Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
Department of Global Health and Population  
Research Internship Opportunity

**Project Title:** Malaysia Health Systems Research Study  
**Country/Countries in which the work would take place:** Malaysia

**Brief description of project/research:**  
The Malaysia Health Systems Research (MHSR) Study is a collaboration involving the Government of Malaysia and Harvard University. The collaborative study includes senior faculty from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Senior Advisory Team (‘Harvard Team’) as well as senior officials and a team of researchers and analysts convened by the Ministry of Health (‘Team Malaysia’).

The Malaysian government aims to build on the strengths of the country’s existing health system, and to develop a sustainable system that is equitable, efficient, effective, and responsive to citizens needs by strengthening financing, delivery, and governance mechanisms to adapt to the rapidly changing context. The MHSR project contributes to this aim with the objective of developing a clear and comprehensive strategic plan for Malaysia’s health system transformation, including a technically sound reform design, a plan for reform implementation, and recommendations concerning the first year of implementation.

Phase I of the project (January 2015–March 2016) focused on conducting a comprehensive analysis of the Malaysian health system and producing a Strategic Plan. Phase II, which begins in April 2016, will focus on developing an implementation plan and designing several demonstration projects to support implementation. These may include, for example:

- Developing a proposed implementation plan for a new voluntary health insurance scheme
- Designing demonstration projects for public sector organization reform for improved care delivery, focusing on primary care networks

**Brief description of work for potential intern(s):**  
The intern(s) will work directly with Malaysian counterparts at the Ministry of Health to support research, analysis, and planning for demonstration projects. Each intern will be assigned a specific area of responsibility with a concrete deliverable for the period of the internship.

**Minimum expected duration of internship(s):** Minimum in-country commitment of 8 weeks required, longer commitment preferred

**List any available funds:** (travel costs, student stipend, housing, etc.)? Potential funding to cover student stipend, housing, and round-trip economy airfare

**Number of internships available:** Maximum of 2

**Primary contact:** Courtney Bridgeo, cbridgeo@hsph.harvard.edu  
**Harvard Contact/Affiliation (if applicable):** GHP Health Systems Cluster Staff  
**Harvard Faculty Affiliation:** Rifat Atun