


Malaysia-Thailand Border Security and Development: Impacts of Non-Traditional Security Issues on Malaysia Northern Corridor and Economic Region (NCER)

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ABSTRACT

The Malaysia-Thailand border region, specifically, the Northern Corridor and Economic Region (NCER), is confronted with non-traditional security threats that have significant impacts on both security and development. The purpose of this research is to examine the impact of non-traditional security threats on the NCER to develop comprehensive strategies and policies that effectively address the challenges faced by this region. The SIAM model has been used to analyse the Phenomena approach through data analysis to gain insights into complex phenomena and understand the dynamics of the conflict in Southern Thailand. Using the SIAM analysis model, it was possible to get a wide range of insights into the threats and their potential effects on the security of the Perlis and Kedah NCER regions. The findings of this study indicate that there is a significant economic impact resulting from militant extremism in Southern Thailand, as well as instances of smuggling, human trafficking, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration occurring along the border shared by Malaysia and Thailand. This research will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the security challenges facing the region and aid in formulating evidence-based policies and interventions to enhance security measures, mitigate risks, and promote the overall well-being of the communities.

Keywords: Border Security and Development, Malaysia-Thailand Border, Non-Traditional Security Issues, NCER

INTRODUCTION

‘If goods do not cross the borders, then armies will’.

Frederic Bastiat and Otto T. Mallery

For every state, border security is one of the major factors for the integrity related stability, and sovereignty. Moreover, this is one of the secure means of national economy, whether it is land or maritime based border. Hence, it has direct relation with national development as ‘Security’ and ‘Development’ both are synonymous. Thereby, Malaysia and Thailand Border Security and Development in no wondering exception, rather is a continuous process for the good bonding and prosperity of both the states as Frederic and Otto believed (Azrul Azlan bin Abd Rahman, 2023).

Southern Thailand is located on the Malay Peninsula and has an area of around 70,714 km² (27,303 sq mi). The Kra Isthmus, which is the narrowest point of the peninsula, is located to the north of southern Thailand. The land boundary between Malaysia and Thailand runs for 595 kilometres (370 miles) across the Malay Peninsula, while the marine limits are located in the Straits of Malacca and the Gulf of Thailand/South China Sea respectively (Salleh, 2022). The Malaysia–Thailand border is what separates the two countries of Malaysia and Thailand. The Golok River makes up the most easternmost portion of the land boundary, which is 95 km long. There are four separate areas that make up the country of Thailand, which is located in Southeast Asia and is recognised for its abundant culture, breath-taking scenery, and bustling cities. These regions include the North, Northeast, Central, and Southern regions. Even though every part of the country has its own distinct qualities, the South of Thailand is the part of the country that has received the most attention recently because of the continuous wars and the socio-economic issues that it faces. Specifically, the five provinces in Southern Thailand that have been at the centre of a protracted insurgency and turmoil are Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, Songkhla, and Satun (Jusoh, et al, 2023).

Throughout the years, the provinces of Yala, Pattani, and Narathiwat, which collectively make up what is known as the "Deep South," have been involved in a significant amount of violent strife. The insurgency that has been going on in these provinces has been fostered by a number of different elements, including as historical grievances, ethno-religious conflicts, and socio-economic inequities. (Azrul Azlan Abd Rahman et al, 2022) The people of this region, which is primarily Muslim and is distinct from the rest of Thailand, which is predominantly Buddhist, has been working towards achieving more autonomy and representation. The insurgency, which is marked by acts of violence and terrorism, has resulted in a substantial number of deaths on both sides and has presented significant hurdles to the attempts of the Thai government to preserve stability (Anuar, & Harun, 2018).

The conflict in Thailand could be an example of unconventional warfare, where non-state actors have challenged the authority of the state by employing guerrilla tactics, asymmetric warfare, and acts of terrorism. This type of warfare is also known as "proxy war." In this region, insurgent organisations have frequently initiated bombings, assassinations, and ambushes to achieve their aims, establish menace, and mistrust against local government, security agencies, and populations. The Thai government is facing difficulties regarding the attempt of insurgency. The prime reasons may be the historical grievances from their own beliefs and calls for more autonomy to express their native existences. Probably, it would be necessary to incept a multipronged strategy that could tackle not only the security issues but also the fundamental socio-economic factors that are triggering the turmoil (Zainol, et al, 2019).

However, the socio-economic issues have worsened the regional violence more in Thailand as it was not addressed accordingly. The region known as the "Deep South" has, for a very long time, been plagued by economic underdevelopment, restricted access to high-quality education and healthcare, and a dearth of opportunity of adequate employment. These socioeconomic discrepancies, along with a sense of marginalisation and unfair allocation of resources, have produced an environment that is ideal ground for dissatisfaction and radicalism. It is vital to take a holistic strategy that combines efforts to enhance the living circumstances and economic opportunities of the local people with security measures in order to promote peace and stability in the region. Addressing these concerns is essential if one want to foster peace and stability in the region (Salleh, 2022).



Figure 1. Malaysia – Thailand border

(Source: *Chasing Fate & Fortune in the Borderland: Cross-Border Marriage & Migration at the Malaysian-Thai Frontier*, Nurul, 2021)

As the focus has been shifted to the region of northern Malaysia which shares a border with Thailand's war-torn provinces of Yala, Pattani, and Narathiwat, it is important to point out that Thailand and Malaysia do not have any territorial dispute in this area. Because of close and porous bordering areas, it is challenging for both administrations to address the insurgency effectively. Movements of rebels across borders, the illegal transfer of weaponry, and cooperation between militant organisations on both sides of the border have further exacerbated the situation. The exchange of intelligence between Thailand and Malaysia, as well as their cooperation in attempts to manage the border and combat terrorism, has been pointed as most essential in resolving these difficulties and avoiding the spread of violence from one country to another (Chambers, & Waitookiat, 2019).

Problem Statement

The Malaysia-Thailand border region, specifically, the Northern Corridor and Economic Region (NCER), is confronted with non-traditional security threats that have significant impacts on both security and development. These threats, such as cybersecurity, climate change, pandemics, terrorism, economic instability, transnational crime, and environmental degradation, extend beyond traditional military conflicts (Dinesh, 2018). Achieving a balance between security and development is crucial for long-term sustainability and stability in the region. Neglecting security can lead to instability, societal unrest, and hinder long-term progress. On the contrary, overemphasizing security at the expense of development can perpetuate disparities, impede economic growth, and limit the opportunities (Anuar, & Harun, 2018). Recognizing the significance of border cooperation, Malaysia and Thailand are working together to ensure a secure and welcoming environment along their common border, facilitating free trade, tourism, and movement of people, while effectively addressing non-traditional security concerns (The Star, 2022). However, it is crucial to examine the impacts of non-traditional issues on the NCER to develop comprehensive strategies and policies that effectively address the challenges faced by this region and promote sustainable security and development.

Research Objective

1. To evaluate the effect of non-traditional threats on socio-economic progress and development within the Perlis and Kedah NCER regions.
2. Identify the key non-traditional threats that significantly impact the socio-economic progress and development in the Perlis and Kedah regions of the NCER.
3. Analyse the non-traditional threats that impact socio-economic progress and development within Perlis and Kedah NCERs.

Research Questions

1. What is the impact of non-traditional threats on socio-economic progress and development within the Perlis and Kedah regions of the NCER?
2. What are the key non-traditional that significantly impact the socio-economic progress and development in the Perlis and Kedah regions of the NCER?
3. How does non-traditional crime impact socio-economic progress and development within Perlis and Kedah NCERs?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research paper will be based on a qualitative approach to study the subject matter. Moreover, this will also be prepared on manual data analysis and Security Impact Assessment Model (SIAM). Mostly the primary data will be used to evaluate the phenomenon, its impact, and its spill over effect. This will also provide the base for suggesting future initiatives. Primary data will be collected from lectures, physical visits to the area and direct observation from stakeholders in the region, while secondary data will be obtained from various reliable and authenticate open sources such as academic journals, publications, and studies. The data will be analysed manually by the researchers to understand the phenomenon and bring out the research objectives. This approach will endeavour a comprehensive understanding of the issues of multiple perspectives. The manual analysis of data for this paper is a crucial aspect of this research as it allows the researcher to investigate thoroughly and comprehend the phenomenon of non-traditional threats and their impact on socio-economic progress and development within the Perlis and Kedah regions of the NCER.

The SIAM Model has also been applied to analyse the Phenomena approach through data analysis to gain insights into complex phenomena and understand the dynamics of the conflict in Southern Thailand. Moreover,

here the phenomena approach has involved Malaysia-Thailand border security and development: impacts of the non-traditional issue on the NCER. By adopting this approach, a comprehensive understanding of the root causes, grievances, and aspirations of the local population, as well as the broader societal and contextual factors that shape the conflict will be evaluated. The SIAM Model has also been used for researching the conflict in Southern Thailand, supports and initiatives toward peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The conceptual framework of this research focuses on Malaysia-Thailand border security and development: impacts of the non-traditional issue on the NCER. The framework begins with an identification of the key and non-traditional security issues. Berry Buzans Neo-realism concept will be used to understand the traditional and non-traditional security issues. The five pillars of security include military, political, economic, environmental, and societal security. Human security will be considered to complete the understanding of traditional and non-traditional security issues. These issues will then be studied to identify the impacts of the non-traditional issue on the NCER. SIAM Model will be used to see the impact of the issue. Thereafter approaches taken by the Thailand government will be analysed to see their suitability, acceptability, and effectiveness, thereby making a comprehensive understanding to apprehend the lessons for Malaysia and make a recommendation for the research topic.

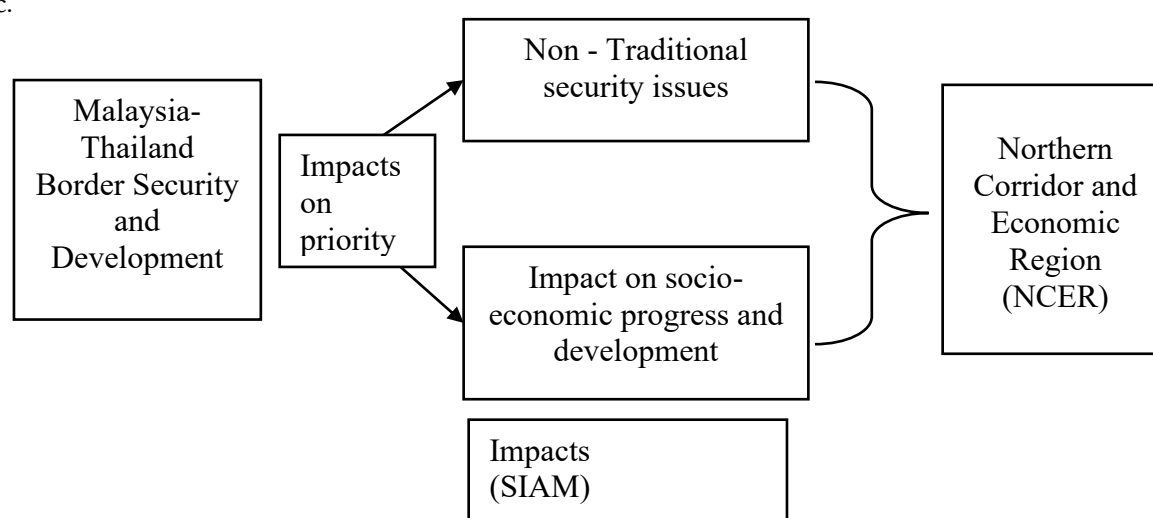


Figure 2. Conceptual Framework

Source: Researchers Concept based on Berry Buzan's Neo-Realism Concept (2023)

Before heading for analysis, a brief statistic of local crime has also been studied to render risk and threat assessment. This data will augment to prepare the SIAM model for this research study paper. Secondary material has also been used for this.

Table 1. Statistic of Non-Traditional Threats in Kedah and Perlis: Selected Cases

Media	Date	Headlines	Type of NTS
Malay Mail	05 Mar 23	Deputy finance minister says laws need update to better prevent diesel smuggling	Contraband goods - Diesel
Bernama*	22 Feb 23	Malaysia records 84 million cyber-attacks per day in 4Q 022 –FORTINET	Cyberattack
The StraitsTimes	07 Dec 22	Malaysia to temporarily import chicken eggs to address shortage	Food Security
Malay Mail	01 Nov 22	MMEA nabs man, nephew for suspected syabu smuggling near Kuala Perlis	Drug trafficking
Malay Mail	06 Jul 22	Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry	Contraband goods

Media	Date	Headlines	Type of NTS
		steps up crackdown on smuggling of cooking oil to neighbouring countries	– Cooking oil
Malay Mail	20 Jun 22	Assistant superintendent, corporal among five charged with smuggling of 119 migrants from Myanmar	Human Trafficking
Malay Mail	17 Jan 22	MMEA foils attempt to smuggle 2.3 tonnes of ketum leaves, detains two mules in Perlis	Ketum trafficking
Malay Mail	28 Nov 21	Three men nabbed in Kedah for attempting to smuggle 17 undocumented migrants	Human Trafficking
Malay Mail	11 Jul 21	MMEA foils attempt to smuggle one tonne of ketum leaves	Ketum trafficking
Malaysiakini	16 Apr 20	MOH: Kedah, Perlis and Penang can be green states if no new cases in 14 days	Pandemics and Infectious Viruses
The Star	4 Nov 10	Floods: More evacuated in Kedah and Perlis	Disaster/Climate Change

Source: Researcher (2023)

Vital Interest in Malaysia-Thailand Borders

To prepare the SIAM model, vital interest of these two bordering states is required to opt out. In that case, VUCA may be suitable to analyse the overall state to determine their vital interests. From the table it is well perceived that the vital interests of both the states for the bordering areas are the stability of law and order situation and prevention of illegal activities.

Table 2. Analysis of Vital Interests of Cross Borders for Malaysia and Thailand

Threats	Volatility	Uncertainty	Complexity	Ambiguity
DST	Smuggling	Armed Conflict	Impact of Global Climate Changes Impact of Russia-Ukraine War	Location of Sources of Smugglers, Drugs Traffickers
NCER	Smuggling	Armed Conflict	Impact of Global Climate Changes Impact of Russia-Ukraine War	Location of Sources of Smugglers, Drugs Traffickers
Vulnerability DST NCER	Volatility	Uncertainty	Complexity	Ambiguity
Agencies of Government Security	Medium	Low	High	Medium
NGOs	Low	High	High	Low

Source: Researcher (2023)

Effectiveness and Challenges

It has been observed that the security system and developmental issues are improving. Existing manpower with present skill is performing their duty with average satisfaction. Advent and evolving technology may be a good option to have better control of this porous area. Limited effort has been observed regarding this.

Though the overall standard of the concerned areas are found in satisfactory level but few challenges are still there. Mostly, corruption, procrastination from government agencies, illegal trafficking of goods and personnel, limited capability of modern technology, lack of enhanced skill, previous history of insurgency, and other local

crime issues are posing challenges to this limited system. Moreover, interstate coordination and local cooperation are also lacked with adequate harmony for relentless improvement. Thereby, these non-traditional issues posing greater risks and threats for the future are required to analysed through SIAM model.

ANALYSIS AND RESULT

By applying the SIAM analysis model to the Perlis and Kedah NCER regions, the research can derive valuable insights regarding the security impacts of non-traditional issues. The findings obtained from the SIAM analysis will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the security challenges faced by the region and aid in formulating evidence-based policies and interventions to enhance security measures, mitigate risks, and promote the overall well-being of the communities. Ultimately, the application of the SIAM analysis model within the research on Malaysia-Thailand border security and development will provide a robust framework for evaluating the security impacts of non-traditional issues, enabling a deeper understanding of the complexities involved and facilitating informed decision-making processes.

According to Hempel et al. (2012), the SIAM model was selected because it was the most important analytical threat model that was applicable to the Northern Corridor and Economic Region (NCER). In the context of the KESBAN ideas, to strike a balance between development and security in Perlis and Kedah. According to Barry Buzan's five-sector security model, several methods are now being utilised to address national security concerns. Due to the limited amount of time available for data collection and surveying, the best technique to evaluate the value of severely and the impact matrix is to engage in brainstorming.

Table 3. Relevant to Perlis and Kedah NCER and National Security Perspective

No	Threats	National Security Policy 2021-2025
1.	Militant Extremism	Enhance Defence and Security Capacity and Preparedness
2.	Military / Security	Defence Cooperation
3.	Smuggling	Cross Border Crime
4.	Illegal Immigrant	Illegal Immigrants
6.	Criminal	Separatist Movement & Ideology
7.	Human Trafficking	Socio-Economic Disparity
8.	Wildlife & Rainforest	National Resource Management
10.	Smuggling	Smuggling Activities at Border Area and Entry Points
12.	Drug	Narcotics Related Crime
13.	Murders	People's Security
14.	Sexual Harassment	Social Justice
15.	Corruptions (Bribery)	Good Governance
16.	Piracy	Economic Integrity
17.	Hostages	People's Security

Source: National security policy - MKN (2019)

According to Buzan et al., (2003) explain the obstacles that are associated with the concept of security by proposing five aspects of security, all of which are interlinked with one another. This is done as a way of presenting a solution to the problems that are associated with the concept of security. Matrix construction and evaluation of the likelihood of occurrence on Perlis and Kedah NCER regions threats were identified as the most significant to

the sector. The score of Very Unlikely (1) is the lowest possible, while the score of Very High (5) is the greatest. This process consisted of coming up with ideas to determine the Probability of Occurrence, using marks ranging from Very Unlikely to Very High in accordance with the 5 Sectors of Security. The risks indicating that are pertinent to the 5-sector security perspective of the Perlis and Kedah NCER regions. The collaborative discussions that took place inside the group provided the basis for the procedure of awarding a score to be used in evaluating each identified threat. Every member of the group brings their own unique point of view to the discussion, which is shaped by their observations, the things they've read, and the things they've done. These inputs are taken into consideration collectively in order to arrive at a conclusion on the suitable score that needs to be awarded to a particular threat. This issue can be linked to the discipline of research methodology because it requires the application of manual analytic procedures in order to evaluate the dangers that have been detected. This strategy results in a thorough analysis since it takes into account the multiple points of view held by each individual participant within the group that is having the conversation.

Table 4. Threat and Sector Matrix

Perlis and Kedah NCER	Sector				
	Politics	Military/ Security	Economy	Social	Environmental
Militant Extremism	5	5	4	4	1
Smuggling	3	2	5	4	1
Wildlife, Poaches/ Rainforest	2	3	4	1	5
Criminal	2	1	3	5	4
Illegal Immigrant	1	3	5	4	2
Human Trafficking	2	1	5	4	3
Drug	1	2	3	5	4
Murders	1	1	1	1	1
Sexual Harassment	2	1	1	3	2
Corruptions (Bribery)	4	2	4	3	2
Piracy	1	1	2	2	1
Hostages	1	1	1	1	1

Note: The lowest marks are Very Unlikely (1) and the highest is Very High (5).

Source: Researcher (2023)

The severity of this stage, as well as its influence on the Perlis and Kedah NCER, was evaluated, and the results were as follows: Uncritical (1), Marginal (2), Significant (3), Critical (4), and Disastrous (5). At this point, we also participated in some brainstorming in order to identify potential threats to the five main areas of security that make up the Perlis and Kedah NCER. The mentioned scores are the product of a discussion with the other members of the group. The score in the table is completely determined by predictions from experience, reading materials and observations made during the on-ground research visit. The threats may be divided into two categories: traditional and non-traditional, with traditional categories being politics, the military, or security, and non-traditional categories include the economy, society, and the environment. The markings for 'Probability of Occurrence' are in the first row, while the markings for Severity and Impact are in the second row. The evaluation of the impact and severity in relation to the probability of occurrence may be seen in Table 3.

Table 5. Assessment of Impact and Severity

Perlis and Kedah NCER	Sector				
	Politics	Military/ Security	Economy	Social	Environmental

		Security			
Militant Extremism	5	5	4	4	1
	5	5	4	4	1
Smuggling	3	2	5	4	1
	3	2	5	4	1
Wildlife/Poaches/ Rainforest	2	3	4	1	5
	2	1	4	3	5
Criminal	2	1	3	5	4
	4	5	3	2	1
Illegal Immigrant	1	3	5	4	2
	3	2	4	5	1
Human Trafficking	2	1	5	4	3
	1	2	5	3	4
Drug	1	2	3	5	4
	1	5	3	4	2
Murders	1	1	1	1	1
	4	4	2	4	1
Sexual Harassment	2	1	1	3	2
	1	1	1	3	3
Corruptions (Bribery)	4	2	4	3	2
	5	5	3	3	3
Piracy	1	1	2	2	1
	2	2	2	3	2
Hostages	1	1	1	1	1
	3	3	3	3	3

Note: Uncritical (1), Marginal (2), Significant (3), Critical (4) and Disastrous (5).

Source: Researcher (2023)

Identifying and classifying risks is the next stage. The likelihood of an event occurring and its impact or severity are combined to produce these classes. The provided ratings reflect the product of the occurrence's likeliness and its severity. The purpose of this table is to map out and rank the various security risks. This table will give significant information for the drafting of the combined scenario threat report, which is in addition to the selection of scenarios that need to be generated in the following stage. In this phase, we evaluate the severity of the threat by considering its effects across a variety of societal axes. Both the likelihood of an event happening and the degree of danger are rated on a scale from 1 to 5 as shown in the table. For more information on the impact analysis, see the preceding section. We discovered that the economic effect of smuggling, the environmental impact of poaching wildlife and deforestation, and the economic cost of people trafficking to all be extremely large and terrible. Non-traditional risks have the greatest probability and severity or impact, as seen in Table 4.

Table 6. Risk Categories

			* Militant Extremism (Social)	* Criminal (Social)	* Drug (Economy) * Illegal Immigrant (Economy)	* Militant Extremism (Economy) * Smuggling (Economy) * Human Trafficking (Economy)
	Very High (5)					

Probability of Occurrence	High (4)		*Illegal Immigrant (Politic)	* Human Trafficking (Social)	*Smuggling (Social)	* Illegal Immigrant (Social)
	Possible (3)	*Poaches, Wildlife, Rainforest (Military)	* Criminal (Economy)	* Smuggling (Politic)	*Poaches, Wildlife, Rainforest (Economy)	* Drug (Military)
	Low (2)	*Human Trafficking (Politic)	* Smuggling (Military)		* Criminal (Politic)	* Criminal (Military)
	Very Unlikely (1)	* Poaches, Wildlife, Rainforest (Politic)	* Human Trafficking (Military) * Drug (Politic)	*Poaches, Wildlife, Rainforest (Social)		
		Uncritical (1)	Marginal (2)	Significant (3)	Critical (4)	Disastrous (5)
	Severity / Impact					

Source: Researcher (2023)

Two groups within each category are chosen. The first scenario is a "very unlikely/disastrous" case, whereas the second is a "probability and severity" case. The narratives describe how the situation developed and why it was necessary to take such precautions. Rank the 30 risks to the timetable from most probable to least likely, from most high to most low. The risks to the Perlis and Kedah NCER will be described in the description column. To reduce the risk, the column suggests that the agency take the following action. The next step may be to examine this proposal in the context of development policy or security policy. This risk analysis and subsequent steps are given in Table 5.

Table 7. Risk Assessment and Action to be Taken

No	Risk	Description	Probability	Severity	Actions to Minimise Risk
1.	Militant Extremism (Economy)	The presence of militant groups, such as Jemaah Islamiyah and Abu Sayyaf, in the broader Southeast Asian region, including Malaysia and Thailand, raises concerns about potential cross-border activities and the spread of radical ideologies.	Very High	Disastrous	Enhancing border security measures Perlis and Kedah NCER, such as increasing patrols, deploying technology-enabled surveillance systems, and improving intelligence-sharing between relevant agencies, can help detect and prevent the movement of militants and the smuggling of weapons and illicit goods across the border.
2.	Smuggling (Economy)	Smuggling goods impact to reduce GDP and impact to economy will make serious economy crisis	Very High	Disastrous	Enhancing border control measures Perlis and Kedah NCER is crucial to prevent smuggling. This includes increasing the number of border patrols, improving surveillance technology, and implementing strict

					inspection procedures at checkpoints.
3.	Human Trafficking (Economy)	Human trafficking impact to Economy entering using legal document such as visit then document then illegally contribute to criminal activity and drop economy but increase others problem.	Very High	Disastrous	Strengthen Legislation and Law Enforcement Perlis and Kedah NCER. Governments should enact comprehensive legislation that criminalizes all forms of human trafficking and establishes severe penalties for offenders.
4.	Drug (Economic)	Illegal drugs or controlled substances that are produced, distributed, and consumed illicitly. The drug trade has significant economic implications, including the diversion of resources, money laundering, and the distortion of markets.	Very High	Critical	Governments should focus on disrupting drug trafficking networks and dismantling their financial infrastructure. This involves targeted law enforcement efforts to identify and apprehend key actors involved in drug production, distribution, and money laundering. Cutting off the illicit revenue streams of drug traffickers can significantly impact their operations.
5.	Illegal Immigrant (Economy)	Illegal immigrants are seeking for job at near border and seeking asylum this give serious impact to economy	Very High	Critical	Undocumented immigrants often send remittances to their home countries, which can have positive economic effects by boosting the receiving country's economy and supporting families left behind.
6	Criminal (Social)	Individuals who engage in illegal activities and violate laws, posing a threat to social order and the well-being of communities	Very High	Significant	Strengthening law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system Perlis and Kedah NCER is crucial. Collaboration between law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and courts can help ensure the effective apprehension, prosecution, and punishment of criminals.

7.	Militant Extremism (Social)	Militant extremism refers to the adherence to radical ideologies that advocate for violence, often with the aim of imposing their beliefs on others or destabilizing societies.	Very High	Marginal	Prevention and Early Intervention Perlis and Kedah NCER. This includes targeted initiatives that identify individuals at risk of radicalization and provide support, counselling, mentorship, and alternative narratives to prevent them from being drawn into extremist ideologies.
8.	Illegal immigrant (Social)	Receiving threat from middleman handling the illegal immigrants. Broad area to be covered by Mil/Sy agencies to monitor the route used by illegal immigrants.	High	Disastrous	Imposed heavier penalties onto middleman. Procuring a higher technology equipment (Radar and UAV) to monitor the possible route used by illegal immigrants. Working closely with the civilian to receive information on the likely area used by the illegal immigrant to enter and exit the border Perlis and Kedah NCER.
9.	Poachers, Wildlife & Rainforest (Economy)	Poaching and hunting create damage to the ecosystem of the rainforest by eliminating species that are essential to the functioning of the ecosystem.	Possible	Critical	Wildlife and rainforest must coordinate the data and operation but this uncritical to military and police.
10.	Smuggling (Social)	Smuggling refers to the illegal transportation or trade of goods, including contraband items, across borders or within a country.	High	Critical	Enhancing Perlis and Kedah NCER border control measures is crucial to combat smuggling. Governments should invest in technology, personnel, and infrastructure to improve surveillance and detection capabilities.

Source: Researcher (2023)

Propose Model

A new model is proposed to analyse the impact of security on the development of the Northern Corridor and Economic Region (NCER). This model aims to achieve a balance between the desired outcomes of security and

development including capability by indigenous means. The elements of Information through Intelligence Preparation, Psyops, Media Management would be very effective basing on enhance sources. However, information is to be processed through adequate verification to avoid dispute and violation of humanity. Then appropriate actions may be taken.

Integrity, Incentives followed by precautions (punishments, surprise round) and Enforcement (controlling the situation) have the potential to impact both economic and security aspects. However, risk assessment though modification on SOP and policies are also very much required in this proposal. Through this again implementation may be reviewed as loop for better output. Here, figure 3 illustrates the outcome balance model, which is pertinent to the Non-Traditional approach and has relevance to the SIAM model.

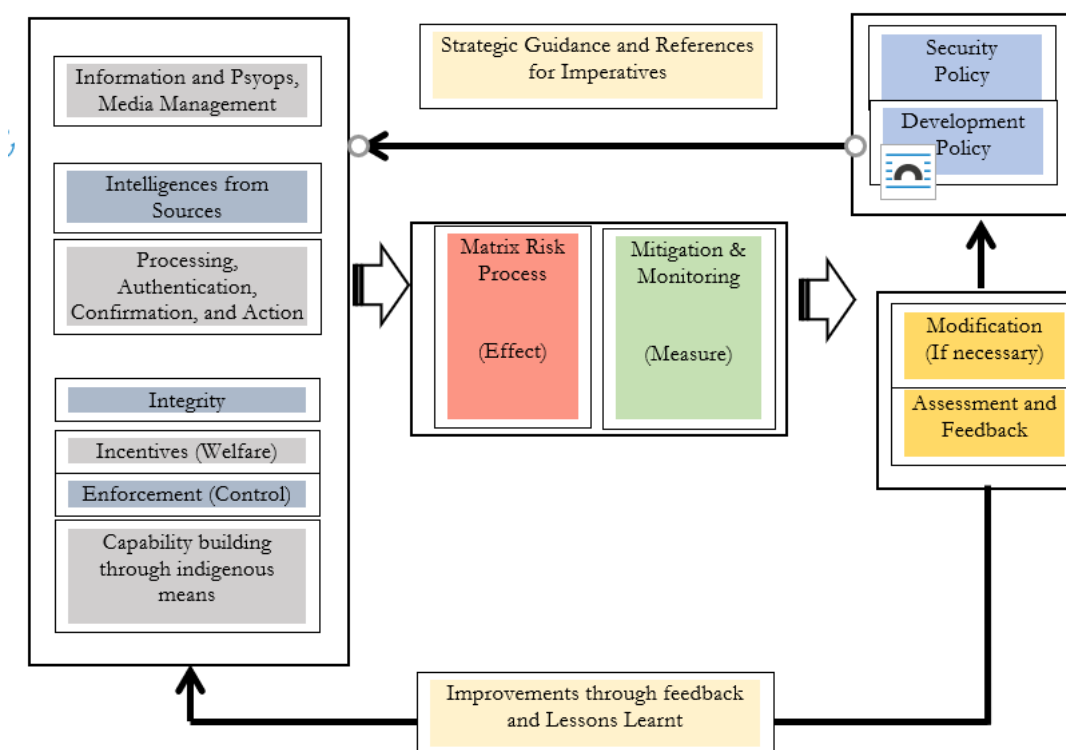


Figure 3. Outcome Balance Model

Source: Researcher (2023)

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to examine the Perlis and Kedah NCER development considering its potential to boost regional security, as well as the social and economic well-being of east Malaysia. The Perlis and Kedah NCER to neighbouring countries like Malaysia and Thailand, are raising the concerns for the security and economic development. These Perlis and Kedah NCER have connected cities and towns across Malaysia and Thailand. Since the Perlis and Kedah NCER will traverse such a vast area, these measures may be essential to ensure its safety and make the area ripe for the development of the future.

However, both of positive and challenging issues and impacts of the Perlis and Kedah NCER were pointed out from the research visit for the said bordering areas of Malaysia and Thailand. Certainly, the megaproject, northern Malaysia have significant positive impacts and may step up the pace of its development. This will allow for maximum utilisation of the region's abundant again limited resources.

It is expected that People in Perlis and Kedah will have easier access to better work possibilities, and as a direct result, their standard of living will rise. The length of northern Malaysia's intra-state links will thereafter be readily available. In contrast, it would be absurd to expect to alter the unfavourable perceptions held by locals. Using the SIAM model, it was possible to get a wide range of insights into the threats and their potential effects on the security of the Perlis and Kedah NCER. As a conclusive remarks, it was well perceived that Security and Development are inseparable and synonymous in many ways. Thereby, it is very significant to keep on studying and monitoring on this issue to ensure the best output of this for every state. Only then it is possible to assure the prosperity through limited scopes and resources in any situations.

RECOMMENDATION

This research paper deeply explores Malaysia-Thailand's security challenges along its border, recommends the essentials and proposes strategies to deal with them effectively. Aligned with the Malaysia Defence White Paper, National Defence Policy, and New Development Policy, these plans employ an all-out effort between the Armed Forces of Malaysia, civil internal security departments, and the government, thus creating an interlinked approach between them all. Malaysian Armed Forces needed to increase personnel and allocate more resources to protect the NCER and improve intelligence sharing with Thailand security agencies as critical measures against terrorist threats and insurgencies.

Indigenous Modernization of the Security Agencies Considering Limited Resources

Malaysia government should allocate suitable funding and resources for R&D to have capacity to modernize indigenously. This will allow to utilise limited resources and minimize the future expenses. Technology for developing surveillance equipment may also be initiated for continuous effort on monitoring and controlling the situations.

New Approach on Training to Enhance the Skill of Limited Manpower

A systemic training approach may be adopted which will allow to enhance the skill of existing manpower. Hence, without increasing the manpower, additional tasks will be possible to manage. For these incentives may also be awarded to the concerned duty personnel.

Timely Reviewing of Bilateral Security Agreements with Thailand

Existing bilateral security agreements focused on intelligence sharing, joint patrols, and cross-border collaboration may be reviewed basing on feedback and case studies regularly. These regular meetings and modifications of agreement will also foster to address shared threats more efficiently. Moreover, this effort may also enhance the approaches for free trade, tourism, and mitigation of non-traditional threats.

Establishing of Special Database for Intelligence Preparation

Establish a comprehensive database of individuals and organisations involved in cross-border criminal activities. This database will emphasize on security threats, increasing situational awareness while aiding proactive decision-making processes. Authority of accessing the special database should be set according to the sensitivity of the appointment holders of concerned agencies.

Training and Capacity Building

Cross border training may be incepted whereas cultural diversities, respecting of genders, religions, legislation, legal issues, professional skill enhancement may be included. This effort may enhance the working bonding and reduce the communication gaps to work under joint environment.

Legislation and Legal Framework

Enhancement for legislation that addresses transnational security threats and cross-border criminal activities may be considered. This may provide effective legal framework to law enforcement agencies to pursue and prosecute offenders across borders.

Public Awareness and Communication

Public awareness campaigns may be conducted more to raise public consciousness of the importance of border security measures, development initiatives, and transparency regarding communication with citizens about them. Government broadcast system may be used to reduce costings of advertisement. This will ensure the transparency and accountability to the concerned people for any measures implemented by governments.

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