Head of Public Sector Partnerships

“The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.”
- Steve Jobs

Teach For Malaysia is an independent, not-for-profit organisation on a mission to empower our nation through education. We believe that a child’s education and future should not be determined by his or her circumstances in life. Thousands of students don’t have the chance to realise their potential because of many socioeconomic factors, like how much their parents earn or where they were born/live.

We recruit, train and support our country’s rising generation of leaders to teach in high-need schools across the nation, through our 2 flagship programmes which is the Teach For Malaysia Fellowship and Program Duta Guru - our two-year leadership development programmes focused on growing leaders across the education system. We’ve impacted over 330,000 students and worked with the Ministry of Education and other corporate and social sector partners to collectively bring transformation to the education system. Beyond the Fellowship and Program Duta Guru, our growing network of Alumni, education champions and supporters are lifelong advocates for education and expanding opportunities for students, working as a movement to build an ecosystem of solutions at all levels of society - from the classroom to the boardroom.

We have co-created our 2030 strategy with our stakeholders to scale our impact significantly. We are looking for Champions to join our team in this movement of change - people who share our vision, mission, and core values (Sense of Possibility, Excellence, Collaboration, and Integrity). Alignment to our vision, mission and values are integral to TFM’s culture, to ensure long-term, sustainable success and to realise our mission to:

**Build a movement of leaders in the education ecosystem to empower all children in Malaysia to realise their potential.**

As we aspire to be the greatest place to work for our people, our collaborative working environment opens up many opportunities for you to expand your network and lead your learning, alongside other team members, Fellows and Alumni, corporate partners, the Ministry of Education, and other education stakeholders. Teach For Malaysia is also a partner in the Global Education Network, Teach For All.

While our compensation package is fair and competitive, we do not expect this to be your key reason for joining us. After all, we are not just offering you a job but looking for a like-minded future leader to grow with us and help us achieve our mission.
Role: Head, Public Sector Partnerships  
Start Date: Immediate  
Employment Type: Full-time, 2-Year Contract (Renewable)  
Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mission for the Role

Teach For Malaysia is seeking a specialised talent who is able to drive and strengthen the organisation's partnership with the Malaysian public sector at a strategic level, effectively advocating for the organisation, particularly with but not limited to the Ministry of Education (MOE). This person would be responsible for building and maintaining strategic partnerships with the government and related agencies - expanding the organisation's influence both at the federal and local level to gain programme buy-in, policy support and establish social credibility.

The Head of Public Sector Partnerships reports to the CEO and has a matrix reporting relationship to the Head of Program Duta Guru. This role will also manage the respective Stakeholder Engagement managers for the Fellowship and Program Duta Guru functions. The role is responsible for setting up the long-term government engagement strategy for the organisation, including working closely with the stakeholder engagement teams to ensure the continued sustenance of existing programmes as well as secure new partnerships with various government entities and ministries.

Key Measures of Success

- Securement of multi-year renewals for existing TFM programmes (Teaching Partner & Novice Teacher pathways) executed in partnership with the MOE.
- Securement of a multi-year DG41 Fellowship pathway with MOE.
- Securement of new / special projects under any government department or ministries that is directly aligned to TFM’s mission.
- Crafted a 5-year government partnership and engagement strategy which enables the delivery of TFM’s 2030 strategy and our One Day vision.
- Number and strength of new relationships initiated and sustained with individuals and entities in the government sector to secure programmatic buy-in and institutionalise long-term partnerships, specifically Minister & Deputy Minister of Education, Secretary General of MOE, Director General & Deputy Director Generals of MOE, Ministry of Finance, Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri (LHDN), BPSS, BPSM, EPRD, SPP, officers in the federal, state and district levels and others potential stakeholders as identified by TFM.
- Strength of relationship and credibility built with Yayasan PETRONAS and other key stakeholders for Program Duta Guru in order to secure continuity as programme implementer.
- Strength of relationship built with the MOE through programmatic buy-in and long-term partnerships institutionalised.
- Successful implementation of Strategic Projects, including new projects that will enhance TFM’s relationship with the public sector and collective impact.

The existing support for the role includes the Senior Leadership Team as general thought partners and Teach For All network for best practices among peers.
Duties and Responsibilities
Your portfolio includes the following:

- Develop and implement a public sector stakeholder engagement and partnership strategies:
  - Identify and prioritise key public sector stakeholders at district, state, and federal levels.
  - Research and understand stakeholder needs, interests, and policy priorities.
  - Develop clear engagement and partnership strategies with each stakeholder group.
  - Build clear synergies for stakeholder engagement and partnership work across TFM’s functions.
  - Strategise and manage a team to implement engagement activities such as meetings, briefings, events, and testimony delivery.

- Build and maintain strong relationships with key decision-makers:
  - Cultivate trust and credibility with elected officials, government agency staff, and policy influencers.
  - Build strong relationship with TFM Board of Trustees and Advisors and leverage on their strengths and network to drive TFM’s public sector partnership efforts.
  - Advocate effectively for the buy-in to TFM across all stakeholders.
  - Secure funding and resources from public sector sources.

- Represent the organisation in public forums and media:
  - Develop and deliver presentations on TFM’s work and education policy matters.
  - Respond to media inquiries and participate in interviews.
  - Communicate the organisation’s work and impact to the public sector through close collaboration with the Research, Design and Impact manager to craft our impact narrative.
  - Support the CEO in preparing speeches, press releases, narratives and other public-sector / government-related communications and forums.

- Manage Strategic Projects
  - Conduct research and analysis to inform critical decisions and identify new strategic opportunities.
  - Prepare proposals to secure new strategic projects, whether with government, embassies or other entities which will support the furtherance of TFM’s collective impact.
  - Oversee, manage and mobilise a team of individuals to execute strategic projects successfully.

- Manage a team of staff:
  - Matrix-manage stakeholder engagement managers in the organisation to ensure the overall approach and work is aligned with TFM’s public sector partnership strategy and success in each pillar’s stakeholder engagement efforts.
  - Provide coaching and guidance to TFM staff on stakeholder engagement best practices and support in problem-solving-related issues.

- Stay informed and contribute to organisational knowledge on current education policy issues:
  - Track policy developments and regulatory changes and use the information to inform our work engagements and strategy.
  - Build and maintain relationships with education policy experts.
  - Lead initiatives to enhance leadership and org-wide efforts to understand education policy matters.
● Contribute to the organisation's overall development efforts:
  ○ Identify and cultivate new government funding opportunities.
  ○ Prepare briefing materials and presentations for meetings and Board interactions.
  ○ Represent the organisation at public events and fundraising initiatives.
  ○ Partner with the CEO to develop and implement the organisation's strategic plan, identifying key priorities and initiatives.

Required Competencies

● Minimum working experience of 8-9 years.
● Minimum of 5-7 years of experience in government relations, advocacy, or stakeholder engagement and partnerships.
● Qualification in public policy, government relations, education, or a related field is advantageous.
● Possesses a strong network of public sector/government stakeholders and can activate those relationships to further TFM’s cause.
● A solid understanding of the education sector and its ways of working at the federal and state levels, including key system actors and recent policy directions in order to inform TFM’s strategy and actions.
● Demonstrated success in building and maintaining relationships with key government officials and stakeholders.
● Ability to lead highly strategic work and at the same time ensure smooth operationalisation of strategy, including stakeholder mapping, strategy formulation and project management.
● Strong project management skills.
● Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work collaboratively with all levels of employees and stakeholders.
● Ability to be flexible and adaptive in a fast-paced and complex environment.
● Resourceful and can work under tight deadlines and high-pressure situations.
● Intellectually curious, a proactive problem-solver, able to execute ideas and be empathetic.
● Believes in a strong organisational culture and the importance of community in the workplace.
● Humility, compassion, and aptitude for learning.
● Able to navigate cultural differences and comfortably work with people from different backgrounds.
● Strong written and verbal communication skills, with strong English and Bahasa Malaysia proficiency required.
● Ways of working that are aligned with TFM’s values:
  ○ Collaborative approach – Desire to work collaboratively with others
  ○ Continuous learning – High learning aptitude, driving continuous learning to advance our organisation
  ○ Solution driver – ability to formulate and implement effective solutions
  ○ High performing – set high standards and can persist through challenges and obstacles
  ○ Planning and execution – the ability to plan and execute effectively to achieve results
● Ability to travel, work on some weekends, and other times as needed.

APPLICATION
Please scan the following QR code or click on this link to submit your application through the application form.

Due to the volume of applications we receive, we apologise that we will not be able to respond to all applicants - only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.