

3RD QUARTERLY REPORT

July - September 2025

The Center to Combat Corruption & Cronyism





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Building on the momentum...

We are proud to share C4 Center's Third Quarterly Report for 2025, detailing our key activities and developments from July to September. Building on the momentum of the second quarter, we remain steadfast in advancing our mission to promote good governance, transparency, and accountability in Malaysia. This report outlines our continued advocacy, policy engagement, and collaborative efforts with civil society. We extend our sincere thanks to our partners and supporters for their unwavering trust and dedication to this shared cause.



Unit A707, Pusat Dagangan Phileo Damansara 1
No. 9, Jalan 16/11, Off Jalan Damansara,
46350 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
www.c4center.org
Email: contact@c4center.org
Telephone: +603-7660 5140

23rd July, C4 Center team leads a memorandum handover to Parliament with other environmental NGOs.





Walk to Safeguard Judicial Independence

Held in Putrajaya on the 14th of July 2025



On 14 July 2025, C4 Center joined hundreds of Malaysian lawyers, civil society, and members of the public on the streets of Putrajaya to demonstrate against judicial interference. We reiterated the calls made by the Malaysian Bar for the immediate release of the Judicial Appointments Commission (JAC) meeting minutes, urgent inquiries into judicial affairs, as well as the establishment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry to investigate possible judicial interference.

This demonstration came in the wake of troubling developments affecting the judiciary. In particular, startling revelations brought to light:

- Inordinate delays in the appointment of replacements for outgoing superior court judges, in particular the positions of the

Chief Justice (CJ) of the Federal Court and President of the Court of Appeal;

- How candidates for these roles selected by the JAC were allegedly not taken into consideration or were not acted upon;
- A recent JAC meeting was allegedly called without the 10-day notice period as required by the JAC Act 2009; and
- Allegations of impropriety against a sitting Federal Court judge.

The walk saw demonstrators march from the Palace of Justice complex all the way down to the gates of the Perdana Putra Building in Putra Square. Throughout, chants demanding for a free and independent judiciary rang through.





“Jom Lawan Akta Drakonian” Memorandum Handover

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 22nd of July 2025

On 22 July 2025, C4 Center stood alongside several other Malaysian civil society organisations (CSOs) outside the gates of Parliament to demand amendments to the Peaceful Assembly Act 2012 and the repeal of the Sedition Act 1948. We were joined by a wide array of civil society movements: Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM), Amnesty International Malaysia, BERSIH 2.0, Mandiri, Himpunan Advokasi Rakyat Malaysia, Pusat Komus, Justice for Sisters and many other CSOs who were steadfast in calling for an end to oppressive laws, despite the torrential downpour.

Starting our march from within Taman Tugu, we made our way to the gates of Parliament. Despite demonstrating peacefully, we were met with heavy police presence – as the path to Parliament was barred by human barricades and even presence from the police’s Light Strike Force. With the police obstructing our path and refusing to negotiate, we were forced to stand and wait for the arrival of a total of ten Members of Parliament (MPs) to receive our memorandum for the end of repressive laws. The MPs that received our demands are as follows:

- Syed Saddiq, Member of Parliament, Muar
- Teresa Kok, Member of Parliament, Seputeh
- Syed Ibrahim Syed Noh, Member of Parliament, Ledang
- Khoo Poay Tiong, Member of Parliament, Kota Melaka

- Isnaraissah Munirah Majilis, Member of Parliament, Kota Belud
- Syerleena Abdul Rashid, Member of Parliament, Bukit Bendera
- Wan Ahmad Fayhsal, Member of Parliament, Machang
- Kelvin Yii, Member of Parliament, Bandar Kuching
- Wilfred Madius Tangau, Member of Parliament, Tuaran
- Adam Adli, Member of Parliament, Hang Tuah Jaya

C4 Center emphasises that the right to assemble peacefully must always be protected. The refusal from authorities to allow peaceful demonstrators access to Parliament is a shameful affront to democratic principles and their blatant show of force requires the utmost condemnation.





Consultation with Federal Government Agencies on Freedom of Information Bill

Held in Putrajaya on the 11th to 12th of July 2025

C4 Center continued our work with the Pro Tem Committee for the drafting of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill over this quarter, with monthly meetings to refine the broad policies of the Act. As part of this process, it was necessary to consult with all federal ministries and agencies who would be subject to the stipulations of this new framework. Hence, the Pro Tem Committee organised a two-day consultation session with federal ministries and agencies.

Participants were briefed on the broad principles of the Act and major points of contention, and they were then given the space to state their concerns and seek clarifications. The participants provided us with valuable insights on the potential gaps and hurdles that may arise in the implementation of this framework. This was another opportunity for us to hear from government representatives on their concerns regarding key reforms, so that we can respond better to these concerns.



CSO Consultation Session: NAPTIP 3.0 Review

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 18th of August 2025

On 18 August 2025, the CSO Consultation Session: National Action Plan for Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) 3.0 Review was held in Kuala Lumpur, jointly hosted by the Anti-Human Trafficking Council (MAPO) under the Ministry of Home Affairs and International Justice Mission. NAPTIP 3.0 is due to reach its end by the end of 2025, hence, the event aimed to gather CSO feedback regarding the effectiveness of its provisions over the last 5 years, assessing its usefulness across different areas including risk-assessment of human trafficking activities, methods in combating instances of human trafficking, and providing support to those victims. As such, the consultation session also intended to identify the shortcomings of NAPTIP 3.0 in order to craft an improved and robust NAPTIP 4.0, which is due to begin implementation in 2026. C4 Center was invited to attend the consultation session, having previously worked on the subject of migrant labour corruption and recognising clear intersections between corruption and trafficking. Our feedback was centred around improving oversight and enforcement efforts such that the trans-national and organised criminal networks can be adequately stymied in an effort to crack down on trafficking.



UNODC Regional Workshop on Integrity in Public Procurement: The Key to Economic Growth

Held in Kuching on the 27th to 28th of August 2025

The “Regional Workshop on Integrity in Public Procurement: The Key to Economic Growth” was held from 27–28 August 2025 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. The workshop was co-organized by the Office of the Sarawak Ombudsman (Government of Sarawak), in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and supported by the United States Department of State’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

The workshop brought together 109 participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Participants and speakers included senior officials from Ombudsman offices, ministries of finance, public procurement agencies, competition commissions, defence, oversight bodies, integrity commissions, anti-corruption agencies, as well as representatives from civil society organizations and universities. International organizations such as UNODC, the Asian Development Bank, and Transparency International contributed expertise and facilitated peer exchange.

The workshop’s main aims were to strengthen regional capacity on integrity in public procure-

ment, share practical strategies and good practices for promoting transparency and accountability, and address legal, institutional, and operational challenges in procurement systems. Participants were also asked to identify technical assistance and capacity-building needs among the different participating countries.

Representatives from C4 Center attended the event as participants but also as a speaker – CEO Pushpan Murugiah was a panelist on the subject of “Effective Civil Society Engagement” where he stressed the importance of institutional reforms and the need for comprehensive and robust laws that deal with grand corruption at its root. As participants, C4 Center contributed to discussions concerning strategies and best practices for improving public procurement oversight.





Joint CSO Press Conference on the Government Procurement Act

Held in Petaling Jaya on the 9th of September 2025

On 9 September 2025, C4 Center together with 23 other civil society organisations (CSOs) and seven individuals called attention to the passing of the Government Procurement Act (GPA) 2025. Together with C4 Center, Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM), Bersih 2.0, and the Society for Equality, Respect And Trust for All Sabah (SERATA) held a joint press conference to communicate our concerns surrounding the GPA 2025 to the public.

We called attention to various problems with the law and the legislative process taken to pass it, namely how:

- 1. The law grants huge discretionary powers to the Minister of Finance:** The Minister of Finance is empowered to approve procurement contracts, set the procedures by which they are approved, and even to appoint members of the Appeal Tribunal. The Minister of Finance also has wide powers of exemption which makes applicability of the law subject to their discretion.
- 2. The check and balance mechanisms are weak and inadequate:** The Appeal Tribunal is non-independent from the influence of Ministers,

adding to the fact that the mechanism itself is inadequate. Furthermore, there is no provision that ensures transparency and public scrutiny. Instead, the duty to publish information is completely discretionary and decided by the Registrar who is also answerable to the Executive.

- 3. The hasty process by which the Bill was passed:** The duration between the submission of the Bill by the Attorney-General's Chambers and the Bill being voted on by the Dewan Rakyat took place within a span of only 16 days. This raises serious questions as to why such a monumental Bill, consisting of 91 pages and 93 clauses, was not given the due time that was needed for all Members of Parliament (MPs) to adequately assess and respond to it.
- 4. The Parliamentary Special Select Committee (PSSC) was completely sidestepped by the government:** The PSSC on Finance and Economy was not consulted at all during the drafting process of the Bill. Further, despite Standing Order 80B(3) stating that the relevant PSSC shall "scrutinize

Bills” that have been read the first time, the Government refused to allow time for the PSSC to consider the Bill and proceeded with debate anyway.

5. Key consultations and feedback from relevant stakeholders were either not held or completely ignored: The Ministry of Finance’s engagements and updates on the status of the Bill were limited. It is clear that many of the recommendations provided by CSOs were roundly ignored. These include the reduction of the role of the Minister of Finance in the procurement process, and prescribing a minimum standard for the mandatory publishing of procurement-related information.

6. Government MPs misrepresented legitimate criticism of the Bill: Many MPs who expressed support for the Bill in the Dewan Rakyat countered criticism by referring to policy positions not even found in the Bill, such as “Parliamentary controls” or “checks-and-balances” of government procurement.

Additionally, C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah took several government MPs to task, calling out their uncritical support of the Bill and holding them accountable for any future scandals involving procurement. C4 Center Head of Research and Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan also raised concerns surrounding the appeals process, flagging several areas in the law that limits its independence. SERATA Co-Founder Robert Hii also sounded the alarm on how future scandals may occur within the framework presented by the GPA 2025, essentially codifying corrupt practices in law.

Alongside this, SUARAM Executive Director Azura Nasron and Bersih 2.0 Chairperson Faisal Aziz condemned the government for its continual failures in ensuring proper reforms. In particular, SUARAM decried the introduction of numerous repressive and flawed legislation including amendments to the Police Act 1967, and the tablings of the Mufti (Federal Territories) Bill 2024 and the Urban Renewal Bill 2025. To add to this, Bersih 2.0 heavily criticised the government’s rushing of the GPA 2025, seeing as how the Bill was made to pass without meaningful input from the public, while also bypassing the Parliamentary Special Select Committee on Finance and Economy.

Together we are united in the stance that this legislation will bring major harm to Malaysia’s long term future if the identified flaws are not addressed.

Our statement and calls were endorsed by:

1. The Center to Combat Corruption and Cronyism (C4 Center)
2. Rasuah Busters

3. Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM)
4. Society for Equality, Respect and Trust for All Sabah (SERATA)
5. BERSIH
6. Pusat KOMAS
7. North South Initiative
8. Islamic Renaissance Front
9. Lawyer Kamek, Sarawak
10. Persatuan Pemangkin Daya Masyarakat (ROSE)
11. Jaringan Pekerja Kontrak Kerajaan (JPKK)
12. Zero Waste Sabah
13. Gindol Initiative for Civil Society Borneo
14. Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ)
15. SaveKL Coalition
16. Agora Society Malaysia
17. Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia (RRAAM)
18. CSO Platform for Reform
19. Greenpeace Malaysia
20. SIUMAN Collective
21. Project Stability and Accountability for Malaysia (Projek SAMA)
22. Persatuan Kebajikan Sokongan Keluarga Selangor & Kuala Lumpur (Association of Family Support & Welfare Selangor & Kuala Lumpur) (Family Frontiers)
23. Klima Action Malaysia (KAMY)
24. Adrian Anthony Pereira
25. Prof Edmund Terence Gomez
26. Cynthia Gabriel
27. Datuk Hussamuddin Yaacob
28. Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar
29. Shah Hakim Zain
30. Dato’ Hjh Sutinah Sutan





ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE



Engagement Session between NRES and Consultation Panel on the Climate Change Act

Held in Putrajaya on the 3rd of July 2025

On 03 July 2025, C4 Center had the opportunity to join a stakeholder session between NRES and the Climate Change Consultation Panel to discuss the upcoming Climate Change Act (CCA), also known as RUUPIN (Rang Undang-Undang Perubahan Iklim Negara). During the session, NRES confirmed that the RUUPIN is currently under review by the Attorney General's Chambers and is scheduled to be tabled in Parliament in August 2025. However, the draft is not accessible to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) or the advisory panel members who contributed to its development. NRES stated that the draft will only be available once it is tabled in Parliament.

On the subject of mitigation and adaptation, NRES acknowledged inputs from previous CSO consultations and noted that Part IV of RUUPIN will now include provisions for adaptation actions. Nonetheless, specific regulated activities have not yet been disclosed. The Minister will be empowered to regulate, coordinate, and formulate national-level mitigation and adaptation efforts, including conducting climate risk assessments and obtaining necessary information to support such actions. No specific climate targets were shared during the session.

The RUUPIN will also regulate a National Carbon Registry, an Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), and the implementation of a carbon tax. The carbon tax is expected to be rolled out in 2026, with

ETS following in the next 2–3 years. However, the operational details remain under discussion. Currently, RUUPIN only mandates emissions reporting from facilities, without establishing any emissions limits. The Ministry of Finance will collaborate with NRES in determining industries that must comply with carbon tax and ETS regulations.

NRES also revealed plans to introduce a separate bill, RUUIKLIM, to establish a statutory body called the National Climate Change Authority (PBPIN), which will implement RUUPIN's functions. PBPIN will also be the sole authority allowed to access GHG emissions data for monitoring and reporting purposes. The bill will also establish a Climate Change Fund to support mitigation, adaptation, and related initiatives. CSOs raised several concerns during the session, including a lack of alignment between RUUPIN and the Environmental Quality Act 1974 (EQA1974), the absence of regulation for the Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM), and limited jurisdiction over CCUS development. These gaps raise issues in enforcement, data access, and community grievance mechanisms for carbon credit projects.

Hence, C4 Center will closely monitor the development and eventual tabling of RUUPIN to ensure that the Act delivers on its intended goals in a transparent, accountable, and inclusive manner.



South East Asia Parliamentarians and Civil Society Organisations Workshop on the Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Human Rights

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 4th to 5th of July 2025

BFFP Asia Pacific and ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights together with civil society organisations (CSOs) in South East Asia countries, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam participated in a one and half day workshop attended by members of parliament and government agencies. Participants had the opportunity to exchange information and expertise about transboundary plastic pollution and its impact on the right to a safe and healthy environment in ASEAN. Through interactive sessions, and roundtable discussions, participants also examine the current laws, policies, enforcement challenges in the efforts to curb illegal waste trafficking and waste crimes in the region and sharing of best practices. At the end of the workshop, participants completed a joint statement about plastic and its impacts on human rights in ASEAN which was presented to the chairperson of the

ASEAN Senior Officials on Environment (ASO-EN). Respective CSOs in the region also prepared follow-up actions for the crafted joint statement according to the relevance to their respective advocacy efforts on plastic pollution in their countries.

C4 Center's Environmental Research Officer, Nabila Zulkeflee and Wong Si Peng, Events and Project Officer participated in the workshop which presented an opportunity to meet and learn from other CSOs in the region on the impact of waste crimes in their respective countries. C4 Center together with BAN Toxics from the Philippines collaborated in the organising of Session 3 of the workshop with a panel discussion on "Policy and Enforcement Against Plastic Waste Trafficking - Challenges and Opportunities".



Memorandum calling for leadership and ambition at upcoming Global Plastic Treaty negotiations handed to MPs at Parliament

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 23rd of July 2025

Less than two weeks before the resumed fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to prepare an legally binding instrument to address plastic pollution across the full lifecycle of plastic, C4 Center, Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP), Environmental Protection Society Malaysia (EPSM), Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), Zero Waste Malaysia and Zero Waste Sabah met and delivered a memorandum to Members of Parliaments (MPs), calling for high ambition from Malaysia at the Global Plastic Treaty negotiations, urging the MPs to bring the voices of the people to the Prime Minister and cabinet.

The memorandum garnered support of over 100 signatories from a wide range of interests/disciplines including marine and ocean conservation groups, community organisations such as resident associations and Indigenous Peoples organisations, businesses impacted by plastic pollution such as island resorts, hawkers associations and sustainable solution businesses. The memoran-

dum handover was attended by civil society organisation (CSO) representatives from CAP, Zero Waste Malaysia, SAM including representatives from sustainable businesses such as KitaRefill and Refiller Mobile Enterprise.

YB Lee Chean Chung (MP Petaling Jaya), YB Datuk Willie Anak Mongin (MP Puncak Borneo) and YB Dato' Dr Ahmad Yunus Hairi (MP Kuala Langat) came out to receive the memorandum. Kuala Langat is an area badly affected by pollution caused by imported plastic and electronic waste. He shared his thoughts on how the treaty is a chance for Malaysia to lead the region as the ASEAN Chair with a firm and aspirational voice in protecting the health of Malaysians and the environment from the plastic crisis. YB Lee added that while Malaysia does not want to be the world's rubbish bin, we also need to tackle our own generation of plastic waste through systemic changes away from single-use plastics.



Observing the INC on plastic pollution at the United Nations, Geneva office

Held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 5th to 14th of August 2025

From 5 – 14 August 2025, member states of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) resumed the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to prepare a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution across the full lifecycle of plastics. INC5.2 with 10 full days of negotiations allocated, is the longest INC session, gave the false impression that it will end with the treaty text in sight.

C4 Center's Event and Project Officer, Wong Si Peng is actively engaging with the Malaysia's delegation to the INC, including during the intersessional period after the end of INC5 in Busan with clarity that negotiations will be resumed with the Chair's Text as the basis for negotiations. C4 Center submitted written recommendations on text proposals for consideration by the Malaysian delegation with flexibility to meet stronger provisions in some of the treaty articles, including the need for mandatory reporting, clear and predictable financing to enable implementation of treaty obligations. C4 Center also collaborated with regional and Malaysian CSOs following the development of the plastic treaty, to organise 3 online webinars and briefings providing technical information on reuse systems in the circular economy and a regional webinar conducted by independent scientists from the Scientists Coalition for an effective Plastic Treaty which covered the economic impacts of plastic production reduction and sustainable consumption.

Through the sponsorship from the Global Alliance for

Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA), SiPeng made the over 10,000km journey to Geneva to attend INC5.2 in-person as a UNEP accredited observer. She followed negotiations in Contact Group 4 which had the mandate to discuss specific articles in the treaty text from Objective, Principles and Approaches, Preamble, Implementation, National Plans, Reporting, Effectiveness Evaluation, Public Information, Awareness, Article 19 on Health, Article 20 on the Conference of Parties, adoption and Amendment of Annexes, to the final provisions of the treaty.

When negotiations moved into closed sessions which are not accessible to observers, our officer took part in civil society actions organised by a coalition of CSOs at the entrance to plenary meeting hall at the Palais des Nations, reminding member state delegations to keep their promise to end plastic pollution as they negotiate behind closed doors. On the final day of INC5.2, 14 Aug, SiPeng represented the Asia Pacific communities impacted by waste trade at a Global South press conference organised by GAIA. Although INC5.2 ended without agreement on any of the proposed versions of the Chair's text, there is now wider acceptance from member states on the harms of chemicals in plastics to human health and this treaty cannot be a waste management treaty. This participation in the UNEP process has provided our officer learning and exposure on the need to improve CSO participation in the development of a multilateral environmental agreement.



CSO Roundtable Discussion on GEDSI Policy Paper JET

Held in Petaling Jaya on the 20th of August 2025

On 20 August 2025, C4 Center had the opportunity to participate in and help moderate the National Convening for the Development of a Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) Policy Paper on Just Energy Transition for Malaysia. The roundtable discussion was organised by Treat Every Environment Special (TrEES), under the Malaysian chapter (MCCG) of the Climate Action Network-Southeast Asia (CANSEA), and brought together a wide range of civil society organisations (CSOs), policy advocates, and grassroots representatives.

The convening included participation from key organisations such as Agora Society Malaysia, the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG), the CSO Platform for Reform, Greenpeace Malaysia, and others. These groups contributed diverse insights rooted in gender rights, disability inclusion, environmental justice, and sustainable development. The session began with a plenary that introduced the draft GEDSI Policy Paper, providing a shared understanding of its objectives, structure, and key themes surrounding a just energy transition in Malaysia.

The main agenda of the day focused on break-out sessions, where participants were divided

into working groups to provide input on specific themes: gender dimensions of the energy transition, disability inclusion in clean energy systems, social inclusion of marginalised communities, and the intersectional challenges and data gaps that persist in policy design and implementation. C4 Center was given the opportunity to moderate several of these sessions and helped document key feedback and recommendations shared by participants.

The event concluded with a collective reflection, where each group presented their findings and policy suggestions. These inputs will be incorporated into the final GEDSI Policy Paper, which will be formally handed over to the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA). The convening marked a critical step in ensuring that Malaysia's energy transition is not only environmentally sound, but also inclusive, equitable, and rooted in human rights and social justice.





SLU Dialogue on Budget 2026 with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES)

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 27th of August 2025

C4 Center took part in the Sesi Libat Urus (SLU) Dialogue for Budget 2026 organised by NRES and the dialogue was headed by the interim minister, Johari Abdul Ghani. The objective of the session was to gather concerns, insights, and recommendations from stakeholders including government agencies, industry players, and civil society organisations for consideration in the ministry's 2026 budget planning.

During the session, a wide range of environmental priorities were presented, covering key areas such as the role of NRES under the Malaysia National Adaptation Plan (MYNAP), climate financing and incentives, ongoing legislative and policy developments, and national efforts on climate adaptation. Stakeholders also addressed the importance of improved environmental data and information sharing,

pollution control reforms, and the need for stronger legal frameworks.

Discussions further touched on intergovernmental coordination between federal and state levels, global and indigenous considerations in environmental financing, and proposals related to infrastructure and national heritage including the establishment of a National Heritage Museum to promote environmental awareness.

C4 Center will continue to monitor the development of NRES's budget planning and implementation to ensure environmental governance remains transparent, inclusive, and accountable.



Strategic Meeting on Rare Earth Element (REE) Mining

Held in Penang on the 11th to 13th of September 2025

C4 Center participated in a strategic meeting on rare earth element (REE) mining organised by Sahabat Alam Malaysia in Penang. The meeting aimed to discuss the wide-ranging impacts of REE mining, particularly on Indigenous land rights, forest ecosystems, and environmentally sensitive areas (KSAS). It brought together civil society organisations (CSOs), community representatives, and environmental advocates to deepen collective understanding and coordinate strategies in response to the growing interest in REE extraction within Malaysia.

The discussion focused on key issues including the development of national and international policies and legislation related to REE mining and trade, especially within the context of a just energy transition and the global climate crisis. Participants also explored the risks REE mining poses to customary Indigenous territories, forest reserves, and KSAS in Peninsular Malaysia. The meeting further addressed ongoing and planned REE mining projects and their ties to the financial sector,

raising concerns about accountability, environmental governance, and the protection of community rights.

The session also served to enhance participants' understanding of policy frameworks and project developments linked to REE, while strengthening the network between CSOs and local communities. It highlighted the urgent need for shared advocacy to ensure the protection of Indigenous rights and ecological sustainability in the face of expanding REE operations.

Through this meeting, C4 Center and fellow CSOs have established a foundation for future action on REE-related issues. This includes plans to conduct in-depth research on REE mining governance, identify legal and policy loopholes, assess corruption risks, and examine financial linkages. In addition, participating organisations began strategising coordinated advocacy efforts to address the environmental and social challenges posed by the REE industry in Malaysia.

A network diagram consisting of eight wooden blocks arranged in a circular pattern on a dark blue background. Each block features a purple icon of a person in a suit. The blocks are interconnected by thin purple lines, forming a web-like structure. The text "OUTREACH & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS" is overlaid in the center in a white serif font.

OUTREACH & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS



UNODC Participation in UNODC Expert Group Meeting

Held in Vienna, Austria, on the 2nd and 3rd of June 2025

C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption as a Facilitator of Trafficking in Persons, an event hosted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the Vienna International Centre in Austria from June 2–3. He contributed as a key facilitator and subject matter expert in the gathering, which convened approximately 30 global experts tasked with analyzing the complex, cross-regional nexus between corruption and human trafficking. The meeting focused on identifying the structural enablers of trafficking and developing coordinated international responses.

During the session, Pushpan delivered crucial insights centered on Malaysia's structural vulnerabilities and how systemic corruption fuels traffick-

ing within the region. His presentation detailed the varied forms of corruption involved, specifically highlighting the critical interplay between grand corruption, often executed by political elites, and petty corruption at the operational level. He emphasized how this dynamic creates significant opportunities for international syndicates to exploit global and domestic supply chains. Participation in such expert dialogues is considered critical for building robust global frameworks and actionable solutions to effectively combat these pressing transnational issues.



Meeting with the Leader of the Opposition

Held in Kuala Lumpur on 1st of July 2025

On 1 July 2025, C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah and Head of Research & Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan participated in a meeting with Leader of the Opposition Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainudin and several senior Perikatan Nasional leaders. The meeting, which also involved other civil society organisations, provided an important platform to engage opposition representatives on national reform priorities and governance issues.

During the discussion, we underscored the urgent need to strengthen whistleblower protection mechanisms and to promote transparency and accountability in political financing. We emphasised that these reforms are essential to curbing corruption and ensuring integrity in Malaysia's democratic institutions. This engagement formed part of C4 Center's ongoing effort to foster bipartisan dialogue and commitment to the reform agenda.



UNODC Journalists Against Corruption Public Procurement Workshop:

Bridging Voices Against Corruption in Public procurement

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 8th and 9th of July 2025

A big thank you to Journalists Against Corruption (JAC) for the invitation to our CEO, Mr Pushpan to speak on Public Procurement — and to share insights on the diverse levels and modalities across the ASEAN region. This workshop was held on the 8 & 9 of July in Kuala Lumpur.

This workshop brought together journalists and media organisations to strengthen their ability to understand, investigate, and report corruption in public procurement — using the

power of regional cooperation and shared expertise. Civil society, journalists, and academics must work together — bridging knowledge, articulating clear narratives, and strategising effective ways to dismantle corrupt systems particularly in public procurement.

Corruption in public procurement endangers countless lives and hinders national development



Meeting with YB Lee Chean Chung, MP for Petaling Jaya

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 14th of July 2025

On 14 July 2025, C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah and Head of Research & Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan met with YB Lee Chean Chung, Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya, to discuss key reform issues related to governance and public accountability. The meeting addressed the importance of strengthening local council governance and improving oversight mechanisms to ensure effective and transparent service delivery at the municipal level.

We also discussed plastic waste management reform and related environmental governance challenges. We highlighted the need for stronger anti-corruption safeguards within environmental policymaking and emphasised how transparency and integrity must underpin Malaysia's broader sustainability and waste management strategies.



Civil Society Briefing on Whistleblower Protection Act Amendments

Held in Petaling Jaya on the 7th of August 2025

On 7 August 2025, C4 Center, in collaboration with CSO Platform for Reform, organised a briefing session for civil society organisations on the recently passed amendments to the Whistleblower Protection Act 2010. The session aimed to inform and equip civil society actors with a clear understanding of the new legal provisions, their implications for governance and accountability, and the practical challenges that may arise in their implementation.

During the briefing, C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah and Head of Research & Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan delivered presenta-

tions analysing the key changes introduced by the amendments and how they align with Malaysia's broader reform landscape. The discussion situated whistleblower protection within the expected introduction of ombudsman and freedom of information laws, highlighting the need for coherence and institutional coordination across these reform areas. The session reaffirmed C4 Center's commitment to strengthening Malaysia's integrity framework and enhancing protection mechanisms for those who expose wrongdoing in the public interest.



Regional Consultation on Forced Labour: Ethical Business Practices in Supply Chain

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 19th of August 2025

Our CEO, Mr. Pushpan was invited to speak on – corruption within labour migration systems. He presented a clear, step-by-step look at where corruption happens in migrant labour systems and recruitment processes. Each point in the chain is unpacked to show how it is done. From cartels controlling recruitment to the cost borne by employers, workers, and governments. Crucially, he also highlighted how such corruption directly undermines ethical business practices in global supply chains. When exploitation

is embedded in how labour is recruited and moved, businesses face serious risks—legal, reputational, and operational. This session sets the foundation for understanding the problem as a necessary first step toward building transparent, fair, and responsible recruitment systems that support ethical and sustainable supply chain.



Meeting with Senator Dr Jufitri Joha

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 4th of September 2025

On 4 September 2025, C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah and Head of Research & Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan met with Senator Dr Jufitri Joha to discuss current reform priorities in Parliament. The meeting focused on the proposed Government Procurement Act, with both representatives stressing the importance of ensuring strong accountability mechanisms, transparency standards, and public oversight provisions within the forthcoming legislation.

We also discussed broader parliamentary

reform priorities, including the need for consistent multi-stakeholder engagement in the legislative process. The meeting reinforced C4 Center's role in promoting institutional reforms that advance transparency, integrity, and public trust in Malaysia's governance systems.



2025 SUHAKAM Day Consultation: Strengthening of SUHAKAM through the 2026 Re-accreditation Process

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 9th of September 2025

The Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) organised a consultation on its 2026 re-accreditation process in conjunction with the 2025 SUHAKAM Day Celebration. As a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI), SUHAKAM is subject to an international peer review process by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). This periodic review process ensures an NHRI's compliance with the internationally recognised minimum standards for NHRIs to be considered credible i.e. the Paris Principles, to ensure independence, pluralism and accountability.

During this consultation, SUHAKAM representatives provided updates on the recently passed amendments to the SUHAKAM Act 1999 and shared SUHAKAM's achievements and challenges from 2021 to 2025. Participants

also were given the opportunity to provide feedback on how SUHAKAM should improve and strengthen its effectiveness and independence in performing its mandate as an NHRI.

C4 Center was represented at the consultation by Policy and Legal Research Officer, Prishanth Linggaraj. During the session, Prishanth emphasised the remaining gaps in SUHAKAM's parent Act and governing framework that allowed for the risk of executive interference, through the lack of independence for appointments. C4 Center recognises the importance of an effective and autonomous NHRI in exercising oversight on government, and will continue working together with fellow CSOs to advocate for SUHAKAM's independence.



INSAP Urban Affairs Policy Summit (UAPS) 2025

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 27th of September 2025

At the INSAP Urban Affairs Policy Summit (UAPS) 2025, C4 Center's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Pushpan Murugiah, served as Moderator for Thematic Presentation & Panel 2: "Urbanisation Policies and Its Challenges in Malaysia." The session examined the proposed Urban Renewal Act (URA) through the lenses of good governance, legal safeguards, and urban planning integrity. The discussion brought together experts and policy advisors to explore best practices in urban design, accountability, and property rights, while analysing how the URA intersects with existing planning and land laws. Mr Pushpan guided the conversation toward a critical question: does the URA Bill enhance

or erode constitutional safeguards and public accountability? He underscored C4 Center's view that urban renewal must not come at the expense of citizens' rights or transparent governance. Urban development, he noted, should prioritise inclusive, participatory, and accountable processes that ensure better quality living for all Malaysians.



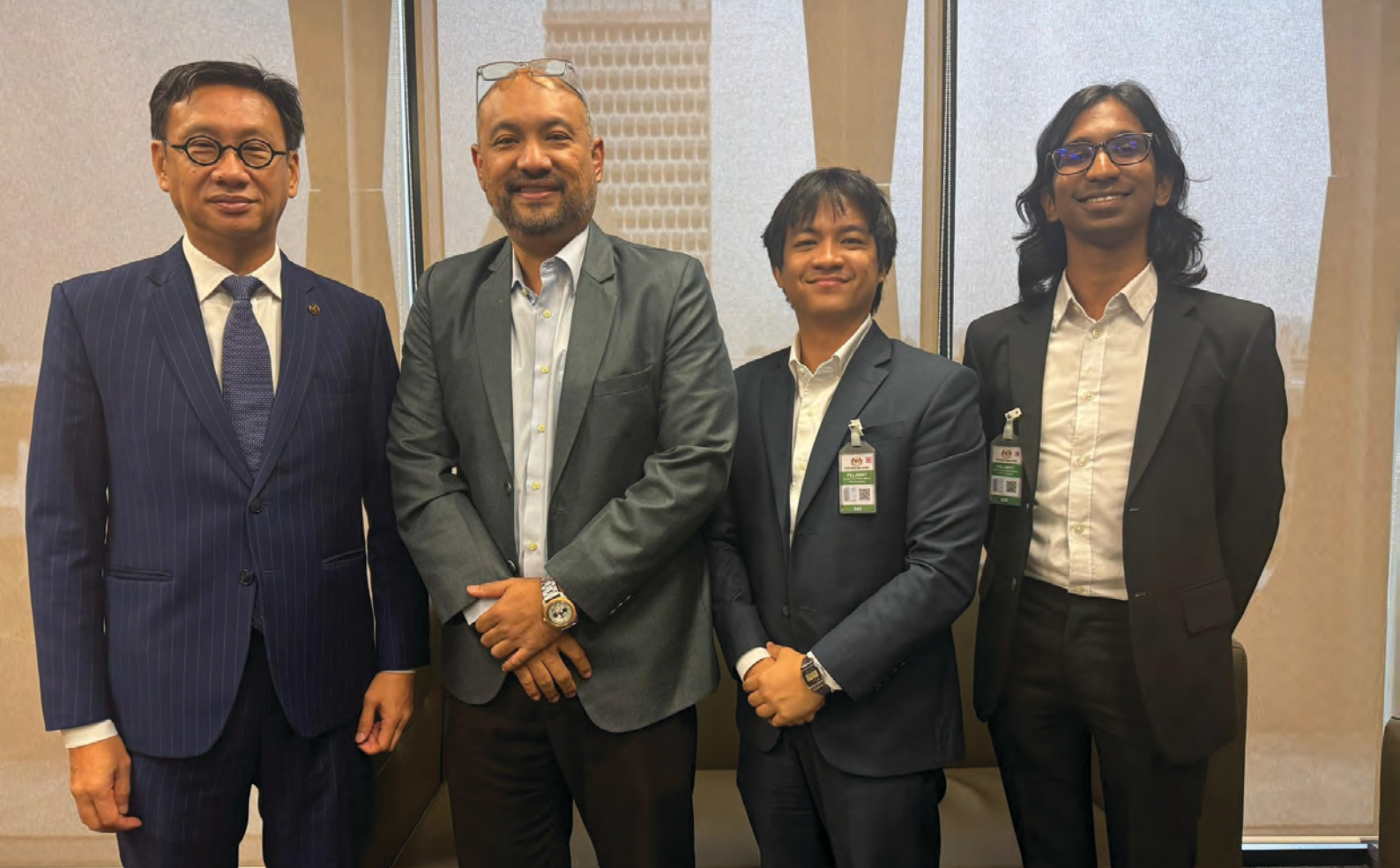
The Third International Conference on Anti-Corruption Innovations in Bangkok

Held in Bangkok, Thailand on the 21st of August 2025

Our Chief Executive Officer, Mr Pushpan Murugiah, was invited to speak on the theme “Government Procurement Transparency and Auditing Government Projects.”

In his presentation, Mr Pushpan highlighted the persistent blind spots in Malaysia’s public procurement system. He drew attention to the various modalities of procurement—particularly Government-to-Government (G2G) projects and Government-Linked Companies (GLCs)—which are often framed as strategic partnerships in sectors such as infrastructure, defence, and energy. However, he cautioned that these arrangements frequently escape standard procurement safeguards under the guise of “diplomatic agreements.” While the deals are negotiated behind closed doors, the costs are ultimately borne by taxpayers, who are denied access to critical information. Mr Pushpan further noted that Malaysian GLCs command vast sectors of the national economy—oil and gas, transport, and construction—yet their procurement processes remain largely shielded from public scrutiny, despite being financed through public funds and state guarantees.

When contracts are inflated or channelled to politically connected subsidiaries, public resources are effectively siphoned away from national development priorities. In charting the way forward, Mr Pushpan underscored that addressing procurement risks demands systemic reform anchored in transparency, accountability, and public participation. He called for the mandatory adoption of the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) to ensure all procurement information—from planning to implementation—is publicly accessible. He emphasised the need for independent audit bodies with real enforcement powers, including the ability to investigate, sanction, or rescind corrupt contracts. Linking beneficial ownership data to procurement was highlighted as crucial to prevent shell companies or political proxies from capturing major projects. Mr Pushpan also advocated for open and accountable e-procurement systems that go beyond administrative efficiency, and for the institutionalisation of citizen and civil society oversight through social audits, public hearings, and civic monitoring—ensuring that public procurement truly serves the people’s interest.



Briefing for YB Wong Chen on Whistleblower Protection Act Amendments

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 22nd of July 2025

Upon the tabling of the Whistleblower Protection (Amendment) Bill 2025, C4 Center representatives had the opportunity to brief the Member of Parliament (MP) for Subang, Wong Chen in Parliament. Accompanying C4 Center Chief Executive Officer Pushpan Murugiah was our Head of Research and Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan and Policy and Legal Research Officer Prishanth Linggaraj.

During the meeting, we had the opportunity to elaborate on the advantages of this set of amendments as well as the shortcomings and gaps that remain to be addressed. We hope we can continue having briefing sessions like this with our elected representatives to develop more robust political discourse. We thank YB Wong Chen for allowing us the time to meet with him during his busy Parliamentary schedule.



Meeting with YB Wong Chen in Parliament

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 5th of August 2025

On 5 August 2025, C4 Center had the pleasure of meeting the Member of Parliament for Subang, Yang Berhormat Wong Chen in Parliament. Accompanying C4 Center Chief CEO Pushpan Murugiah was our Head of Research and Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan, Environmental Governance Research Officer Nabila Zulkeflee, Research and Communications Officer Benjamin Tiong, and Special Projects Officer Eva Macias.

During the meeting, we had a frank discussion on the state of reforms in Malaysia, and how the reform movement can progress in the future. We highlighted current issues that covered topics related to political financing, whistleblower protection, and environmental governance. We thank YB Wong Chen for allowing us the time to meet with him during his busy Parliamentary schedule.



Coalition Building for Better Governance in Sabah

Held in Kota Kinabalu on the 14th of August 2025

On 14 August 2025, C4 Center organised the event, “Coalition Building for Better Governance in Sabah” in Cititel Express Kota Kinabalu. C4

Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah was joined by our Head of Research and Policy Advocacy Arief Hamizan and Research and Communications Officer Benjamin Tiong to organise the event. C4 Center was thankful to have the participation of several prominent Sabah-based civil society organisations (CSOs), who shared their concerns on the state of governance in Sabah.



With the recent Sabah mineral scandal exposing deep-rooted issues of governance and corruption in the highest rungs of Sabah’s government, it became evident that greater collaboration and outreach was required between C4 Center and Sabah CSOs. As a result, this event sought to explore future collaboration avenues with various Sabah CSOs, who represent a broad range of issues: gender equality, access to healthcare, wildlife protection, and waste management.

Throughout our discussions with them, it became evident that the issues of governance and corruption in Sabah are not reserved to one particular aspect of society, but are apparent throughout all layers. Although distressing, these discussions emboldened both us and the CSOs present to further pursue our advocacy efforts having established a clearer picture ahead of us.



Anti-Money Laundering Awareness Workshop with the North-South Initiative

Held in Kuala Lumpur on the 16th of August 2025

On 16 August 2025, C4 Center held an anti-money laundering workshop at the office of the North-South Initiative (NSI) together with the leaders from various migrant worker communities. In recognising the risks faced by migrant worker communities to money laundering and other forms of financial fraud, NSI approached C4 Center to conduct an awareness and educational programme with the migrant community.

Joining C4 Center CEO Pushpan Murugiah was our Research and Communications Officer Benjamin Tiong. During our session, we talked about the basics of money laundering and how it impacts vulnerable communities. The workshop served to equip migrant communities with information that may assist them in the future. We thank NSI for the opportunity to engage with and inform vulnerable communities on corruption issues.



Legal Aid Programme In Collaboration with Selangor State Bar Committee and Legal Aid Centre Selangor

Held in Petaling Jaya on the 18th of June to 17th of September 2025

As part of a continuing partnership with the Selangor State Bar Committee and Legal Aid Centre Selangor, C4 Center took on one batch of 19 pupils as part of their legal aid duties between June to September 2025. This group represents the fifth batch of pupils that C4 Center has taken on during this partnership. The legal aid programme is pursuant to Rule 10.06 of the Bar Council Rules and Rulings and as part of the mandatory 9-month pupillage period, for any person to be admitted as a qualified legal practitioner with the right appearance in court, they must perform 14 days of legal aid services. During their time with us, they were exposed to anti-corruption and good governance and the legal issues arising therefrom.

Every Wednesday for 14 weeks, the pupils underwent workshops on various topics relevant to C4 Center's mandate, such as anti-corruption governance, government procurement, political financing, international human rights law, and environmental governance. These sessions were conducted by the research officers in a conversational and informal manner, in order to stimulate open and free discussions on the nuances of these often complex issues. Additionally, pupils were tasked with assignments to allow them to apply their knowledge of anti-corruption and gover-

nance principles in a practical manner. These assignments were typically research-focused, which saw them tasked with researching topics related to the plethora of issues raised during weekly workshops.

Alongside these workshops, C4 Center organised a field visit to the Malaysian Parliament. During the visit, the pupils were allowed to view the inside of both the Dewan Rakyat and the Dewan Negara. Throughout, C4 Center Policy and Legal Research Officer Prishanth Linggaraj was on-hand to guide and share knowledge on the history of Parliament as an institution as well as information on the legislative process. This visit also presented them with the opportunity to observe a Parliamentary sitting in-person, with Members of Parliament debating the 13th Malaysia Plan at the time.

From these activities, it is hoped that C4 Center will be able to grant them a deeper understanding of the laws which form part of their day-to-day occupations. It is C4 Center's hope that by providing this exposure to pupils, they might be encouraged to pursue future careers focused on public interest issues – particularly legal and institutional reform in Malaysia.

Q3 MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

10

*Press Statements released
in Quarter 3 of 2025*



At least

51

*mentions of C4
Center in the media*



Compared to previous quarter

→ 61.8% ↑

Views

261k

Likes

16k

103.5% ↑

Comments

1.4k

-57.6% ↓

Shares

5.6k

37.6% ↑



Compared to previous quarter

→ 625.4% ↑

Views

318.6 k

Reach

149.2k

691.3% ↑

Interactions

15.6k

901.7% ↑

*New
Follows*

1k

686.5% ↑



Compared to previous quarter

→ 740.4% ↑

Views

98.9k

Visits

2.8k

87.7% ↑

Interactions

2.8k

563.4% ↑

*New
Follows*

217

429.3% ↑