Objectives of Setting-up the K. Kumarasivam Endowment Fund (KKEF)

There are two primary objectives in setting-up the K. Kumarasivam Endowment Fund (KKEF). They are:

- To remember Ir. K. Kumarasivam's selfless and significant contributions to the improvement of the environment in Malaysia
- To perpetuate his spirit of innovation, creativity and leadership in addressing environmental problems in Malaysia

To achieve the above objectives the promoters of the Endowment Fund, ENSEARCH and CETEC, are proposing that two types of awards be given annually, from the investment proceeds from the Fund. They are:

- A Memorial Public Lecture Award
- Young Environmentalist Awards

In drafting the concepts and implementation procedures for the awards the promoters recognised the importance of ensuring that the awards have unique characteristics, will gain respect and support from both Malaysians and people abroad, will provide significant immediate and long-term positive “multiplier effects” for the improvement of the Malaysian environment, and is sustainable.

Co-funding and Sponsorships

The funds for both the Memorial Public Lecture Award and the Young Environmentalist Awards do not need to come fully from the KKEF. The joint ENSEARCH and CETEC KKEF Awards Standing Committee shall attempt to get sponsors to contribute for the travel, accommodations, honorarium and living allowances of both the invited lecturer and also the young environmentalists.

Membership of the KKEF Board of Directors

The KKEF Board of Directors shall comprise of 8 members. The Chairman of the KKEF Board shall be the ENSEARCH President. The other members of the KKEF Board shall comprise of a member each from the following:

- K.Kumarasivam's family
- ENSEARCH Council
- CETEC Board
- Another Malaysian Environmental NGO
- A Malaysian University
- A Malaysian Government Body
- A Malaysian Business Organisation

The members of the Board shall serve a period of two years, except for the President of ENSEARCH, who shall be the currently elected President of ENSEARCH.

The Chairman of the Board shall be responsible for nominating replacement members to the Board, in consultation with other Board members.

Donations to the K. Kumarasivam Endowment Fund (KKEF)

Relatives, friends and those who subscribes to the noble objectives of the KKEF can donate funds to support the annual award of the K. Kumarasivam Memorial Public Lecture and the Young Environmentalist Awards. All donations to ENSEARCH are exempted from tax.

For details on how to donate please contact the ENSEARCH Secretariat.
A true Malaysian, Ir. K. Kumarasivam, is a man with a strong commitment and passion for the protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development. He is also an illustrious entrepreneur, starting his own consulting engineering firm in 1965, which over the years grew to become one of the leading consulting engineering companies in Malaysia. He was also a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia, and of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia.

Ir. K. Kumarasivam is one of the pioneers in the environmental NGO movement in Malaysia. He has a practical “get it done” and innovative approach towards environmental management. Recognising the importance and need for greater environmental professionalism, research, creativity and innovative approaches to solving environmental problems in Malaysia, he initiated the formation of two organisations and a number of environmental initiatives in Malaysia.

In recognition of his pioneering and significant contributions to the promotion of better environmental management in the country, he was awarded the 1997 Langkawi Award, Malaysia’s highest national tribute to its leading citizens in the field of environment. Mr. Sivam’s work was also recognized at the international level and in 2001 he was awarded the “Fok Ying Tung Prize” from China, for his continuous and steadfast efforts in contributing towards environmental management excellence in Malaysia, through ENSERACH and CETEC.

The K. Kumarasivam Memorial Public Lecture and Young Environmentalist Awards

K. Kumarasivam
Memorial Public Lecture
and Young Environmentalist Awards

Ir. K. Kumarasivam (1932 - 2003)

The K. Kumarasivam Memorial Public Lecture

This free public lecture shall be given each year by a distinguished foreign speaker, in conjunction with a national or international environmental management seminar or conference. The objectives and concepts for this award are as follows:

- To remember Ir. K. Kumarasivam’s significant contributions to the improvement of the environment in our society. An annual citation of the award will ensure that his contributions are remembered.
- To provide a platform for Malaysians to be introduced to innovative environmental management ideas and practices abroad, so that they may be inspired to find creative solutions to similar environmental problems in Malaysia. The invited lecturer shall be one who has been associated with an innovative approach or solutions on an environmental management issue that is of serious concern to the Malaysian government and public.

Ir. K. Kumarasivam believes in taking the lead in introducing innovative approaches to Environmental Management (EM). He does not believe in merely criticizing but in doing something positive to address any identified environmental issues in the country. Since a lot of the innovative EM approaches and practices are found abroad it is fitting that the award should be used as an annual “seed event” by the KKEF Board to bring a lecturer from abroad to introduce Malaysians to the innovative thinking and successful approaches abroad on a current “environmental management issue” of serious concern to the Malaysian government and public.

In order to ensure that the objectives of the above Memorial Public Lecture are achieved the KKEF Board shall expect ENSERACH and CETEC to set-up a joint KKEF Awards Standing Committee to carry out all the planning and implementation details of the awards given by the KKEF.

As an Association created to promote excellence in EM among organisations, professionals and interested persons ENSERACH shall be responsible to ensure that the Public Lecture event shall be used to create and enhance awareness among the pertinent government bodies, businesses and the public on the issues and innovative approaches that can be used to address the EM issue for the public lecture. For this ENSERACH shall prepare a series of stakeholder meetings and publicity programs in conjunction with the visit by the Public Lecturer to Malaysia.

CETEC, as the non-profit company created with a vision to be a leader in introducing and adapting new EM technologies and approaches to local conditions shall take the opportunity of the Public Lecture to work with selected stakeholders to adapt new EM approaches/technologies to Malaysia.

Thus, the implementation of the Memorial Public Lecture will involve the following:

1. Publicity of the Lecture in the local press
2. Conduct of the Public Lecture together with a forum
3. Small group meetings between the invited lecturer and pertinent government and industry stakeholders
4. Discussions with pertinent stakeholders on the implementation of pilot schemes to adapt the EM approaches or technologies in Malaysia.

The K. Kumarasivam Young Environmentalist Awards

This award/s shall be presented each year to young scholars or professionals (less than 35 years old) who have a passion for the environment and the potential to transform this passion into effective action. The recipients should demonstrate leadership ability, creativity and integrity. The objectives and concepts for this award are as follows:

- To provide opportunities for promising young Malaysian scholars with a passion for environmental management to spend a few months internship at a reputable centre or centres of environmental management excellence abroad.
- To provide opportunities for promising young Malaysian professionals with a passion for environmental management to spend 1-2 weeks on an educational tour of reputable centres of environmental management excellence abroad.

There is a need to inculcate in young environmentalists the spirit of innovation, creativity and leadership in addressing environmental problems practised by Ir. K. Kumarasivam. Thus, it is fitting that the KKEF provide opportunities for young Malaysian environmentalist to be introduced to the innovative EM thinking and technologies abroad.

Stringent selection criteria (through essay writing and interviews) for the awards will be made to screen the best applicants. The desired professionals will be those with proven environmental commitment, vision and passion for EM after graduation. The desired scholars shall be those with good academic track records, proven environmental passion and EM extracurricular activities.

The selected scholars and professionals will be required to write a report on what they have learned during their internships and tours, respectively. They shall also be required to present a paper in one of ENSERACH’s seminars or conferences, share what they have learned on their return in a special event, and present a proposal on how the innovative EM practices they have seen can be implemented in Malaysia.