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Event Highlights – Q1 2026

ISACA ASEAN Chapters' Leaders Regional Conference 2026 Strengthening Regional Collaboration

9 February 2026 Singapore

ISACA Malaysia participated in the ISACA ASEAN Chapters' Leaders Regional Conference, held on 9 February 2026 in Singapore. The session, organised and hosted by the ISACA Singapore Chapter, brought together chapter leaders and board members from across the ASEAN region – Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines and Malaysia – providing a valuable platform to exchange insights, strengthen collaboration and align on shared priorities for the year ahead.

The conference focused on enhancing regional cooperation among ASEAN chapters, particularly in driving member value, professional development and sustainable chapter growth. Participants shared practical experiences and leading practices in areas such as training programmes, sponsorship strategies, volunteer engagement and chapter operations.

A key highlight was the discussion on regional priorities and joint initiatives for 2026, where chapters explored opportunities for closer collaboration through cross-border programmes, knowledge sharing and co-hosted events. There was also a strong emphasis on emerging GRC trends, particularly in the context of digital transformation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and evolving regulatory expectations.

The roundtable discussions were especially engaging, allowing participants to share challenges, success stories and innovative approaches adopted within their respective chapters. These exchanges provided valuable perspectives and practical ideas that ISACA Malaysia can leverage to further enhance its programmes and member offerings.

Overall, the conference reaffirmed the importance of regional collaboration and collective leadership in advancing ISACA's mission. ISACA Malaysia looks forward to building on these connections and contributing actively to regional initiatives in the coming year.



Event Highlights – Q1 2026

IUM KICT INNOVATEX 2025/2026 Career Talk & Judging Engagement



7 January 2026 IIUM

ISACA Malaysia was honoured to be invited by the Kulliyah of Information and Communication Technology (KICT), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), to participate in INNOVATEX Semester 1, 2025/2026 as both an industry speaker and a judging panel member.

Organised by the ICT Student Society (ICTSS), this flagship event provides a platform for final-year students to showcase innovative projects and engage with academic staff and industry professionals. ISACA Malaysia's participation reflects our ongoing commitment to supporting student development and strengthening academia–industry collaboration.

Our Contribution

Career Talk: Cybersecurity Career Journey and Landscape

ISACA Malaysia delivered a career talk focused on the evolving landscape of Cybersecurity, IT Governance and IT Audit. The session covered:

- Current industry trends and emerging career opportunities
- Career pathways across the Three Lines of Defence, including Cybersecurity, Risk & Compliance, and IT Audit roles
- Key skills and globally recognised professional certifications
- Practical insights drawn from real-world industry experience

Judging and Industry Engagement

ISACA Malaysia also participated as a judging panel member, evaluating Final Year Projects based on innovation, technical depth and practical applicability, while providing constructive feedback to support students' professional growth.

Supporting Future Talent Development

Through initiatives such as INNOVATEX, ISACA Malaysia continues to bridge academic learning with industry expectations, reinforcing our commitment to nurturing future talent, promoting professional standards and enhancing graduate employability in technology risk and cybersecurity domains.

Members Related



Reinstate Your ISACA Membership



How to Earn ISACA CPE — Free and Discounted Options

ISACA offers a variety of no-cost and low-cost opportunities to support continuous learning and help members maintain their certifications:

- Webinars – Free for members; typically 1 CPE per 60-minute session. Recordings are available on demand, usually for up to one year.
- Virtual Summits – Half-day deep-dive sessions, generally free for members (non-member fees may apply).
- Conference Session Recordings – Curated collections of presentations from ISACA conferences, available at discounted rates.
- ISACA Journal CPE Quizzes – Earn 1 CPE for each successfully completed quiz.
- Volunteering and Mentorship – Earn CPE credits through eligible roles and activities with ISACA and the ISACA Foundation, including chapter officer positions.
- Exam Development and Content Contribution – Earn CPE by writing exam questions or submitting articles to the ISACA Journal.

ISACA Global Mentorship Programme

Join the members-only platform to connect one-to-one, develop leadership skills and earn up to 10 CPEs. Access is available via mentorship.isaca.org using your ISACA login credentials.



Upcoming Learning Event - Free Bootcamp

We are delighted to announce that the ISACA Malaysia Chapter will be launching a series of FREE certification bootcamps, designed to help members prepare for their upcoming ISACA certification examinations.

ISACA certifications are recognised globally as the gold standard for professionals in IT audit, governance, risk, cybersecurity, privacy and emerging technologies. Achieving an ISACA credential demonstrates your readiness to meet the demands of modern enterprises and your ongoing commitment to professional excellence and digital trust. These bootcamps will be delivered by experienced ISACA volunteer trainers, bringing strong technical expertise alongside valuable real-world industry insights.

Each session will:

- Focus on key examination domains
- Follow a structured and targeted learning approach
- Leverage official ISACA Review Manual to support effective learning and examination readiness

Special Highlight – 25 April 2026

AAIA & AAISM Bootcamp

As the first certification bootcamp introduced by the ISACA Malaysia Chapter, we are pleased to offer a one-time special exemption:

Members may attend the AAIA & AAISM bootcamp without prior examination registration.

This presents a valuable opportunity to explore the certification, build foundational knowledge and experience the bootcamp before committing to the examination.

We strongly encourage all interested members to take advantage of this initiative to upskill, strengthen professional credentials and advance their careers.

More Information

For full details, including schedules, delivery format, and terms and conditions, please refer to the attached PDF or contact us at:

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2026 CISM Exam Update

Effective 3 November 2026, ISACA will implement a revised CISM exam content outline to reflect updated job practice requirements for information security leaders. This refresh places greater emphasis on strategic responsibilities, programme ownership and enterprise-wide security considerations, reinforcing CISM's positioning as a management-focused and business-aligned certification.

The update reflects the growing expectation that information security leaders operate as strategic partners to the business, rather than purely technical specialists.

Key Details of the 2026 CISM Exam Update

Strategic Focus Areas

Significantly increased emphasis on information security strategy, including the development, articulation and ongoing alignment of security objectives with organisational goals.

Stronger focus on information security programme development and management, particularly at the enterprise level, covering governance structures, operating models, resourcing and performance measurement.

New and Expanded Content

Introduction of more explicit coverage of enterprise architecture and security architecture, reflecting the need for security leaders to understand how security capabilities integrate with business architecture, technology platforms and key transformation initiatives.

Greater expectation that candidates can demonstrate oversight of architectural decisions, rather than hands-on design or configuration.

Core Domains Remain Intact

While the emphasis has shifted, the CISM exam continues to assess critical foundational domains, including:

- Information security risk assessment and analysis
- Risk response and treatment strategies
- Governance, policy and assurance mechanisms

These areas are increasingly framed within an enterprise and decision-making context, rather than operational execution.

For detailed information, please visit ISACA's official page:

<https://www.isaca.org/resources>

Key ISACA Global Updates – Q1 2026

1. Launch of the Future-Ready IT Audit Framework (ITAF), 5th Edition

ISACA released a major update to its IT Audit Framework (ITAF), representing the first comprehensive refresh since 2020. The 5th Edition is positioned as future-ready, reflecting the realities of AI-driven, data-intensive and highly automated environments.

Key enhancements include:

- Expanded scope beyond traditional IT controls to encompass AI/ML, cloud computing, automation and data analytics
- Integration of digital trust principles across audit planning, fieldwork and reporting
- New guidance supporting continuous auditing, agile delivery models and AI governance
- Strengthened expectations relating to transparency, ethical technology use and governance oversight

This update establishes the baseline for global IT audit and assurance practices going forward and is expected to influence regulatory expectations and external audit approaches worldwide.

2. Increased Global Emphasis on AI Governance and AI Risk

ISACA continued to position AI governance and AI risk management as priority topics at board and executive level:

- Publication of global articles and thought leadership on responsible AI oversight
- Updates to AI-related risk guidance, reflecting increased regulatory scrutiny and reputational exposure
- Reinforcement of the linkage between AI adoption, digital trust and assurance accountability

3. Update on Access Period Changes

From 16 April 2026, access to ISACA exam preparation materials—including exams, QAE and online courses—will be reduced from 12 months to 6 months for new purchases. Non-sponsored webinars and virtual workshops will also move to a 6-month access period. This change reflects learner behaviour trends, which show that most candidates complete their exam preparation within six months, with many attempting their first exam in under 80 days. Data also indicates that candidates who sit their exam within this timeframe tend to achieve higher pass rates.

The revised access period is designed to better align with how learners engage with materials and support improved outcomes.

For detailed information, please visit ISACA's official page:

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Key ISACA Global Updates – Q1 2026

4. Focus on Regulatory Readiness and Operational Resilience

ISACA's global content during Q1 2026 reflected heightened attention to regulatory and resilience-related developments, including:

- Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA) readiness for financial institutions
- Strengthened expectations around operational resilience, third-party risk and supply-chain assurance
- Increased emphasis on incident preparedness, response validation and recovery capability

This direction reinforces ISACA's risk-based and outcomes-focused narrative: organisations are expected to demonstrate capability maturity, not merely produce policy artefacts.

5. Advancement of Continuous and Agile Auditing Models

ISACA published thought leadership encouraging a shift away from periodic, point-in-time assessments towards:

- Continuous auditing
- Real-time risk monitoring
- Data-driven assurance, leveraging analytics and automation

This approach aligns closely with the updated ITAF and reflects a broader global movement towards proactive risk identification and early intervention, rather than retrospective assurance.

6. Credential and Knowledge Ecosystem Signals

While no major certification syllabus changes were introduced during Q1 2026, ISACA continued to:

- Promote advanced credentials in emerging domains, such as AI risk and governance
- Refresh exam-related learning content and professional development resources
- Emphasise stronger alignment between job practice, governance accountability and real-world application

ISACA also reiterated, through official communications, that future certification updates will prioritise governance, risk ownership and business alignment, rather than tool- or technology-specific knowledge.

For detailed information, please visit ISACA's official page:

<https://www.isaca.org/resources>

Sheraton Petaling Jaya, 19 - 20 August 2026

CIAG 2026

Save the Date!!!



CIAG

CYBERSECURITY, IT ASSURANCE & GOVERNANCE





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Malaysia Chapter

MY ISACA FEEDBACK

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- We are committed to continuously improving this newsletter to better serve and benefit all our members.
- Your feedback and engagement are invaluable in helping us deliver content that is timely, relevant, and impactful.
- Please feel free to share your feedback, comments, and ideas with us at: officeadmin@isaca.org.my

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