

GLO-UM Joint Labor Economics Seminar

The Effects of Mediums of Instruction on Educational- and Labor market Outcomes: Evidence from Malaysia

19 October 2018, Friday
10.00 am to 12:00 pm

DK4, Faculty of Economics & Administration, University of Malaya

Program

10.00-10:10 am	Registration
10.10-10:15 am	Introductory remarks by Professor Niaz Asadullah, GLO Lead for South-East Asia
10:15 - 11:15 am	Lecture by Dr Rasyad Parinduri
11:15 - 11.45 am	Q & A session
11.45 - 12.30 pm	Lunch (only by invitation)

Abstract: We examine the effects of having English as a medium of instruction on labor market outcomes later in life. We exploit an exogenous variation in mediums of instruction induced by the government of Malaysia's decision to discontinue English-medium public schools and phase them out with Malay-medium public schools in 1970, which fits a fuzzy regression discontinuity design. We find some evidence that having English as a medium of instruction improves labor market outcomes. We explore some mechanisms through which mediums of instruction matter: We find having English as a medium of instruction improves English proficiency, especially reading and writing skills, and increases educational attainment, which in turn increase earnings and improve employability.



Speaker bio: Rasyad A. Parinduri is an Associate Professor of Economics at the Nottingham University Business School (NUBS), the University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus. Rasyad teaches industrial organization at the NUBS. He does research on the intersection of development economics and industrial organization using applied microeconometrics, analyzing the effects of policies and market changes on development, competition, labor outcomes, and trade. He has published in, among others, the *Journal of Development Studies*, *Economics of Transition*, *Economics of Education Review*, and *World Development*.



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