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CONSCIOUS School of Politics

Nurturing a Nation

Leaders are not born, they are made.

Collective Organising for Social Consensus

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Overview

CONSCIOUS Malaysia

As CONSCIOUS, we work to reposition marginalised voices to the center, towards an expansion of democratic expression in the public sphere.

Currently, CONSCIOUS is working to develop and run a comprehensive program to encourage political participation of the youth in Malaysia, with a focus on young women. This program aims to create the next generation of politicians that we want to see for Malaysia, politicians who are ready to take on progressive values and put them into policies, politicians with a strong grasp of history who would become formidable future legislators in Parliament and state assemblies.

CONSCIOUS School of Politics

With the 15th General Elections in mind, CONSCIOUS School of Politics aims to provide political training to aspiring politicians ready to contest in the elections, either at the state or federal level. The content structure of CONSCIOUS School of Politics is developed based on findings from research and pilot programs, as well as input from politicians and forward-thinking professionals.

Goals

1. 50% women candidates in the 15th Malaysian General Elections.
2. Produce alumni who are ready to run for office.
3. A platform to amplify the voices of political young Malaysians, especially women.
4. To increase political participation of young people beyond the ballot box and party machinery.
5. Increase the standard of next generation Malaysian politicians by flooding the candidacy for GE15 with aspiring politicians who stand for anti-racism, anti-discrimination of women and marginalised groups, transparency and

anti-corruption, participatory democracy, as well as environmental rights and climate change.

Participants

Selection of participants would be conducted by a committee set up by CONSCIOUS. The target for participation are youths between ages 18 - 35 with political ambitions, either for the state or federal level. This is a non-partisan initiative and participants need not be from any political parties. However, if they are, they will need to declare their membership. Independent and young women participants are most encouraged to apply.

Monitoring and Evaluation Process

1. Peer to peer review
2. Management-employee review
3. Key performance index
4. Surveys
 - a. Extract transform load (ETL) to analyse data and generate dashboard of insights from surveys
 - b. Insights will give information on correlation and/or relationship
 - c. Prediction of election results and/or outcome
5. Data collection at the grassroot level
 - a. Anticipate future needs before there was a need to address
 - b. Distribute resources more efficiently and accurately

Participants would receive certification as alumni of CONSCIOUS School of Politics. Certification would be endorsed by local and international partners (that would be determined at a later date). We are currently looking at the following organisations for endorsement for certifications: UN Women, UN Development Program, ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights, and the Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development of Malaysia. Indexing for monitoring will be determined during a later consultation process.

Milestones

I. Institutionalisation of CONSCIOUS School of Politics

- A. Registration of CONSCIOUS Malaysia
- B. Appointment of the Board of Directors
- C. Organisational Constitution
- D. Development of program for CONSCIOUS School of Politics
- E. Certification of program for CONSCIOUS School of Politics
- F. Endorsement of program for CONSCIOUS School of Politics
- G. Website development and online presence
- H. Branding and merchandising
- I. Pilot program

II. Pilot Program

- A. Call for applications
- B. Selection of applicants
- C. Announcement of successful applicants
- D. School in session
- E. On-going M&E
- F. Graduation of Pilot Program alumni
- G. Post-mortem
- H. Final assessment and evaluation
- I. Reporting

Proposed Content Structure for CONSCIOUS School of Politics (*Kelas EkoPol*)

Below is the broad content structure for the syllabus of CONSCIOUS School of Politics. A core committee of content developers will be consulted for a fully detailed program. The duration of the program is estimated at 3 to 4 weeks.

Cluster	Module	Notes
Politics	Malaysian political-economy The nature of Malaysian political-economy The role of the state A comparative analysis of the state assemblies in Malaysia The Malaysian model of development	Text: Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Terence Gomez
	History of women in politics in the Nusantara Past malay rulers who happen to be women, in history and in legend Women in the anti-colonial struggle Women in the formation of Malaysia Contemporary women in Malaysian politics	
	Party politics Party machinery Understanding coalitions Political funding and financing Ethics	
	Money politics The sociology of corruption Ensuring transparency The role of the MACC The role of the public	Text: Syed Hussein Alatas
	Defending the Democracy The meaning of democracy Separation of powers Democracy beyond the ballot box	

	<p>Dissent as part of democracy Electoral politics: benefits and limitations</p>	
	<p>Economics Malaysian macro and micro-economy The Malaysian model of economic development Understanding the debt: GDP ratio</p>	
	<p>General ethics of a politician Can there be a perfect politician? Listening skills Priorities as a politician Ethics of holding multiple portfolios</p>	
	<p>The Third Force NGOs & CSOs Student movements Opposition outside big coalitions</p>	
Strategy	<p>Communications Public relations Social media Press conferences Press statements Building credibility in the realm of public opinion Accessibility: "Write a letter to your representative!"</p>	
	<p>Party politics Moving up the political ladder Mobilisation of members Building a base</p>	
	<p>Electoral politics Before GE Campaigning for GE After winning / losing an election Continuation of service</p>	
Leadership and Management	<p>Public speaking The art of rhetoric Qualities of a great orator Mind your body language Delivering influential, inspiring, impactful speeches</p>	

	<p>How to conduct yourself in an interview</p> <p>Local media</p> <p>International media</p> <p>Journalist ambush</p>	
	<p>Political rallies and demonstrations</p> <p>Grassroots campaign and mobilisation</p> <p>Legal procedures</p> <p>Mobilisation procedures</p> <p>Master checklist</p> <p>Security team</p> <p>Legal team</p> <p>Channel of communications</p> <p>Programming</p> <p>The day after a demonstration</p>	
	<p>Mothering a Nation: Vision for Future Development</p> <p>Women in nation-building: importance of female representation in politics</p> <p>Ensuring equal opportunities and outcomes</p>	
	<p>Security</p> <p>Ensuring digital security on all digital platforms</p> <p>Online sexual and gender-based violence</p>	
Policy	<p>Law-making 101</p> <p>What you need to know as legislators</p> <p>Drafting a bill</p> <p>Passing a bill</p> <p>Campaigning for support to pass a legislation</p>	
	<p>Defending the Democracy</p> <p>Separation of powers at the state and federal level</p> <p>Public access to local councillors and state assemblymen</p> <p>Open inquiry to state and federal resource management</p> <p>Political funding and financing</p> <p>Whistle-blower protection</p>	
	<p>Social policies</p> <p>Housing</p>	

	Employment Education Healthcare Children and welfare Women's rights Rights of indigenous people LGBTIQ community Animal rights Environmental rights	
Personal and Professional Development	Time management The life of a full-time politician When does a politician take a break from work? Work ethics of a politician	
	Resource management Staffing Financing Ethics in the division of labour Trust your deputies and ministers	
	The politician is human too Non-politician spouse Support from members of the family The impact of politics to your personal life Self-care	

Budget

VOICE Malaysia is asking for a total sum of MYR50,000.00 to implement the first milestone of CONSCIOUS School of Politics.

Link to budget sheet:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LffKDikOZ9B05mYWTBDe0SQfyInprALLsLn10u5VaXM/edit?usp=sharing>

i. Reporting on Milestone II																															
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Contact Information

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©This proposal is developed and written by Maryam Lee.