partners on a number of initiatives of the three pillars of the process such as the ASEM Ministerial meeting on Cultures and Civilizations (COCC). The first two ASEM COCC were held in Beijing and Paris in 2003 and 2005 respectively. Malaysia will host the third ASEM-COCC in Kuala Lumpur in 2007. Malaysia is also a co-sponsor of the ASEM Inter-faith Dialogue, the first of which was held in Bali in 2005.

There has also been notable development in bilateral exchanges between EU and Malaysia. Apart from frequent leadership visits, cooperation, collaboration, and cross consultations have broadened in the areas of academic and scientific undertakings (see the next section for details). Bilateral exchanges have involved many personnel, a number of local universities and other educational institutions as well as industries.

2A. Status and Impact of ASEM Initiatives

Malaysia is seemingly benefiting from its cooperation with EU. A number of projects and activities that stem from ASEM initiatives have been launched. These have been clustered as the three ASEM pillars of politics, economics and finance, and socio-culture. It may be noted, however, that not all of the projects and activities that Malaysia now enjoys from EU cooperation are appropriated directly to the country; some have been initiated from the collective participation of all or some of the ASEAN countries.

Political Pillar

Two initiatives of the political pillar have been covered, namely the environment and human rights. For the environment initiative, the environment program (Asia Pro-Eco 11) and the forest program have been introduced. The environment program aims to promote the sharing of innovative technologies, best practices, policies, measures, and capacity-building to improve the quality of life and environmental conditions of urban populations. Two examples of the project are:

1. Transfer and adaptation of EU perspectives, methodologies, and know-how in the field of ecotourism, and
2. Building capacities for technology transfer carried out for the introduction of environmental-friendly chicken manure treatment and application possibilities.

The forest program aims to support the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in the country. Certain themes that the forest program will address are forests and governance, small-scale community-based forest enterprises, wood and energy, sustainable use of forest biodiversity, forests in economic planning, and poverty reduction.

Under the **human rights initiative**, two programs on gender and democracy have been implemented. The gender program aims to promote gender equality in all development cooperation policies and interventions implemented in developing countries. Malaysia is a partner in one of the projects: “Building Greater Democratic Process and Citizens’ Participation through Advocacy, Education and Reforms, and Enhancing the Monitoring of the Commitments of the Malaysian Government.” The democracy program is an extension of the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights Program (EIDHR). It aims at protecting impoverished Indian minority women in urban and suburban Malaysia from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. In this project, Malaysia works as a partner with the Education and Research Association for Consumers (ERA) of the EU.

Economic and Finance Pillar

Under the economic and finance pillar, EU support has been rendered in the areas of business facilitation, information and communication technology, information society technologies, and sustainable energy production.

For the business facilitation initiative, Malaysia is involved in two of the programs, namely Asia-Invest II and EC ASEAN Intellectual Property Program II (ECAP II). The Asia-Invest program has been designed to aid small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in European and Asian countries in their internationalization process, thus increasing their opportunities for mutual trade and investment. In this focus, Malaysia has worked with several other ASEM nations such as Italy and Thailand in the

machinery industry. Other areas of Malaysian involvement include advancing business partnerships for industrial efficiency and the management of livestock production and meat processing. The ECAP II program has the specific objective of achieving greater economic cooperation by upgrading the ASEAN intellectual property rights systems to international standards and practices. The ECAP II program has required Malaysia to sign up a financing agreement with the EU that spells out the terms of cooperation at national and regional levels. In accordance with the financing agreement, Malaysia would benefit from technical assistance from the EU to improvise the legal framework and enforce and promote public awareness of intellectual property rights. In this regard, Malaysia launched in 2005 an autonomous body called MyIPO that will be fully involved in setting up and implementing the ECAP Malaysia Work Plan.

The second **initiative of information technology and communication** has broader implications at the regional level and involves all of the ASEM countries in the two regions. There are three focal areas that have been endorsed under this initiative during the 2000 and 2004 ASEM meetings. This will bring about and augment a greater level of integration and communication. The first is the Trans-Eurasia Information Network II, which will establish two network elements, namely a regional backbone infrastructure between participating Asian countries and a link between the regional loop and the European GEANT network. When the Trans-Eurasia Information Network is complete, it will provide ASEM countries in the two regions with a direct link to close existing gaps between them and to promote better collaboration among the partners. Also, it would reduce dependency on American-based commercial inter-connectivity via the Internet.

The next focal area of the information technology and communications initiative is the Gallileo project. It is a satellite positioning and navigation system for civilian purposes. The Galileo project is expected to be more advanced, efficient and reliant than the current US Global Positioning System (GPS). It will be managed by the European Commission and European Space Agency, and through a unique set of positioning and timing services it will allow for a wide range of navigation applications that benefit many economic sectors. The commercial approach followed for the

implementation and exploitation of Galileo will also provide a rare opportunity for Malaysian companies to innovate and build new services and equipment.

The third focal area of the information technology and communication initiative is that of the information society technologies (IST), which is very much an EU initiative aimed at realizing the European policies of an information society. There will be a greater emphasis of IST on R&D activities, with a potential commercial spin-off that will address major societal and economic challenges like security, ambient intelligence, e-business, interface technologies, component and micro-systems, etc. Also it will ensure further international networking and economic development in generic and applied technologies. IST offers a number of different instruments for multipartner research activities such as individual and host-driven mobility schemes, special projects focusing on SMEs, and instruments enabling the use of large-scale research infrastructure. It extends eligibility of participation to any natural person or legal entity from most countries in the world including Malaysia. Typical applicants and partners are research institutes, universities and industries including SMEs.

The final initiative in the ASEM economy and finance pillar in which Malaysia has been involved is Sustainable Energy Production. Under this initiative, the five-year EC ASEAN Energy Efficiency (EAEF) program was launched in 2002. The EAEF is a cooperation program designed to facilitate partnerships between organizations in both regions to develop specific joint projects in the energy sector. Programming consists of activities targeting institutional development and catalyzing interaction between industry and energy sector operators. Moreover, it provides complementarities to a number of existing multilateral instruments between development banks and other EC economic cooperation programs.

Sociocultural and Intellectual Pillar

In the sociocultural and intellectual pillar and under Human Capital Development, Malaysia has actively participated in the focal areas of higher education and research. In higher education, Malaysia enjoys the benefit of three programs, namely, Asia-Link, the ASEAN-EC University Network and Erasmus Mundus Scholarships. The Asia-Link program aims to promote regional networking and cooperation between higher

education institutions in the European Union and developing countries in Asia. It gears toward human resource development, curriculum development, and institutions and systems development in the participating countries. Malaysia has nine ongoing activities relating to Asia-Link. A number of Malaysian universities are involved in this program. Examples of projects undertaken in Malaysia under the Asia-Link program include “Development of a Core Curriculum in European Integration Studies” (University Sains Malaysia) and “Development of Teaching and Training Modules for Higher Education in the Waste Management Sector” (University Putra Malaysia). It is noteworthy that Malaysia, at its own cost, has established an Asia Europe Institute (AEI) under the umbrella of the University of Malaysia as an add-on to these projects. AEI currently offers International Master programs for international students in three areas, namely, Information Management, Regional Integration and ASEAN studies. The Institute, which was set up in 1997, is a precursor to the proposed Asia-Europe University that may be established in 2006.

The **ASEAN-EC University Network Program (AUNP)** aims to enhance cooperation in higher education among select educational institutions of the two regions to promote regional integration within ASEAN countries and to strengthen mutual awareness of European and Asian cultural perspectives. It is jointly financed and implemented by the ASEAN University Network (AUN) and the European Commission (EC). Under AUNP, Malaysia is involved in four ongoing activities that have been distributed to select universities in the country. Examples of activities implemented in the local universities include “a collaborative international training program in law, ethics and management in the life sciences” (USM) and “expanding expertise network for generating and sharing knowledge related to spatial planning and decision support (IIU).”

The third program under higher education concerns human resource development through the Erasmus Mundus (EM) scholarship. The main objective of the EM program is to encourage mobility of third-country graduate students and scholars to the EU. Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis, and the duration of the program is five years (2004–2008), with funding of 230 million Euros. In addition to these scholarships, a specific Malaysia Window was operationalized in 2004/2005. The Window sets aside an additional 2.1 million Euros especially for students from

Malaysia for 2005–2007. Currently, twenty-three Malaysian students have been selected to receive scholarships from the Window. The number is expected to double in the years ahead.

The second initiative in the sociocultural pillar is research, in which Malaysia has partaken quite actively. The research program is supported by the EC's Sixth Framework Initiative (FP6) that also includes technological development and demonstration as its objective. The program runs from 2002–2006, and it provides the necessary financial support for scientific and technological development projects. FP6 aims to contribute to the creation of the European Research Area (ERA) by improving integration and coordination of research in Europe and with third countries.

The focus areas in the research program are:

- Life science, genomics, and biotechnology for health
- Information society technologies
- Nanotechnologies, multifunctional materials, and new production processes
- Aeronautics and space
- Food quality and safety
- Sustainable development, global change ecosystems
- Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society

Currently, there are nine ongoing projects involving Malaysian partners who come from public universities, private educational institutions, and industry. Two of the ongoing activities are “IST Gapfill,” which aims to attract more participants from Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand (MINOS Berhad), and “RESTORPEAT, restoration of tropical peatland to promote sustainable use of renewable natural resources” (UMS).

2B. Perception of the ASEM Process

ASEM must be viewed in terms of its purpose, objectives and relevancy and how well or effectively it is faring in light of these criteria. ASEM has been mooted for the purpose of regional integration and cross-regional cooperation by providing a common platform to meet and hold high-level leadership dialogue on matters of common interest. The past ten years show that ASEM has been doing well, having achieved great success

in its choice of the programs and activities, implementing, and supporting them according to the needs of the participating countries.

Malaysia has been involved in a number of programs and activities apart from the benefits of merchandise and services-trading ventures. For its part, Malaysia enjoys a great deal of participation and enthusiasm in the areas of the environment and education. While such programs and activities are taking hold and bearing fruit in certain cases, there is a general concern about ASEM's shape and direction.

After ten years, ASEM is still grappling with the idea of what it is going to become. As the foreign minister of Malaysia in a seminar on "Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership" that took place in 2004 in Kuala Lumpur stated, "...there are still many challenges that it has to face, including developing a vision of ASEM." So far ASEM has remained non-institutional, and rightly so it has preferred to be called a "process." Whether non-institutional or not, ASEM is still an organization per se, and it has to have some sort of a structure, mechanics, logistics, and clearly spelt-out dynamics. Merely depending on a dialogue process at every stage it encounters may be unimaginable. A number of leaders from both EU and Asian countries seem to share the same concern. Scholars, critics and analysts also sometimes express skepticism about the ability and probability of ASEM's sustainability. One analyst suggested that should ASEM remain a pure dialogue forum, it could suffer from "forum fatigue." Others have indicated that there are attendance problems at some meetings. Malaysia notes that the sheer size of ASEM—thirty-nine member states—requires structure and predictable processes. Malaysia believes that there should be a mix of dialogue and substantive project-based cooperation in the ASEM process. ASEM should purposely be more than just a forum to improve mutual understanding between Asia and Europe, although caution and sensitivity to each other's perspectives must upheld at all times.

At another level, ASEM aims to involve the general public of the two regions to bring about social, cultural and intellectual awareness so that the peoples of member countries may feel interregional proximity or closeness despite geographic distance. Between Asia and Europe, there are very many different peoples with different looks, ways of life, clothing, preferences, habits, beliefs, values, languages, etc. By merely operating at an elite level, establishing universities for cross-cultural education, or creating common work centers, that aim may never be achievable. In retrospect, it may

have been better to have confidence-building measures as well in the ASEM process over the past ten years. But, sooner or later, more fundamental things will need to be done if the intended fellow-recognition among the peoples of ASEM is to materialize. ASEM is still not a popular word or concept as is the case with ASEAN, APEC, OIC or OPEC, and it needs to raise its profile.

3. ASEM in the Global and Regional Contexts

There is discernment among political leaders, scholars and analysts that the ASEM process, as immense as it is perceived to be, is historically a truly significant occurrence. Not only does it re-establish a “missing link” between the regions, but it paves the way for a renewed dialogue process for cooperation, collaboration and revitalization of the relationship. More importantly, it has come about at a time when a number of major events have been emerging both regionally and globally. These events have affected the general world order and call for a fresh examination of the existing political, economic and power balance.

No sooner had the ASEM process begun than the Asian economic crisis befell the region in 1997 and 1998, gravely affecting several nations in East Asia. Then followed 9/11, which reverberated through the entire world, raising the concern of a religiously polarized global community. It is noteworthy that the 9/11 attack on the United States has been followed by bomb incidents in Bali, Turkey, Spain, and London. The post-9/11 world has called for a concerted effort by all nations to support the war against terror. The United States invaded Afghanistan and then Iraq. The Iraq War has split alliances between nations as well. Many countries such as Russia, France, Germany, China, India and a number of Muslim nations including Malaysia were non-advocates of the war.

Within the ASEM region, there were turbulent issues as well in the years after 9/11. The European Union was enlarging. There were successes and failures, offers and rejections, as in the case of Turkey. At the same time, EU has also been drafting its new constitution, which has yet to be universally accepted.

On the ASEAN front, the accession of Myanmar into the subregional body soon created problems for a number of EU nations which disapproved of the policies of the

ruling Yangon military regime. The 2004 Hanoi Summit took up the Myanmar issue and allayed the fears of its inclusion in ASEM.

The Northeast Asia subregion has been engulfed with its own share of problems. Out of the changing environment in that part of the world, leadership competition has emerged between China and Japan. It has contributed to regional tension in addition to the North Korean issue and the strained relations between mainland China and Taiwan.

In hindsight, ASEM has not trodden down a pleasant path over its decade of existence. The relevant question is: how has ASEM been performing or fulfilling its objectives? Some analysts say that ASEM has stood steadfast in the face of adversity, and it has successfully become a viable phenomenon. Others point out that ASEM achieved 70% of the initiatives that were launched at the first Summit, and 50% of those endorsed at the second Summit. A review of new and current initiatives, programs and activities, at least from the Malaysian perspective, reveals that many of them have been proposed, promoted and implemented during the last five years, and there is an increasing trend of more being started up.

Statistics of economic development between the regions of Europe and Asia are a good indicator of ASEM's health and commitment. The Asian members of ASEM have emerged as the key trading partners with the EU and have accounted for one-fifth of the EU's trade with the world in 2003. For the same year, records show that EU exports to Asian member nations amounted to 134 billion Euros, which was 13.8% of total EU exports for the year. A significant portion of exports included trade in services at 36.5 billion Euros. Remarkably, Asia has emerged as the EU's third-most important trading partner and its fourth-most important investment destination.

An assessment of the state of merchandise trade between Malaysia and the EU marks a positive note in the way ASEM has been functioning and keeping its focus. There has been an overall stable trend in merchandise trade between Malaysia and the EU in the past five years. Malaysia's exports to the EU amounted to 15 billion Euros, and Malaysia's imports from the EU have increased to 10 billion Euros a year. Malaysia has been recording a regular trade surplus with the EU, amounting to about 7 billion Euros, which has been attributed to EU enlargement. The EU is Malaysia's third-largest export market after ASEAN and the United States, and fifth biggest source of imports after ASEAN, Japan, the United States and China.

4. Conclusion: Reinventing ASEM

ASEM seems to be a phenomenal experiment that started as an organic form and process, and was allowed to evolve on its own accord and pace. Apparently, there are naturalistic and intellectual elements at play in ASEM. Whether there is such an understanding and clarity among the various leaders involved in ASEM of its purposeful existence, the operational forces acting on it do not seem to be clear because of the different comments, remarks, suggestions, and indications they make. They seem to reflect an understanding that any international relationship or meeting will require both structure and organization. At the same time, ASEM leaders share concern about overplaying the idea of institutionalization as the Foreign Minister of Spain stated in his intervention during the third foreign ministers meeting: “The problems arise when the contradictions between a political vision of informal and intimate meetings and a cumbersome formal structure become too accentuated.”

If ASEM is to pursue a non-institutional existence, then the personnel who are providing leadership will have to know for sure the mechanics, logistics, and dynamics upon which it rests. Whether such an entity even requires having the typical vision/mission elements incorporated with it is also a question that needs to be answered accordingly. On the one hand, the typical vision/mission elements may have the tendency to lead on to typical institutional concepts that build on hierarchical structure and bureaucratic practices, which would be certainly paradoxical to the spirit it is projecting now. On the other, ASEM may not have clear direction and vision of the scope of events that it will undertake. Should it be “adhocratic,” focusing and operating very much on the guidelines of the pillars of political, economic and finance, and social, cultural and intellectual initiatives and tackle relevant issues as come along? Regardless of its operating style, ASEM will need a broad operational framework at least in terms of guiding policies. For example, ASEM will have a fundamental need to steer away from any confrontations involving member countries by adopting a policy of non-interference in domestic matters. After ten years of making history, perhaps it is time that ASEM invest money and energy to discovering its functional as well as operational identity. However, for now, there is already a cry among the well wishers of ASEM that there needs to be a body, perhaps a secretariat, which could provide the

necessary support services such as consolidation and distribution of data, communication, and coordination.

ASEM may be able to continue the dialogue forum with only minimal institutionalization to take care of logistic issues if it is clear about ultimate objectives that go beyond sorting and implementing initiatives. ASEM aims to create ultimately an inter- and intraregional climate of neighborly relationships among the member countries of Asia and Europe for economic and financial collaboration, social and cultural recognition and acceptance, and intellectual exchange. ASEM may continue to play a provisional role to steer events towards that goal, in which case institutionalization will not be a critical issue. It would be a case where not the institution, but its purpose and objectives and the effects they may produce over time, are regarded as being more important. If that is the case, then ASEM will not have to reinvent itself but it will continue to evolve and over time, define its role.

ANNEX 1: EC-supported projects in Malaysia (ongoing)

Projects Under EC Asia-Wide Programmes Involving Malaysian Institutions						
EC Programme	Project Title	CRIS Number:	Applicant	EC Contribution	Malaysian Institution involved	Other Asian Countries Involved
Asia Invest	Southeast Asian chamber Academy – Professional Development for the Southeast Asian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Business Organisations	71774	Eurochambres (Belgium)	190.995€	Federation of Malaysia Manufacturers	None
Asia Invest	“Asia-Interprise” Machinery: Italy, Thailand and Malaysia	To be determined (contract under preparation)	Lombardy Foreign Trade Centre, Italy	127.972,05€ (to be confirmed upon contract signature)	Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers, Malaysia	Thailand
Asia IT & C	SEABCIN (South East Asian Botanical Collections Information Network)	51837	Rijksuniversiteit Leiden (Netherlands)	395.384€	Herbarium Forest Department/Sarawak Herbarium/Kepong Herbarium	Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka
Asia IT & C	IT facilitated Asian Adaptation of the European Foundation for Quality Management based Total Quality Management Model	51854	GAIA (Spain)	400.000€	Ansted Service Centre, Ansted University	India, Pakistan
Asia IT & C	Lites (<u>L</u> IFE Long Learning through <u>I</u> T & <u>C</u> in <u>E</u> nvironmental Education for <u>S</u> ustainability)	51887	NETPEM (India)	380.483,44€	Centre for Environmental Technologies (CETEC)	India
Asia IT & C	Vo@Net (Virtual Open-Access Network for Education and Training – Enhancing Interconnectivity between European and Asian Universities)	51890	Environment & Resources, Technical University of Denmark	399.535,27€	Universiti Malaya Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science	Thailand

Projects Under EC Asia-Wide Programmes Involving Malaysian Institutions						
EC Programme	EC Programme	EC Programme	EC Programme	EC Programme	EC Programme	EC Programme
Asia IT & C	EIVC (EU-Ipoh Virtual City): “Achieving Best Practices in E-Government for Ipoh Virtual City via PRISMA”	71541	Ipoh City Council, Perak State	400.000€	Ipoh City Council	None
Asia IT & C	EAPSTRA (EurAsian Network for Product Lifecycle Support & Training)	71548	Technische Universitat Clausthal, Institut fur Maschinenwesen (Germany)	298.012,96€	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	Thailand
Asia IT & C	PROCONNECT (Protecting Consumers inE-Commerce Transaction)	71549	Consumers International (United Kingdom)	200.000€	Universiti Teknologi MARA	Thailand
Asia-Link	Implementation and Realisation of an Asian-European Master Degree and Continuing Training Sessions in Food Science and Technology	49227	Ecole Nationale Superieure des Industries Agricoles et Alimentaires, Montpellier (france)	243,487,75€	University Putra Malaysia (Malaysia)	Philippines, Thailand
Asia-Link	New Educational Tools for Sustainable Management of Peatlands in the Humid Tropics- PEATWISE	57645	Wageningen University (The Netherlands)	300.000€	University of Malaysia Sarawak	Indonesia
Asia-Link	Development of teaching and training modules for higher education in the waste management sector	57670	Echnical University of Hamburg-Harburg, Department of Waste Management (Germany)	299.800,95€	University Putra Malaysia, Department of Environmental Sciences	Thailand
Asia-Link	Design and implementation of a curriculum on curriculum development Management responsibility : HQ (to be devolved to China)	CN/ASIA-LINK/005)	University of Bremen, Institute of Technology and Education (Germany)	298.911€ (to be confirmed upon contract signature)	Faculty of Education, Universiti Kebangsaan	China
Projects Under EC Asia-Wide Programmes	School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia	Thailand				

Involving Malaysian Institutions EC Programme EC Programme EC Programme EC Programme EC Programme EC Programme Asi a- Link Development of a core curriculum in European Integration Studies 84641 College of Europe (Belgium) 299.535€ (to be confirmed upon contract signature)						
Asia Pro Eco	Enhancement of the building capacity for technology transfer exemplarily carried out for the introduction of environmentally friendly chicken manure treatment and application possibilities in Asia	79016	Technical University of Hamburg-Hamburg (Germany)	499.630,70€	University Putra Malaysia	None
Asia Pro Eco	Sustainable Building and Construction Conferences Asia	79077	United Nations Environment Programme, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Paris (France)	350.609€	CTMC-Construction Technology and Management Centre, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	China
Asia Pro Eco	Transfer and adaptation of the EU perspectives, methodologies, and know-how to Malaysia in the field of Eco-Tourism	79718	EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	495.571,25€	EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kuala Lumpur/World Wide	None

					Fund for Nature Malaysia (WWF Malaysia)/Malaysia Nature Society (MNS)	
Asia Urbs	Achieving Innovation and Best Practices in Urban Management <i>Management responsibility : HQ</i>	75748	Perak State Government	500.000€	Perak State Government	None
Asia Invest	Southeast Asian Chamber Academy- Professional Development for the Southeast Asian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Business Organisations	71774	Eurochambres (Belgium)			China
Projects Under EIDHR (European Initiative For Democracy and Human Rights) Budget Line						
	Community Centres for the empowerment of Indian women in Malaysia <i>Management responsibility : HQ</i>		Friedrich Naumann Foundation	982,71€	ERA Malaysia (Education and Research Association For Consumers)	None

ANNEX 2: Projects supported by EU Member States in Malaysia

Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	UK
<p>Malaysian/Danish Cooperation on Environment and Development entering last phase 2003-2006. Since 1994, DK has supported some 100 projects with a total budget of 500 Million DKK (2003).</p> <p><u>The Environmental Cooperation Programme 2003-2006</u> covers five focal areas: Environmental Planning and Strategy, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, solid Waste, Environmental Hazardous Chemicals and Biodiversity. Programme is complemented by support to NGOs and cooperation between private sectors of Malaysia and DK.</p>	<p>Funds granted by the Embassy of Finland for local cooperation in Malaysia since 1999.</p> <p>Special attention to projects regarding: training of women, children and disabled people; including orang asli-communities, support to local cultural identity and good Governance; training of journalists and representatives of media</p> <p>Amount committed in 2004: €220.00; Indicative amounts for 2005-06: 2005, €150.000; 2006, €150.000</p>	<p>Fields of intervention: cultural co-operation, Higher education, scientific cooperation.</p> <p>Amount for 2004: €617,000</p>	<p>In the field of cultural co-operation, the amount for 2004 will be around €600.000.</p> <p>In the field of technical co-operation, the allocated amount for 2004 will probably be around €2 Million. This amount will be distributed among four projects in the following two sectors:</p> <p>(1) Environment (1 project forest management, 1 project air pollution control, 1 project; school of international tropical forestry at Univ. Malaysia Sabah)</p>	<p>The Italian Government Scholarship Programmes offered to Malaysian citizens every year.</p> <p>Fields of intervention: Italian language courses, University courses, Masters, PhD.</p> <p>Funds yearly allocated by the Italian Government for the Scholarship; for 2004: €30.987.</p> <p>Scholarships granted by the Program started in the academic year 1999/2000. 1999-2003: 62 scholarships; 2003-2004: 15 scholarships</p>	<p>Cooperation through the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation in 2003: Scholarships: €80.000; Seminars for professionals and experts: €112.000. Other cooperation in 2003: Technical and professional training including equipment: €3.130.000, <i>but declining to €1.200.000 over the 3-year period 2004-6.</i></p>	<p><u>British Council/local cultural cooperation in Malaysia:</u> 3,222,000 (Annual basis).</p> <p><u>Scholarship Programme:</u> Post-scholarships amount for Malaysian students 2004: 784,000; amount towards this over the next 3 years: 2,700,000.</p> <p><u>Environment:</u> amount for one environment project: 27,700; Additional amount for further activity under the Darwin Initiative: 100,000</p> <p><u>Child Protection Project:</u> Child Justice budget for 2003-2004: 79,000, of which around 36,000 will be spent I this financial year;</p>

<p>Total budget for 2003: 87.0 Million DKK. Total budget for 2004: 50 Million DKK for interventions on solid waste and hazardous chemicals and continued support to NGOs and the private sector.</p>			<p>(2) Education (vocational training). An additional Fund for small scale projects has been set up with €10.000 for 2004 to support projects (not yet identified) on poverty alleviation/basic needs/education.</p>			<p>Support for women's NGOs: 47,000.</p>
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Annex 3: Assistance of major third countries to Malaysia

Country	Type of Support
Japan	<i>Two ODA loans are currently granted: one for dam construction and another for education (scholarships). On the whole, the trend in ODA flows from Japan to Malaysia is quickly declining as a result of both Malaysia's economic performance and Japan financing problems.</i>
Australia	Malaysia has graduated from Australian ODA flows. Australia provides increasing assistance in the field of military cooperation and Counter Terrorism. This assistance is paid from the budgets for Defence and Law enforcement.
Canada	Malaysia has graduated from CIDA. Canada provides a very limited number of higher education scholarships.
USA	Malaysia has graduated from US ODA flows. The USA provide increasing assistance in the area of military cooperation and Counter terrorism under the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program, the Excess Defense Articles (EDA), the Foreign Assistance Act, and the Non-proliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs (NADR) funds.