

6th ASIA PRO BONO CONFERENCE

"Strengthening Pro Bono Culture: Unity and Diversity"

30th September to 2nd October 2017

Draft programme (subject to change)

6th Asia
Pro Bono
Conference

"Strengthening
Pro Bono Culture:
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30 SEP - 2 OCT 2017

www.probonoconference.org

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



DAY 1 (SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER) Hotel Armada

Time	Conference programme outline
8:00am -8:30am	Registration
8:30am- 9:00am	Welcome address
9:00am – 10:00am	Plenary 1:
10:00am – 10:30am	Key Note Speaker
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning refreshments
11:00am – 12:30pm	Session A1: Session A2: Session A3: Session A4: Session A5:
12.30pm – 1:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm – 3:15pm	Session B1: Session B2: Session B3: Session B4: Session B5:
3:15pm – 3:45pm	Afternoon refreshments
3:45pm – 4:45pm	Plenary 2:
4:45pm- 5:00pm	Closing Day 1

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DAY 2 (SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER) Hotel Armada

Time	Conference programme outline
8:30am - 9:00am	Registration
9:00am – 9:15am	Welcome address
9:15am – 10:30am	Plenary 3:
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning refreshments
11:00am – 12:30pm	Session C1: Session C2: Session C3: Session C4: Session C5:
12.30pm – 1:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm – 3:15pm	Session D1: Session D2: Session D3: Session D4: Session D5:
3:15pm – 3:45pm	Afternoon refreshments
3:45pm – 4:45pm	Plenary 4:
4:45pm- 5:00pm	Closing Day 2
7:00pm – 10:00pm	Conference Dinner (Not included in Conference fee. Participants must have registered and paid for the dinner separately in order to attend) <i>In addition to a wonderful meal, and great company and conversations, following the Asia Pro Bono Conference tradition, all dinner participants are given the wonderful task of developing a 3-5 minute access to justice related culture performance (e.g. dance, song, poem, etc.) from their country of origin or country they reside in with other participants from that country prior to the dinner and perform at the dinner.</i>

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DAY 3 (MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER) University of Malaya

Time	Conference programme outline
8:30am - 9:00am	Registration
9:00am – 9:30am	Welcome address
9:30am – 10:30am	Launch of University Malaya Law Clinic
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning refreshments
11:00am – 12:30pm	Legal Education and Pro Bono Workshop (Foundation and Advance Level) <i>Building on the overwhelming success of similar sessions growing out of the previous Asia Pro Bono Conferences, this day will include both plenary and then two streams of parallel sessions (Foundations and Advanced). The interactive sessions will focus on a variety of relevant issues related to the intersection of the development of pro bono culture and legal education. By having both Foundation and Advanced thematic sessions this will allow a greater ability to provide useful and relevant instructive substance to the diversified participants who have different levels of knowledge and experience related to the overall theme of the day, Pro Bono and Legal Education.</i>
12.30pm – 1:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm – 3:15pm	Legal Education and Pro Bono Workshop (Foundation Level) Legal Education and Pro Bono Workshop (Advanced Level)
3:15pm – 3:45pm	Afternoon refreshments
3:45pm – 5:00pm	Legal Education and Pro Bono Workshop (Foundation Level) Legal Education and Pro Bono Workshop (Advanced Level)
5:00pm - 5:30pm	Conference Closing

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Plenary Session Topics (Day1-2)

- **Strengthening Pro Bono Culture: Unity and Diversity**

What are the core unifying values and elements of pro bono and how does the diversity of pro bono strengthen pro bono culture? This plenary session will explore these important questions, while simultaneously seeking to identify further ways to unify and diversify pro bono as a means to continuing strengthening the culture surrounding it.

- **The Ever Strengthening and Expansion of the Asia Pro Bono Movement: Case Examples**

Dispelling the premise that pro bono is not a part of the culture in Asia, this session will illustrate clear case examples of how the Asia pro bono movement has been strengthening and expanding. The session will then provide a venue and opportunity to strategically discuss and collaborate on ways and means to continue this expansion in a unified and diverse manner.

- **Mandatory Pro Bono: Solution or Problem? Maybe Not So Black and White.**

Tackling the age-old question of whether pro bono should be mandatory, this session, utilizing a formal debate format, will provide the participants a platform to analyse and address this issue.

- **Ensuring Quality: Are Pro Bono Services Really Equal to Paid Client Services?**

In principle, legal service providers are supposed to provide the same level of quality legal services to pro bono clients as they do to paying ones. However, in practice is this really what happens? This session, in an open and honest manner, will explore these realities and collaboratively work to identify successful strategies and systems that help to ensure these quality services are in fact provided.

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Conference Breakout Session Streams:

1) Pro Bono-Walking the Walk: This stream shares the experiences and knowledge of those who work hands on with marginalized populations providing direct pro bono services. These pro bono champions share with us their first-hand experiences so that we can learn, be inspired and walk with them on their journey and apply their lessons and experiences to other pro bono initiatives.

2) Strengthening a Pro Bono Culture: This stream includes sessions that discuss the motivations and reasons behind why, when, where, how we do pro bono, how we can gain further support for our work and develop the Pro Bono Movement nationally, throughout Asia, and Globally.

3) Pro Bono Building Blocks: This stream includes sessions that create the foundations for pro bono initiatives, including the basic understanding and concept of what pro bono is. Sessions in this stream will share best practices and lessons learnt on how to do pro bono across the Asia region, how to make initiatives sustainable and how to ensure that they are effective for the target community.

Draft Breakout Topics (Day 1-2) Each Session is 90 Minutes In-Length (subject to change)

Stream- Pro Bono- Walking the Walk

• Pro Bono and Migration

This session will focus on a number of diverse migration areas in need of pro bono legal services, as well as some of the ways and means the pro bono culture in the region has been developing to address these vital needs.

• Pro Bono, Drug Users and Access to Justice in Asia: Developing a Network

Often being one of the most marginalized groups throughout Asia and globally, this session will focus on country and regional “snapshot” examples of effective pro bono services to drug users, including the strengthening impact and strategies of the Pro Bono Network For Users (PBN4U) in striving to develop an even stronger pro bono culture for People Who Use Drugs (PWUD).

• Pro Bono and the Fight Against Human Trafficking

Taking on one of the leadership roles in Asia and globally in the fight against human trafficking, this session will comparatively explore the diverse ways various pro bono initiatives have assumed this position.

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- **Pro Bono and People with Disabilities**

Guided by the slogan “Nothing About Us Without Us”, this session will provide clear examples of pro bono related initiatives that engage the full and direct participation of people with disabilities as a means to combat many of the legal and other barriers they face.

- **Pro Bono and the Fight Against Corruption**

Pitting the ever strengthening pro bono culture versus what is often seen as a culture of corruption in many societies, this session will provide both demonstrations and strategies on effective pro bono supported measures utilized to combat corruption and shift corruption related paradigms.

- **Pro Bono and Women in Diverse Legal Jurisdictions**

With women often facing a multitude of both similar and diverse legal related challenges and obstacles throughout the Asia region, this session will illustrate a variety of pro bono related services provided in different type of legal jurisdictions, and current efforts being employed to apply common lessons learned across borders.

- **Pro Bono and Indigenous Rights**

The continuous and ever increasing threat to indigenous communities and their rights both in Asia and globally has helped to spark a pro bono movement there to help stand in solidarity while simultaneously honouring and valuing the culture and customs of the individuals and communities assisted. This session will demonstrate a number of case examples in which these actions have been effectively achieved as well as when the outcomes have not been as positive.

- **Pro Bono and the Death Penalty**

From direct representation to advocacy and law reform work, this session will provide insights on many of the areas of intersection and strategies pro bono is being engaged on death penalty related issues.

- **Pro Bono and Juvenile Justice: Moving Away From a Punitive Culture Toward Restorative Justice**

Nurture, don't punish. This session will focus on pro bono institutional juvenile justice reform initiatives which have led to a positive culture shift through efforts focusing on restorative justice principles.

- **Pro Bono and the Urban Poor**

It's not just about law. This session will provide clear examples of the ways and means pro bono support has assisted in addressing, not only the legal, but many of the social and economic issues faced by the urban poor.

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- **Pro Bono and Detention Without Trial: Presumed Guilty**

This session will highlight some of the ways pro bono initiatives have directly represented persons facing detention without trial, as well as some of the successful strategies employed through these initiatives to shift the legal culture and curtail the use of such measures.

- **Migrant Workers and Pro Bono Assistance: Developing Communities of Practice**

With both an increasing need and increasing awareness of the need for pro bono support for migrant workers throughout the Asia region and globally, this session will provide specific pro bono related “communities of practice” examples currently being utilized to strengthen the pro bono culture to help rise to this challenge.

- **Pro Bono and Environment: Developing a Culture of Awareness and Protection**

From individual representation to strategic litigation and law reform endeavours, pro bono throughout Asia has had a number of marked successes in addressing environmental issues and threats, while working to shift cultures toward environmental protection awareness and action.

- **Pro Bono and Large Law Firm Engagement: Ways and Means**

Many large law firms throughout Asia, and globally, have helped carry the torch and be an integral part of the pro bono movement. Others though, with many of their team members lacking licenses to practice law in jurisdictions they are based in, have had the desire and will to join the movement but have been seeking effective and permissible ways and means to be engaged. This session will provide a number of diverse examples of large law firm engagements and strategies in supporting pro bono initiatives globally.

Stream- Strengthening a Pro Bono Culture

- **Why We Do Pro Bono: Inspiring vs. Convincing**

Should we be convincing people or inspiring people to do pro bono? This session will explore a number of diverse ways and means to develop and strengthen a pro bono culture through the use of both strategies, some of the challenges faced when doing so and ways to overcome these challenges.

- **Pro Bono Roundtables: Why and How to Organize and Utilize Them**

One of the most effective recent strategies in Asia in assisting in the further strengthening of pro bono culture is the organizing of pro bono roundtable convening's. These events gather a variety of actors and supporters engaged in pro bono initiatives, and create a space and venue for lessons learned, updates, network building and more. This session will focus on a number of effective strategies utilized that help to ensure the success and impact of these vital and integral pro bono related convening's.

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- **Pro Bono Culture Development in Malaysia (Part 1): The Historical Foundation, Current Diverse Climate and Future Path**

This session will explore the historical development of the pro bono movement and culture in Malaysia through its origins, current diverse status, and future path and potential. Specific case studies will be used to highlight strategies, challenges and successes to date, while providing an insight into how and why this movement can and should expand and deepen.

- **Pro Bono Culture Development in Malaysia (Part 2): Strengthening Pro Bono Best Practices**

Building on the foundations laid in the previous session, this session will provide participants a forum and means to strategize on ways to formulate and implement pro bono best practices in Malaysia as a means to further diversify, unify and strengthen pro bono services and impact.

- **Pro Bono and Legal Service Providers: Transcending and Challenging Traditional Pro Bono Models**

While traditionally in a number of jurisdictions and countries pro bono services have been defined narrowly, often equated with direct client representation, the Asia pro bono movement culture has transcended these restrictive models, recognizing the value and need for pro bono to be more widely and diversely defined. This session will highlight pro bono models not specifically focusing on traditional client representation, challenge the often traditional view of what is and what is not pro bono, and thereby help assist in the strengthening a revised cultural understanding.

- **Global Pro Bono Cross-Border Initiatives: Expanding the Way Pro Bono Operates, its Reach and Impact**

The ways pro bono operates, its reach and impact is not restricted by borders in both reach and impact. This session will focus on a number of ways cross-border pro-bono initiatives have been established and sustained, and therefore expanding the way pro bono operates.

- **The Role of Government and Bar Associations in Developing and Strengthening Pro Bono Culture**

The support for the development and strengthening of a pro bono culture requires unity in goals and a diversification of actors. This session will demonstrate the vital need of the role of both government and bar associations to be an integral part of the pro bono movement as a means to foster and imbed pro bono culture and will highlight various successful practices in doing so.

Stream- Pro Bono Building Blocks

- **Developing and Maintaining a Pro Bono Practice: Sole Practitioners and Small Firms: How They Do It**

Consistently, through their actions, solo practitioners and small firms demonstrate the sustained commitment to ensure equal access to justice through the providing of pro bono services and do so often without the support system and project infrastructure available to many of their large

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firm counterparts. This session will provide and insight into some of the pragmatic building blocks utilized by solo and small firm practitioners on the effective way they are able to achieve this necessary task.

- **Information Technology: Strengthening Pro Bono Culture and Expanding Pro Bono Initiatives**

Information Technology (IT) has provided an amazing opportunity to strengthen pro bono culture and expand its reach and impact. This session will demonstrate some of the many diverse ways this is currently ongoing while further exploring future potentialities.

- **Developing and Strengthening Pro Bono Practice and Culture in Large Law Firms**

Large law firms globally have been instrumental in helping to drive the pro bono movement. How though do they actually begin pro bono initiatives internally and sustain them in order to do so? This session will provide clear, instructive guides into many of the successful strategies employed by large law firms to build and maintain such initiatives and imbed a culture of pro bono within their teams.

- **Pro Bono and In-House Counsel: Developing a Synergistic Pro Bono Programme**

Often seen as an untapped pro bono resource of great potential, this session will provide instructive ways In-House Counsel pro bono programmes can develop, create a culture of pro bono, and be done in synergy and harmony with other pro bono initiatives.

- **Pro Bono 101: The Incredible Diversification of Pro Bono Options**

What is pro bono and how do we do it? This session will explore many of the widely diversified options of pro bono and in doing so will clearly illustrate that on the pro bono “buffet” there is a type of pro bono programme and option suitable to any legal service provider eager and committed to doing pro bono.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Pro Bono Impact and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Proving Pro Bono Makes a Difference and Impact**

The effect pro bono has on individuals can often be very clear but does it make an at-scale impact? This session, guided by the newly issued United Nations Sustainable Develop Goals, will provide some of the basic tools to monitor and evaluate pro bono initiatives as a means to measure and illustrate they are making this impactful difference.