

Researcher

Kuala Lumpur | Full-time

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 recruiting a Researcher to conduct evidence-based research and analysis on Southeast Asia's economic development, international trade and investment, and regional cooperation. The role involves collecting and analysing data, reviewing literature and policies, preparing research reports and policy briefs, monitoring regional and global developments, and contributing to SEAFIC's strategic foresight initiatives.

The Researcher will collaborate with colleagues and engage with policymakers, academics, businesses and other stakeholders to develop practical insights and policy recommendations that support sustainable economic growth, regional integration and informed decision-making across ASEAN.

What You Will Do

- Manage assigned research projects and workstreams, coordinating activities, timelines and deliverables across multiple thematic areas.
- Develop research methodologies, analytical frameworks and project approaches, under the guidance of the Senior Researcher where required.
- Undertake in-depth qualitative and quantitative research on ASEAN economic development, trade and investment, and regional cooperation, analysing primary and secondary data to generate evidence-based findings.
- Monitor regional and global developments and identify emerging issues for further analysis.
- Prepare policy briefs, research reports, discussion papers, thematic studies, commentaries and presentation materials that meet SEAFIC's standards for quality, accuracy, neutrality and policy relevance.
- Support policy dialogues, roundtables, conferences and closed-door discussions through background research, briefing notes, talking points and post-event reports.

- Work closely with the Senior Researcher, Directors and external experts, and provide technical guidance to the Junior Researcher and interns.
- Contribute to SEAFIC's research agenda and represent SEAFIC in selected research engagements, stakeholder meetings and professional discussions.

Who We Are Looking For

- A Master's degree or PhD in Economics, Public Policy, International Development Studies, International Relations, Political Science or a related discipline.
- Minimum 3–5 years of experience in think tanks, government agencies, research institutions, or regional and international organisations is desirable.
- Research experience in economic development, public policy, international trade, investment or regional affairs.
- Ability to plan research, analyse evidence and produce findings with minimal supervision, and to evaluate complex economic and policy issues and their implications.
- Strong skills in collecting, interpreting and presenting quantitative and qualitative data. Familiarity with economic modelling, scenario planning, forecasting and big data analytics is an advantage.
- Strong understanding of Malaysia and ASEAN's economic development, trade and investment, regional integration, and emerging geopolitical and technological trends.
- Excellent analytical, writing, presentation and stakeholder engagement skills, with the ability to communicate complex research to technical and non-technical audiences.
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects independently while mentoring junior researchers and working across multidisciplinary teams.

To Apply

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

- **CV**
- **A cover letter**
- **Recent written works or assignments**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Thank you for your understanding.
