11 May 2014

ISIF Asia Secretariat  
Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC)  
6 Cordelia Street,  
South Brisbane, QLD,  
4101 Australia  
PO Box 3646

Dear Sir/Madam,

STATUS OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, MALAYSIA’S LONG TERM RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME (LRGS)

Greetings from Taylor’s University.

It is with great pleasure, I would like to update you that the RM9mil (~USD3mil) research grants funded by the Ministry of Education Malaysia under the Long Term Research Grant Scheme for the programme, “MULTI-DIMENSIONAL RESPONSIBLE RURAL TOURISM CAPACITY (RRTC) FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM” [Ref. JPT.5(BPKI)2000/09/01/015/IId.4(67)] is currently progressing well in its third year of the five year project.

The project has received encouraging support from the government, partnering universities within Malaysia and globally, and also the hospitality and tourism industry. The project too has successfully carried out various capacity building initiatives in many of the rural destinations in Malaysia. The projects has so far generated more than 30 indexed journal publications, 2 copyrighted books, and more than 35 PhD students working on the various sub-projects. The contribution and dedication of the research team has been worthy of special praise.

WikiTours is one example of the output of this project which will be used as the basis of the much larger system that is being developed for the project. I would like to support the research team from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak for nominating this project for the ISIF Asia Awards 2014.

I wish the team the very best in this awards.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair  
Programme Leader