



## Volunteers' experiences

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### A view from a volunteer:

## Vasan Errakiah



**"I am a Fellow of the IFoA based in Singapore with Pacific Life Re. From a personal perspective, having moved back to Asia a couple of years ago, I was excited to find out about the IFoA's plans to host a conference in the region. I decided to volunteer to be part of the Programme Committee for the IFoA Asia Conference 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia."**

### The experience of a volunteer based in Singapore

"The main driver for volunteering is my personal belief that it is important to develop the profession and give back to the IFoA just as I had benefited from other actuaries in the past. Volunteering for the conference was also a great platform for me to share and exchange my views on the hot topics affecting actuaries in this part of the world.

Together with the committee members from across the region, my role was to put together a cross-practice programme, in line with its theme "Celebrating Diversity, Creating Value". Each of us was assigned specific practice area(s) based on our expertise and my focus was on the Life Insurance and Risk topics. As the committee members were based in different cities, we had regular conference call meetings leading up to the event to discuss topic and speaker selections. We also received frequent updates from the IFoA regarding logistics. The experience was an eye-opener and I was impressed to see the level of effort and dedication that went behind the scenes.

Overall, I found it to be a very valuable experience as I had the opportunity to work alongside and meet with experienced actuaries from different backgrounds. I would definitely encourage my peers and colleagues to volunteer to support the profession and participate in the various IFoA member activities that are on offer."

