

Borneo Bulletin

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, SABAH AND SARAWAK

CSPS holds Train the Trainers workshop

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A WORKSHOP entitled 'Train the Trainers in Strategic Foresight and Horizon Scanning' was conducted by the Centre for Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS), and attended by participants from the Economics and Finance Division of the Wawasan Secretariat and the Department of Economic Planning and Development (JPKE) of The Prime Minister's Office.

According to a press release, the workshop facilitators included Dr Jose Ramos, Director of Action Foresight, Melbourne, Australia and Cheryl Chung, Deputy Director of Strategic Planning, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore, the event covered key theoretical and practical knowledge, contextual understanding in applying foresight approaches in policy making for the government.

The workshop consisted of three parts where the participants first brainstormed on a number of global and local issues impacting Brunei, using foresight methods to develop future-informed strategy and policy options. This provided a structured platform for 'rich conversations' leading to strategic clarity. This was followed by a four-week applied project and a three-day action learning review and design process.

According to CSPS Chief Researcher, Dr Diana Cheong, CSPS is currently the premier think tank to advise the Government of Brunei Darussalam on policy and strategic issues, with an added capacity

to conduct foresight analyses and horizon scanning for policy making. With its new mandate to be an internationally recognised foresight think tank, CSPS will organise in the future, forums, workshops and conferences in order to establish a network of foresight experts in support of its effort to develop foresight capacity among policy makers in Brunei Darussalam.



Haji Mohd Rozan bin Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yunos, Executive Director of CSPS in a group photo with workshop facilitators and trainees. – CSPS

In addition to the training, CSPS held a forum on ‘Strategic Foresight and Horizon Scanning for Policy Making’, at the CSPS Building on May 2. Present as guest of honour at the forum was Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohamad Roselan bin Haji Mohamad Daud, Acting Minister at the Prime Minister’s Office. The forum received over 100 participants comprising permanent secretaries, deputy permanent secretaries, directors and senior officers from the governments and relevant private sectors, and the CSPS Board of Directors.

Dr Jose Ramos commended CSPA for its initiative to leverage and utilise foresight knowledge into its policy studies expertise. He noted that CSPA is gaining significant capacity in the area by learning key foresight methodologies, forecasting, analysis and visioning techniques, running an action learning foresight project to gain skills and competencies in their applications and developing strategies to build foresight into policy-making process, through training, research, advisory and network approaches.

The train-the-trainers workshop concluded with a certificate presentation to the participants by Dr Jose Ramos and Haji Mohd Rozan bin Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yunus, Executive Director of CSPA.