



**COLLABORATING
AND REACHING OUT
IN AN INTERCONNECTED WORLD**

PARTNERSHIPS

Strong partnerships play an integral role in supporting our core functions. This is especially so in an interconnected world where partners help enrich discussions on important issues through the exchange of ideas, information and knowledge. These partnerships complement our own expertise by allowing us to leverage on the comparative advantages of our partners to strengthen capacity, credibility and capability in order to maximize the impact of our work.

The year 2019 saw the implementation of the Partnership Strategy, which was endorsed by the EC in December 2018. The Partnership Strategy offers guidelines to identify strategic partners to pursue win-win relations, with the aim of ensuring mutually beneficial outcomes through appropriate collaborations.

We continued to pursue joint activities with key partners, which have enabled us to deepen our own capacity and capabilities, and provide a regional voice to the global conversation on issues affecting the region.

STRENGTHENING TIES WITH MEMBER AUTHORITIES

AMRO meets regularly with our member authorities to discuss a wide range of issues. These meetings take the form of short interim visits, bilateral meetings, AMRO Working Committee meetings, and Annual Consultation Visits.

Topics discussed include the global, regional, and country macroeconomic outlook, support to the CMIM, TA, as well as our organizational issues and strategic direction. AMRO participated in member authorities' discussions on the strategic directions of the ASEAN+3 Finance Process in 2019, where we provided insights and institutional support to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the process.

These interactions are meant to help foster a strong sense of ownership among members for AMRO's institutional development. They also serve as a channel for us to gather comments and feedback on our operations and how we can improve our performance, enabling us to respond effectively to our members' needs.

Outside of meetings, we continue to support member authorities by furnishing policy notes and analyses of key developments impacting the region. Notably, AMRO contributed a policy note, *"ASEAN+3 Region: Sustaining Growth and Stability amid Mounting Global Uncertainty"* to the 22nd ASEAN+3 Summit in November. This is the third consecutive year we have contributed our policy note to ASEAN+3 Leaders.



AMRO Director Mr. Toshinori Doi (left, middle) and the Cambodia mission team pay a visit to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance H.E. Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth (right, middle) during Cambodia's Annual Consultation Visit in September.



AMRO's then-Director Dr. Junhong Chang (left) and TCS Secretary-General Mr. Jong Heon Lee sign a MoU in April 2019 to strengthen collaboration between the two institutions in Singapore.

BUILDING BRIDGES TO FOSTER COOPERATION

In May, AMRO signed a MoU with the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS). The TCS is an IO established to promote peace and common prosperity among China, Japan, and Korea. The aim of the MoU is to provide a general framework to strategically utilize AMRO and TCS's comparative advantages, institutionalize cooperation and collaboration, build capacity and co-contribute to regional economic and financial cooperation and stability through joint activities as well as information sharing and consultation.

We continue to implement existing partnership initiatives and remain committed to expand our network, as well as to explore appropriate modalities of cooperation with our strategic partners.

2019 PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

	Event	Partner(s)
JANUARY	6 th AMRO-IMF Joint Seminar (Bangkok)	IMF
	AMRO-OECD Joint Workshop on "Economic Perspectives and Challenges Ahead for East Asia" (Paris)	OECD
	AMRO-EC-ESM Workshop (Luxembourg)	EC, ESM
MARCH	AMRO Training Course on "Risk Prevention and Resolution: China and the ASEAN+3 Region" (Beijing)	Chinese Authorities
MAY	AMRO-Lowy Institute Roundtable (Sydney)	Lowy Institute
	AMRO-ANU Roundtable (Canberra)	ANU
	AMRO-OMFIF AREO Roadshow (London)	OMFIF
	AMRO-ECB AREO Roadshow (Frankfurt)	ECB
	AMRO-OECD AREO Roadshow (Paris)	OECD
	AMRO-ISEAS Seminar (Singapore)	ISEAS
	AMRO-BOL CMIM Workshop (Vientiane)	BOL
3 rd RFA Research Seminar (Luxembourg)	ESM, FLAR	
JUNE	7 th Asian Regional Roundtable (Jakarta)	OECD, ADB/ADB, ERIA
	AMRO-BI Institute AREO Roadshow (Jakarta)	BI Institute
	AMRO-BSP Seminar for AREO (Manila)	BSP
	CMIM Workshops (Hanoi, Bandar Seri Bagawan)	Member authorities
	2 nd AMRO Joint Working Seminar (Luang Prabang)	IMF, ADB, CLMV member authorities
JULY	CMIM Workshops (Nay Pyi Taw)	Member authorities
AUGUST	AREO Roadshows (Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur)	BOT, Malaysian Economic Association
OCTOBER	4 th RFA High Level Dialogue (Washington, D.C.)	ESM, FLAR

OUTREACH AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS: SHARE – LISTEN – ENGAGE



AMRO Chief Economist Dr. Hoe Ee Khor shared his insights into the ASEAN+3 regional economic prospects and risks during a live interview with Bloomberg TV.

Our outreach and external communications strategy seeks to position AMRO as a credible and professional surveillance organization.

This is done by enhancing external audiences' understanding of our operations and knowledge of our products, and interacting with external stakeholders to better understand and address their interests. This two-way communication with key stakeholders has enabled us to provide timely analyses and policy advice.

In 2019, we engaged external audiences through the mainstream media, social media, our website, and outreach events. Our efforts have contributed towards raising AMRO's profile and credibility.

ENHANCING STRATEGIC MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Media engagement plays a key role in facilitating information flow with the public and amplifying our key messages.

In 2019, AMRO was featured in more than 600 media stories in international, regional, and national publications, with a significant number published by major news outlets. Eight opinion pieces were published in prominent media outlets in the region, discussing issues ranging from banking and fiscal reforms to the impact of global trade tensions on member economies.

The management team also took numerous interviews to proactively deliver our key messages on both regional and individual member economies.

STRENGTHENING ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

The newly revamped AMRO website continued to act as the main source for information and reports produced by us. In 2019, 40 press releases were published alongside nine feature stories and six multimedia products. We recorded a 20% increase in website traffic from the previous year, and observed improvements in time spent on the site, as well as the number of sessions and pages per visit.

Our blog continued to gain traction, with 22 articles published in 2019. This is almost double that of the previous year. A number of blog posts were picked up and republished in national newspapers, demonstrating the relevance of our work to audiences in our member economies.

As of the end of 2019, our LinkedIn page had 2,400 followers, 1.5 years after it was created. The bulk of our followers and visitors fit squarely within our target audience group. Through regular

updates featuring both our economic analyses and staff stories, the page has served as an effective platform in building AMRO's brand as a premier macroeconomic surveillance organization and an employer of choice in the professional community.



We have stepped up our efforts in producing more visual content to explain AMRO's role and present technical information and data in a more engaging way.

DEMONSTRATING THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

To drive thought leadership, AMRO's management team and experts were actively involved in high-profile events to share our deep knowledge and unique points of view on economic

developments in the region. This figure below highlights the events which AMRO has leveraged on to showcase our content expertise.

MARCH

Jakarta Forum on East Asia Financial Cooperation, on "Towards an Open, Inclusive, Stable and Prosperous Region" in Indonesia

Then-AMRO Director Dr. Junhong Chang delivered the keynote address, and then-Deputy Director, Mr. Yasuto Watanabe, underlined ASEAN+3 members' concerted efforts to enhance the CMIM to support regional financial stability.

Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference in China

AMRO Chief Economist Dr. Hoe Ee Khor delivered remarks at the launch of a new flagship report by BFA.

Les Rencontres Economiques 2019 in Singapore: "The World Economy's New Horizon" in Singapore

Dr. Khor joined a panel to discuss the importance of policy intervention to ensure adequate safeguards for workers in the process of globalization, economic integration, and technological advancement.

MAY

"Building Capacity and Connectivity for the New Economy in East Asia" Seminar in Fiji (organized by AMRO)

Dr. Chang delivered the opening remarks, while Dr. Khor presented the regional economic outlook.

MAY-AUGUST

AREO roadshows in Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Thailand jointly organized by AMRO and its local partners.

Our staff and local experts discussed key findings of the AREO 2019, regional growth prospects and country-specific economic development opportunities and challenges.

JUNE

"Navigating Global Challenges in the Asian Century" Roundtable in Japan

Dr. Khor spoke about key risks and vulnerabilities facing Asia and the region's long-term growth prospects amid a rising middle class, rapid urbanization, and adoption of digital technology.

AUGUST

Bank of America Merrill Lynch Financial Institution Forum in Singapore

Dr. Khor spoke on the impact of U.S.-China trade tensions on the region and the latest global and regional economic developments.

OCTOBER

Reinventing Bretton Woods Committee-Union Bank of Switzerland (RBWC-UBS) Conference on "The Disentanglement of the Global Economy" in Washington, D.C.

AMRO Director Mr. Toshinori Doi explained the role of AMRO and discussed how U.S.-China trade tensions have affected the region.

High Level Policy Dialogue on ASEAN's Centrality to Collective Regional Leadership Symposium on Asia's trade and economic priorities in Jakarta, Indonesia

Mr. Doi gave the opening speech while Dr. Khor shared insights on how to overcome structural challenges to achieve a new growth strategy for the ASEAN+3 region.

Institute of International Finance Annual Membership Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Khor discussed the challenges and recent developments of supply chains in Asia with fellow panelists.

Asian Financial Cooperation Association (AFCA) Bangkok Financial Summit Forum in Thailand

Mr. Doi discussed the importance of regional economic and financial cooperation to realize shared prosperity in the region.

NOVEMBER

Canon Think Big Leadership Business Series 2019 in Singapore

Mr. Doi delivered the keynote address, on how external shocks such as the U.S.-China trade tensions has impacted the region and how the region may mitigate its negative impact.

Our continued participation at these events served to increase our visibility in the community, highlight our professionalism, as well as build credibility for the organization.



AMRO Chief Economist Dr. Hoe Ee Khor delivers a presentation on growth engines for the new economy in the ASEAN+3 region at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

REACHING BEYOND THE ASEAN+3 REGION

We are mindful that in the highly interconnected global economy and financial markets, reaching out to stakeholders in other parts of the world will help build our reputation and establish authority in relevant topics at the global stage.

In January, then-AMRO Director, Dr. Junhong Chang, led a delegation to visit several institutions in Europe. We held a joint workshop on “*Economic Perspectives and Challenges Ahead for East Asia*” at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) headquarters in Paris. AMRO, the European Commission, and ESM also jointly organized a workshop in Luxembourg where we provided our macroeconomic assessment of the ASEAN+3 region and shared CMIM-related developments. We also received updates from our counterparts on recent economic and market developments as well as policy priorities in the Eurozone economies.

We launched the AREO 2019 in Fiji in May, on the sidelines of the ADB Annual Meetings. In her opening remarks during the launch, Dr. Chang underscored the ASEAN+3’s transformation from a crisis-shaken region in the late 1990s to the world’s fastest-growing region that is also one of the most resilient. Meanwhile, Dr. Khor made a presentation and moderated a panel discussion on how the regional economies can tap on the “new

economy” as a source of growth. The panel consisted of high-ranking policymakers and subject matter experts.

The AREO roadshow was extended to several major financial hubs outside the region, including two roundtables and a public lecture at the Lowy Institute in Sydney and the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra, a series of seminars at Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF) in London, the OECD in Paris, and the ECB in Frankfurt. These roadshows helped increase our visibility beyond the ASEAN+3 region and enhanced our credibility with global economic partners. The strong interest and dynamic discussions at these events, in addition to being featured in reputable publications in those countries, are proof of our growing global standing.

In the 2019 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the IMF in Washington, D.C., we were represented by Director Mr. Toshinori Doi who spoke in the RWBC-UBS conference titled “*The Disentanglement of the Global Economy*”, where he explained the role of AMRO and discussed how U.S.–China trade tensions had affected the region. Chief Economist Dr. Hoe Ee Khor joined the panel discussion on “*Supply Chains in Asia*” at the Institute of International Finance Annual Membership Meeting.