

PRESS RELEASE

GIFT's ASEAN vision with new Malaysia office

For Immediate Release

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 4th, 2016 — The Global Institute For Tomorrow (GIFT), a leading pan-Asian think tank is pleased to announce the opening of its ASEAN office in Kuala Lumpur. This is in response to a growing demand in the ASEAN region for GIFT's services and thought leadership.

From its new location in Bangsar South, GIFT ASEAN will expand on its mission of advancing a deeper understanding of global issues and regional trends from an Asian perspective. The office will adapt GIFT's flagship executive education offerings and other leadership development services to the ASEAN market with the aim of contributing to the region's dynamic growth and strengthening its links with the rest of the world.

Over the last decade, the ASEAN region, home to 625 million people, has enjoyed a sustained period of economic growth and financial stability. This new wave of opportunities is pushing governments and business leaders to think critically and creatively on how business models and economic policies can ensure continued socio-economic development and improve the lives of the hundreds of millions of people who lack access to basic needs, while managing the region's severe resource constraints. This requires innovative approaches to building new leadership models and development solutions from an Asian point of view, drawing on the region's history and current realities.

As explained by Chandran Nair, GIFT's Founder and CEO, and a Malaysian national: "We are living in times that are very exciting, yet increasingly troubled. The suggestion that we can have everything—both encouraging ever-growing material wealth and maintaining a healthy natural environment—is, as the evidence makes clear, impossible, and a recipe for disaster. Governments will need to reshape policies with this fundamental reality in mind. Businesses should build into their core values an acute appreciation that their role in society goes well beyond just maximising profit and enacting CSR strategies as mitigation. Instead, they should be deploying business models that at their core are committed to shaping a prosperity that is fair and equitable."

Located at the heart of the region, GIFT ASEAN through its flagship Global Leaders Programme will seek to disseminate these ideas by working with governments, businesses and civil society, and at the same time looking to meet their talent development and learning needs. GIFT's unique methodology, tried and tested in close to 50 programmes in 13 countries, provides a platform where professionals can: engage in constructive dialogue around the pertinent challenges facing the region; play a pioneering role in the creation of unique and impactful projects for the region; and foster collaboration across cultures and sectors at a time when these are in great demand.

About the Global Institute For Tomorrow

The Global Institute For Tomorrow (GIFT) is an independent pan-Asian think tank focused on advancing a deeper understanding of global issues including the shift of economic and political influence from the West to Asia, the dynamic relationship between business and society, the role of the state and the reshaping of the rules of global capitalism.

GIFT's executive education programmes combine classroom learning with experiential field projects to develop leadership skills and give business executives direct exposure to the issues shaping the 21st century. GIFT's internationally-recognized learning methodology has been refined in dozens of programmes all over Asia, and covers topics often overlooked in traditional business education.

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