

STUDY OF PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MALAYSIA, 2000

Sponsored by: MALAYSIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION CENTRE (MASTIC)

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, MALAYSIA

With the Co-operation of: UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA SHAH ALAM

MAY 2000

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JUNE 2000

Assalamulaikum wbt and Greetings,
My name is This is my letter of idenfffication. We are conducting a study of PUBLIC AWARENES5 OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2000. It is hoped that this study will identify public attitudes to and understanding of Science and Technology. The results of this study will play a very important part in the effort to achieve the aim of making this country an industrialized one by 2020. These results will be used in national development planning. You have been selected through scientific means to help with this study. All data that we get from you will be used only for this study and all information will be kept confidential. I have a few questions to ask you and this interview is estimated to take about 25 minutes. Shall we begin?
Respondent's Name:
Respondent's Address:
Telephone Number:

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A. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

1. For every issue below state your **level of knowledge** and **level of interest** according to the following scale:

Level of knowledge code										
1- Don't know	2 - A Little	3 - Fair	4 - In-depth							
Level of interest	t code									
1- Don't know	2 - A Little	3 - Fair	4 - In-depth.							

Zone		
State		
Location		

	Level of Knowledge			Level of Interest			t	
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
a. International policy and foreign countries	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
(e.g. the Non-Aligned Movement Policy)	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
b. National Education Policy	O	Ο	O	O	O	O	O	O
c. New discoveries in the field of science								
(e.g. cloning)	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
d. New discoveries in the field of medicine	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
e. New inventions and technology	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
f. New inventions in Malaysia	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
g. Applications of computer technology	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
h. Economics and trade	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
i. Use of nuclear technology to generate								
power (e.g. electricity)	O	Ο	O	O	O	O	O	O
j. Space Exploration	O	Ο	O	O	O	O	O	O
k. Environmental Pollution (e.g. the burning								
of forests that causes haze)	O	Ο	O	O	O	O	O	O

B. MEDIA

NEW SPAPERS

- 2a. Do you read newspapers?
 - O Yes O No (please go to Question 3a)

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				Series	s 🔲	
2b. If Yes, how often do you normally read newspapO Every dayO A few times a weekO Once a weekO Very Seldom	ers?					
2c Mark three local sections and three foreign ones interested in in order of preference (i.e. First, Sec	•					
	Loc	cal		For	eign	
1	2	3		1 2	3	
1. Politics O	C	0	(O C	O	
2. Business/Economics O	C	0	(O C	O	
3. Sports O	C	0	(O C	O	
4. Entertainment O	C	0	(0 0	O	
5. Science and Technology O	C	0	(0 0	O	
6. Others O	C	0	(O C	O	
MAGAZINES						
3a Do you read magazines?						
	Oft	en	Seldom	Nev	/er	
1. Non-scientific magazines	O		O	O)	
2. Scientific magazines	O		O	O)	
(If C			o to Questio or Never , plea		Questio	n 4a)
3b If you often read magazines/publications, give th often read in the last three months.	e nam	e/s of th	e magazine/s	that you	1	
1. Non-scientific magazines:						_
2. Scientific magazines:						_

ТНЕ	PUBLIC	AWARENESS	O F	SCIE	NCE	A N D	ТЕСН	NOLOG	Y N	MAL.	AYSI
									So	ries [
TFI	EVISION								50	1165	
4a	Do you wato O Yes	ch TV? O No (go t	o Qu	estion 5a	1)						
4b		three kinds of loca watch, in order of t						_	that	you	
						Local			Fo	oreign	L
					1	2	3	1		2	3
1. Ne					Ο	O	O)	O	O
	ocumentaries			`	О	O	O	()	O	O
	ame ntertainment)	O	O	O)	O	O
)	C	O	O			O	O
4. Šp				,	Ο	O	O)	O	O
	eligious Progra	mmes			Ο	O	O)	O	Ο
	thers				O	O	O	()	O	O
(51	tate)							
4c	How many h	nours a day do you	ı usua	ılly spend	l watc	hing T	V?				
	O <1 hour										
	O 1 -<2hou	rs									
	O 2-<3hour	rs .									
	O 3-<4hour	rs (State)					
RAD	OIO										
5a	Do vou listo	n to the medic?									
3a	O Yes	n to the radio? O No (plea	se go	to Ques t	tion 6	a)					
5b	If Yes , state t	he kind of radio p	orogra	mme tha	at you	most o	often lister	n to:			
	1. Entertain:	ment				O					
	2. News					O					
	3. Religious	programmes				O					
	4. General K	• •				O					
	5. Sports	O				0					
	6. Others					O					
	(State)		-					
	(State			/							

						Seri	les
5c	How many hours do y O < 1 hour O 1-<2 hours O 2-<3 hours O 3-<4 hours O > 4 hours (State				in a day?		
NEW	/ MEDIA						
6a	Do you use the follow	ing facilities?					
	1. Internet	O Yes	O No				
	2. E-mail	O Yes	O No				
	3. IRC	O Yes	O No				
	[If the above are	NOT applicab	le to you, p	lease go to	Question 7))	
6b	If your answers to 6a a	re Yes, how ofte	n do you u	se the facilit	ties?		
				Internet	E-mail	IRC	
	1. Everyday			O	O	O	
	2. A few times a week			O	O	O	
	3. Once a week			O	O	O	
	4. Very Seldom			O	О	O	
6c	Where do you normall	y use them?					
				Internet	E-mail	IRC	
	1. Office			O	O	O	
	2. School			О	O	O	
	3. University/College			O	O	O	
	4. Home			О	О	O	
	5. Cyber Cafe			О	О	O	
	6. Others						
	(State)				

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7. If you have answered that you read, watch, listen to and/or use the relevant media, what is the level of your belief in the truth of the information regarding Science and Technology disseminated by those mass media?

0 Don't Believe	1	2 Partly Bel		3	4 Believe			
	0	1	2	3	4			
a. Newspapersb. Magazinesc. Scientific Magazinesd.T Ve. Radiof. Internet			0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0			

C. VISITS / EXHIBITIONS

8. In the last year, how many times have you visited the following places?

	1	2	3	4	>4
					0
a. Museums	O	O	O	O	O
b. Zoos	O	O	O	O	O
c. Aquariums	O	O	O	O	O
d. Science Centre	O	O	O	O	O
e. Planetarium	O	O	O	O	O
f. Petrosains	O	O	O	O	O

9. In the last year, how many times have you visited the following exhibitions?

		1	2	3	4	<4
a. Higher Education b. Information Technology(IT)		O O	O O	O O	O O	O O
c. Science & Technology				_		
(not including IT)		O	O	O	O	O
d. Art		O	O	O	O	O
e. Books		O	O	O	O	O
f. Others		O	O	O	O	O
(State)					

Series		

D. KNOWLEDGE OF S & T

10. Have you ever read or heard about the following issues? If you have read or heard about the following terms or issues, state the level of your understanding of those terms or issues.(If your answer is No, please go to Question 13)

1. None	2. A little	3. Fair	4.	Good			
			1	2	3	4	
1. Acid rain			O	О	O	O	
2. Hole in the oz	zone layer		Ο	O	O	O	
3. Air Pollution			Ο	O	O	O	
4. Global Warmi	ing		O	O	O	O	
5. Greenhouse e	effect		O	O	O	O	

11. For each Good answer to Question 10 above, state whether the following statements are True or False:

0. Not Sure	1. False	2. True				
			0	1	2	
a. Acid rain desb. The hole in t	•	can cause	O	O	O	
skin cancer. c. The use of LI	·		O	Ο	O	
lessen air pol	lution.		O	O	O	
d. Sea levels can warming.			O	O	O	
e. The greenhou increase in se		ause an	О	O	O	

12.	Scientists have reported that 'the ozone layer has become thinner.' This is usually eferred to as a 'hole
	in the ozone layer. Do you know where this 'hole' is?

O Yes (State where)	

O No

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What do you think of t	he following statements	•
--	-------------------------	---

	0	1	2
. Science and technology make our lives easier,			
more healthy and more comfortable.	O	Ο	O
. The quality of science and mathematics education			
in school is not satisfactory.	O	O	O
. The use of computers and automation will increase			
job opportunities in factories.	O	O	O
l. We depend too much on science, and not enough			
on religious faith.	O	O	O
. Although scientific research does not produce immediate			
benefits, it is necessary in order to increase knowledge.			
The government should therefore support it.	O	O	O
Scientists ought to be given permission to conduct research			
that causes suffering to animals such as dogs and monkeys,			
if such research produces new findings for human health.	O	O	O
. We don't really need to know anything about science in			
our daily lives.	O	O	O
. Science causes our lifestyles to change too rapidly.	O	O	O
Most scientists work in order to make human life more			
comfortable.	O	O	O
Daily work becomes more attractive with the use of			
science and new technology.	O	O	O
. If the development of science and technology produces			
harmful results, there are bound to be new discoveries to			
counteract them.	O	O	O

14	a l	Do you i	know a	bout	the :	Mu	ltimed	lia S	Super-C	Corridor	(MSC) 1	orojec	ct ?
----	-----	----------	--------	------	-------	----	--------	-------	---------	----------	------	-----	--------	------

O Yes O No (please go to **Question 15**)

14b If Yes, please name one of the flagships of the Multimedia Super-Corridor (MS	3C).
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E. BENEFITS AND HARM OF SCIENCE

- 15. Scientific research can cause positive or negative effects. What is your opinion?
 - O The good effects exceed the bad ones
 - O They are about equal
 - O The bad effects exceed the good ones

18.	In your opinion, what is the relationship	ip between Mala	ysian economic	growth and scientif	ic research?

- O None at all
- O A slight connection

17d. If Yes or No, please give reasons:

O A strong connection

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19. Give your opinion on the efforts that have been made by the government in the following matters:

0. Not sure	1. Not enough	2. Enough	3. More	than enou	gh		
			0	1	2	3	
a. Support for	the space industry		O	O	O	O	
b. Decreasing	pollution		O	O	O	O	
c. Improving the level of public health							
(e.g. buildin	g more hospitals)		O	O	O	O	
d. Support for	scientific research		O	O	O	O	
e. Improving the level of education							
(e.g.training	; moreteachers)		O	O	O	O	
f. Strengthenin	ng national defence						
(e.g. buying	more military equip	oment)	O	Ο	O	O	

F. PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF S&T

20. State whether each of the following statements is True or False.

0. Not Sure	1. False	2. True				
			0	1	2	
a. The centre of	the earth is ver	ry hot.	O	O	O	
b. All radio activ		•	O	O	O	
c. The oxygen w	ve use for breat	hing is produced by plants.	O	O	O	
		e whether a foetus will be				
born a girl or			O	O	O	
e. Lasers function	n by combinir	ng sound waves.	O	O	O	
f. Electrons are smaller than atoms.			O	O	O	
9. Antibiotics ki	ll not only viru	ıses, but also bacteria.	O	O	O	
h. The earth beg	gan with a very	big explosion.	O	O	O	
i. The continent we are on has changed its location in the						
last few millio	on years and wi	ll continue to move in future.	O	O	O	
j. Man as we kn	ow him today	originated from an earlier				
animal specie	S.		O	O	O	
k. Smoking caus	ses lung cancer.		O	O	O	
I. The first men	lived at the sa	me time as dinosaurs.	O	O	O	
m. Milk that is contaminated by radioactivity will be safe						
to drink after	boiling.		O	O	O	
n. The earth goe	es round the su	n.	O	O	O	

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21.	Which travels more quickly, light or sound? O Not sure O Light O Sound O Both travel at the same rate					
22.	How long does the earth take to go round the sun? O Notsure O 1 day O 1 month O 1 year O None of the above (State)					
G. F	PARTICIPATION IN S&T POLICY					
23a.	Do you know the Government Education Policy regarding S&T? O Not sure (Please go to Question 24a) O No (Please go to Question 24a) O Yes					
23b.	If Yes, state the Policy:					
24a.	Are you participating in the steps taken by the government to increase the public level awareness of S&T? O Not sure (Please go to Question $24f$) O No (Please go to Question $24f$) O Yes	of				
24b.	If Yes, please state one of the above steps?					
24c. What is your opinion regarding the effectiveness of these steps?						
	O Not effective O Fairly effective O Effective					

	Series			
244	Cive the reason to far your aninian			
24a.	Give the reason/s for your opinion.			
		_ [
24e.	What is the public level of awareness of S&T after the steps taken by the government	?	_	
210.	O Increased a lot	•		
	O Increase a little			
	O Hasnotchanged O Not sure			
	O not sure			
24f.	Please give one suggestion for further increasing the public level of awareness of S&T.			
		ļ		
		.		
H. L	DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS			
25.	Area of residence			
	O Town O Rural area			
26.	Ethnic group			
	O Malay			
	O Melanau			
	O Iban			
	O Bidayuh			
	O Kadazan			
	O Aborigine			
	O Other bumiputera group (state)			
	O Chinese			
	O Indian			
	O Others (state)			
27.	Age Category			
	O 12 - 14			
	O 15 - 20			
	O 21 - 60			
20	Condon			
28.	Gender O Mala Co Famala			
	O Male O Female			

THE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MALAYSIA 2000

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29.	What is the level of your education?			
	O Never went to school			
	O Did not complete primary school			
	O Completed primary school			
	O Form 3 (SRP/LCE/PMR) and below			
	O Form 5 (OSC/SPM/MCE) and below			
	O Completed vocational training			
	O Completed Form 6 (STPM/HSC) or matriculation			
	O Diploma			
	O Bachelor's Degree and above			
	O Others (State)			
30.	What stream were you in while in Secondary school?			
	O Arts			
	O Commerce			
	O Science			
	O Religious			
	O Others (State)			
31.	If you are a student, what field would you like to go into in future?			
01.	O Scientific O Non-scientific			
	Give your reason/s:			
	02.0 90 10 2010021,0			
32a.	State your employment status:			
	O Employed O Notemployed			
32b.	If you are not employed, state whether you are:			
	O A full-time student			
	O Retired			
	O Looking for a job			
	O Not interested in a job			
	O A housewife			
	O Others (State)			

		Series	
33.	State your monthly income:		
	O Less than RM500		
	O RM500 - < RM1000		
	O RM1000 - < RM2000		
	O RM2000 - < RM3000		
	O RM3000 - < RM4000		
	O RM4000 - < RM5000		
	O RM5000 or more		
34.	In which sector are you employed?		
	O Government		
	O Private		
	O Statutory Body		
	O Self-employed		
	O Others (state)		

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

14/03/2000