

Research Intern (Year-Round Internship Programme)

Kuala Lumpur | Internship, 3–6 months | Rolling intake

About the Southeast Asian Futures Initiative Centre

The Southeast Asian Futures Initiative Centre (SEAFIC) is Southeast Asia’s future-focused think tank. SEAFIC conducts evidence-based research and strategic foresight on the region’s economic development, trade and investment, and international cooperation.

Through rigorous research, futures thinking and engagement with policymakers, academics and industry, SEAFIC develops practical insights and policy recommendations that support sustainable growth, regional integration and informed decision-making across ASEAN.

For more information on SEAFIC, visit seafic.org.

About the Role

SEAFIC is inviting applications for its Research Internship Programme on a rolling basis. The programme offers undergraduate and postgraduate students hands-on experience in applied policy research, futures and foresight studies, and regional economic analysis, while contributing to research that informs policy and decision-making across Southeast Asia.

Interns work alongside SEAFIC’s research team on projects under the think tank’s core research pillars: economic development, trade and investment, and international cooperation. The internship runs for a minimum of 3 months (up to 6 months), subject to university requirements and mutual agreement.

What You Will Do

- Conduct desk research, literature reviews and data collection on ASEAN economic development, trade, investment and regional cooperation.
 - Support research projects through data gathering, qualitative and quantitative analysis, and policy monitoring.
 - Assist in foresight analysis and in monitoring regional and global developments relevant to Southeast Asia.
 - Contribute to policy briefs, background papers, research reports, presentations and other knowledge products.
 - Provide research support for policy dialogues, roundtables, conferences and stakeholder engagements, including briefing materials and post-event summaries.
 - Support the compilation, verification and management of research data and references.
 - Work closely with SEAFIC’s researchers to ensure research quality, integrity and adherence to international research standards.
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Who We Are Looking For

- Minimum requirement: a Bachelor's degree in Economics, Public Policy, International Relations, Development Studies, Political Science, International Development or a related discipline.
- Good research, analytical and critical thinking skills, including the ability to conduct literature reviews and analyse qualitative and quantitative information.
- Professional proficiency in both English and Bahasa Malaysia (written and spoken) is essential.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office. Familiarity with statistical software, economic modelling, data visualisation or AI-assisted research tools is an advantage.
- Able to work independently while contributing effectively within a collaborative research team.
- Prior research experience, publications or involvement in policy-related projects is an advantage but not essential.

What We Offer

- **Think tank experience:** Hands-on experience in a regional policy think tank focused on Southeast Asia.
- **Futures and foresight exposure:** Exposure to policy research, futures and foresight methodologies, and evidence-based policy analysis.
- **Real contribution:** Opportunities to contribute to publications, policy dialogues and regional research initiatives.
- **Mentorship and networks:** Guidance from experienced researchers and opportunities to engage with policymakers, academics and industry experts.
- **Professional growth:** A collaborative and intellectually stimulating environment that supports your development.

To Apply

Email futurist@seafic.org with the subject line: **Application for Research Intern: [Your Name]**. Please include:

1. **CV**
2. **A cover letter** stating why you want to intern with SEAFIC and what you expect to gain from the internship.
3. **Recent written works or assignments.**

Applications are accepted year-round, subject to project requirements and internship availability. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Thank you for your understanding.
