

**ONE MALAYSIA (1MALAYSIA) CONCEPT AND CITIZEN
INTEGRATION THROUGH COMMUNITY/NEIGHBORHOOD
NETWORKING**



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Contents

- 1. Letter of Report Submission iii
- 2. Letter of Offer (Research Grant)..... iv
- 3. Acknowledgements v
- 4. Enhanced Research Title and Objectives vi
- 5. Report 1
 - 5.1 Proposed Executive Summary 1
 - 5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary.....2
 - 5.3 Introduction3
 - 5.4 Brief Literature Review5
 - 5.5 Methodology.....10
 - 5.6 Results and Discussion13
 - 5.7 Conclusion and Recommendation.....16
 - 5.8 References/Bibliography17
- 6. Research Outcomes.....19
- 7. Appendix20

2. Letter of Offer (Research Grant)

Unfortunately, the offer letter is missing (or misplaced). We have copied and pasted the table below from i-Res as proof of our registered research project.

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5. Report

5.1 Proposed Executive Summary

Issues on the erosion of harmony, disintegration and dysfunctional neighborhoods, *inter alia*, were the basis of this research and this is evidenced by reports from the media as well as speeches from politicians vying to sway the citizens' votes in the general elections. Integration among the three major ethnic groups; the Malays, Chinese and Indians is important for Malaysia. The research scope starts with something small, a case study, and can later be snowballed to encompass other residential areas.

The Ninth Malaysia Plan (2006-2010:317) emphasizes the augmentation of community development and national unity "where community level participation will be enhanced through a strong network of community services and the creation of opportunities for their engagement in social and economic activities."

The National Unity and Integration Plan (2006-2010) states that,"Among the other objectives of the plan are to boost the spirit of unity and patriotism among Malaysians and to increase the level of tolerance and harmony among the various ethnic groups in the country." The components or institutions to enhance integrity are; family, community, civil society (NGOs), socio-culture (education, health, sports and recreation, media, arts, literature and heritage), religion, economy, politics and administration.

Henceforth, the purpose of this research is to assess the level of community networking amongst the residents of a sub-urban residential area in Klang, Selangor. A networked community also includes the use of ICT where neighborhood interaction would induce racial integration. This is a survey research where the instrument used will be a questionnaire with appropriate measurement for the various antecedents derived from literature. Stratified random sampling will be employed to determine the respondents' groups, and convenience sampling will also be utilized during data collection.

5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary

Abstract

The objective of this research is to determine the challenges for setting up a community network in a suburban residential area of Selangor, Malaysia. The availability of a community network will allow residents to communicate with one another and inherently will bring them closer and integrate the community. An initial investigation revealed that 12.8% of the residents communicated with one another electronically through mobile phones but not through the proper ICT platform for community networking using the internet. Although the Pearson correlation analysis was positive, the r-value indicated a weak relationship between community networking and citizen integration ($r=.129$, $p=.456$). Other challenges of implementing a community networking include low levels of education, income and ICT skill. It is suggested that the member of parliament, the state legislative assemblyman, and the Klang Municipal Council work together to promote the awareness of using ICT among the residents as the Federal and State governments' plans for e-government services and achieving the developed nation status by 2020 will not materialize if these suburbanites are marginalized. Also, with the Prime Minister's favored 1Malaysia concept on citizen integration, this project will also fail in there is limited political will. Integrating the three major races of Malaysia is possible through information and communication technology (ICT) as the enabler.

Keywords: Community networking, social inclusion, connected citizen, 1Malaysia, integration, neighborhood networking, social capital