



The SEACEN Centre

**Terms of Reference of Visiting Research Economist (VRE) in 2026
Collaborative Research Project 1: The Effects of Geopolitical Uncertainty in
SEACEN Economies**

Participants: Researchers from SEACEN member central banks/monetary authorities, academia, and experts in relevant fields of central banking areas/studies.

Honorarium/Payment: An honorarium of USD 12,500 will be provided. Fifty percent (50%) is payable upon submission of a complete preliminary draft, while the remaining half will be disbursed upon the timely submission of the final report, deemed publishable by The SEACEN Centre. The deadline for the submission of the final report is 30th October 2026.

Selection Process: For 2026, the VRE will be advertised and selected based on the following criteria:

- Established a portfolio of research papers published in international and reputable journals;
- Relevant experience in managing and completing research projects for policy institutions, international organizations, and/or academia;
- Knowledge of the subject matter based on extensive publications; and
- Doctoral degree in Economics or related field, and currently employed in policy-making institutions, international organisations, or academia.

Responsibilities/Deliverables of VRE:

- The VRE will implement a collaborative research project as assigned by the SEACEN Centre and complete it within the stipulated period (March to December 2026).
- The VRE will serve as the Project Leader, helping design the final research outline and questions (including the methodology, coverage, etc.) and guiding and assisting the Project Team Members (researchers from member central banks/monetary authorities).
- The VRE will conduct one virtual inception workshop in the first half of 2026 and one in-person interim workshop with the Project Team Members in the second half of 2026. The inception workshop will discuss the outline, questions, and topics to be

covered in the research project and country chapters. The interim workshop will discuss the preliminary findings and provide comments and suggestions on draft papers. The SEACEN Centre and the Bank of Thailand will provide and assist in the administrative arrangements for both workshops.

- The VRE will write the integrative sections of the research project based on the country or thematic papers provided by Project Team Members and draw practical policy recommendations for SEACEN members.
- The SEACEN Centre may invite the VRE to present findings and facilitate discussions related to the project at its discretion.

Airfare: One (1) round-trip business-class airfare for the research workshop will be provided. The SEACEN Centre will not reimburse any other expenses associated with travel, such as visa fees, travel insurance, travel agent fees, passport issuance and/or passport renewal, inoculations, parking fees, etc.

Hotel Stay: The SEACEN Centre will help select the hotel and make the necessary arrangements.

Local Transportation: The SEACEN Centre will help provide airport transfer upon arrival and departure and daily transportation from/to the hotel and workshop venue.

The VRE should have the following skills:

- A relevant postgraduate degree and strong analytical skills;
- Resourcefulness and an ability to work independently;
- Experience in conducting research as well as field experience, preferably in the relevant field(s) related to the project;
- Proficiency in written and spoken English; and
- Exhibit strong leadership quality

Requests for further information or any questions concerning the VRE position can be directed to Rogelio Mercado and Nur Ain Shahrier, Senior Economists, Macroeconomic and Monetary Policy Management, The SEACEN Centre, at rogelio.mercado@seacen.org; and nurains@seacen.org; and copy Masyitah Rosmin, Research Associate, at masyitah@seacen.org.