



Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

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Ilmu Pelita Hidup

SDG 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, is well reflected in the Malay proverb "*Ilmu pelita hidup*" (Knowledge is life's guiding light). This proverb highlights how education lights the way throughout a person's journey, not only during school years but across a lifetime.

At Universiti Malaya (UM), this principle is demonstrated through various lifelong learning initiatives, such as micro-credential programs, community education, public lectures, and online learning platforms. By fostering a culture of continuous learning, UM empowers individuals to adapt, grow, and contribute meaningfully to society at every stage of life—truly embodying the spirit of lifelong learning envisioned in SDG 4.

UM's Commitment to Lifelong Learning

Universiti Malaya (UM) actively promotes lifelong learning by hosting a wide range of public educational events that are open to all members of society. These programmes, held across faculties and disciplines, provide free access to expert knowledge, hands-on experiences, and meaningful dialogue between academia and the community. From large-scale research carnivals and scientific open days to online lecture series and public policy forums, UM ensures that learning remains accessible, inclusive, and relevant to the evolving needs of society.

Scan the QR code below: Additional free public events organised by Universiti Malaya faculties, academies, and centres throughout 2024 that are not covered in this SDG 4 report.

Note: The events listed in the table are only highlights and not exhaustive.



Throughout 2024, UM's public events—such as the UM Health Academia Month & Research Carnival, Science Open Day, SEAADE Conference, and Breakfast@UMHealth Lecture Series—demonstrated the university's deep commitment to lifelong learning. These initiatives connected diverse audiences including students, educators, professionals, and community members through open dialogues on health, technology, sustainability, and social well-being. By removing financial barriers and extending educational opportunities beyond its campus, UM continues to embody the spirit of SDG 4 (Quality Education), fostering a culture of curiosity, empowerment, and lifelong learning for all.



Public Events (Lifelong Learning): UM Health Academia Month & Research Carnival

In 2024, Universiti Malaya organised the UM Health Academia Month & Research Carnival (8–10 October 2024), themed “*Brave New Frontiers of Research, Bright Futures of Education.*” This three-day flagship event was held at the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, and was open to the general public at no cost, directly fulfilling the Impact Rankings requirement for lifelong learning initiatives.

Keynote lectures, forums, and panel discussions featuring local and international experts across medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. Topics addressed issues such as:

- Ethical considerations of social media in dental education
- Digital technology in treatment innovations and oral cancer diagnosis
- Frontiers in robotic surgery, telemedicine, kidney disease research, and minimally invasive clinical trials.
- Adapting healthcare education to AI and emerging social media trends.

Below: Event posters for the UM Health Academia Month & Research Carnival 2024

Interactive parallel programmes that encouraged active community participation:

- Live webinars accessible to the general public
- STEM invention competitions for youth engagement
- Pharmacy research exhibitions, organ puzzle challenges, and pilot plant tours
- Research poster showcases bridging academic knowledge with real-world applications

By providing equitable access to knowledge without financial barriers, this carnival successfully:

- Expanded lifelong learning opportunities for diverse stakeholders including students, professionals, and community members.
- Strengthened public understanding of scientific and medical innovation through accessible talks, hands-on demonstrations, and interactive learning.
- Fostered interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration between healthcare experts, researchers, and society.



Public Events (Lifelong Learning): 35th South East Asia Association for Dental Education – Embracing IR 5.0

In alignment with SDG 4, UM hosted the 35th Annual Scientific Conference of the Southeast Asia Association for Dental Education (SEAADE) on 25–27 November 2024 at the Majestic Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

This international event was open to the public as well as the academic community, reinforcing UM's vision of widening access to knowledge. It attracted a diverse audience including educators, practitioners, students, and stakeholders from across Southeast Asia and beyond.

Key highlights include:

- Distinguished talks: Keynote by Dato' Prof. Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman and a special lecture by Ms. Phillipa Davis (Australian Dental Council).
- Expert-led plenaries: Sessions by UM's Prof. Dr. Firdaus Hariri and Dr. Marhazlinda Jamaludin on advances in dental education, research, and practice.
- Inclusive participation: Oral and poster presentations offered opportunities for students and early-career researchers, with awards to recognize excellence and encourage innovation.
- Regional collaboration: Enhanced cross-border academic and professional networks, promoting Southeast Asia as a centre of educational growth.



By bridging academia, industry, and the public, SEAADE 2024 provided an accessible platform for lifelong learning, professional development, and community engagement.

Through SEAADE 2024 and related educational initiatives, UM has:

- Strengthened inclusive education pathways by welcoming diverse learners and professionals.
- Promoted regional and global cooperation in education, showcasing UM's leadership role.
- Fostered lifelong learning, reflecting UM's mission as a university that serves society at large, not only enrolled students.

In essence, *Ilmu pelita hidup* is not only nurtured within UM's lecture halls but also shared with the world, ensuring UM continues to illuminate pathways toward sustainable, equitable education for all.



Above: During the launch of the scientific conference (left, photo credit: Program Kesihatan Pergigian KKM); and the event poster (right)

Public Events (Lifelong Learning): Community Oral Health Research Talk

The Community Oral Health Research Talk was organised by the Community Oral Health Research Group (COHRG), Faculty of Dentistry. On 2 August 2024, COHRG hosted a public research talk titled “Silver Diamine Fluoride Application as the Restorative Treatment for Root Caries” at the Dental Specialist & Research Tower, UM.

The session featured:

- Invited Speaker: Dr. Chloe Meng Jiang (Hong Kong University)
- Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jacob John (Universiti Malaya)

This open-access educational event provided free lifelong learning opportunities for students, researchers, practitioners, and members of the wider community. The objectives were to:

1. Disseminate Research-Based Knowledge: Share clinical applications, benefits, and evidence-based outcomes of Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) as a restorative treatment.
2. Encourage Collaborative Learning: Discuss potential avenues for cross-institutional collaboration in research, clinical practice, and education.
3. Promote Lifelong Learning and Inclusivity: Foster interdisciplinary dialogue and community engagement through free public access to cutting-edge research.

Right: Event poster for “Silver Diamine Fluoride Application as the Restorative Treatment for Root Caries” (top) and a glimpse of the talk session (bottom)



Public Events (Lifelong Learning): 10th Edition of Pidato Piala Tuanku Kurshiah

In May 2024, Universiti Malaya (UM) proudly hosted the Pidato Piala Tuanku Kurshiah 2024 (PPTK'24), a prestigious national speech competition open to secondary school students across Malaysia. Held at Dewan Gemilang Kurshiah, Kolej Kediaman Tuanku Kurshiah, UM, this year's event marked the 10th edition, reinforcing UM's role in nurturing oratory excellence and strengthening national identity through the Malay language.

Organised with the strong support of the Ministry of Education Malaysia and Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, PPTK'24 was guided by the theme "*Mengutuhkan Nusa Bangsa Berpaksikan Bahasa Melayu.*" This theme underscored the role of language in fostering unity, national identity, and critical thought among Malaysia's youth.

Participation and Impact

- **Youth Engagement:** Fifteen finalists, aged 15–17, from diverse regions and school backgrounds showcased their eloquence in the grand finale.
- **Inclusivity:** Participants represented urban and rural schools, highlighting UM's outreach and inclusivity across socio-economic divides.
- **Skill Development:** Competitors demonstrated critical thinking, confidence, and persuasive communication, key skills aligned with SDG 4.
- **Recognition:** The champion, Nik Nadzif Dhamir Nazhin Jazli (SMK Ismail Petra), received RM 800, a trophy, and a commemorative memento. Runner-up and third-place winners were also honoured with cash prizes, trophies, and certificates to celebrate their achievements.

Through this initiative, UM strengthens its mission of lifelong learning and public engagement, creating educational opportunities beyond formal classrooms. By providing a national platform for youth to articulate their visions confidently in Bahasa Melayu, PPTK'24:

- Promotes inclusive and equitable quality education
- Enhances skills for employability and empowerment through public speaking
- Encourages cultural continuity and the appreciation of national language as an intellectual medium, thus linking education to identity and social cohesion.



Above: Photos during the National Speech Competition.
Photo credit: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka

Public Events (Lifelong Learning): Graduate Upskilling Training (GUT)

On 9–10 December 2024, Universiti Malaya's Graduate Employability & Career Centre (GECC) organised the Graduate Upskilling Training (GUT): Microsoft Excel Popular Tools, a two-day hands-on workshop open to all graduates and the public.

The programme focused on enhancing digital literacy and workplace readiness, addressing one of the most in-demand competencies in the 21st century: data handling and analysis. Participants gained practical knowledge in widely applied Excel functions such as Pivot Tables, VLOOKUP, Charts, and Data Validation, tools essential for evidence-based decision-making, efficiency, and innovation across industries.

Led by Mr. Hailan Hamid, the workshop received highly positive evaluations. Participants reported:

- Increased confidence in applying digital skills in their professional contexts.
- Improved readiness for competitive job markets requiring analytical and technological agility.
- Greater motivation to continue pursuing self-directed learning opportunities.

Right: A screenshot of participants during the Microsoft Excel Popular Tools webinar

This initiative demonstrates UM's commitment to SDG 4: Quality Education by providing inclusive, lifelong learning opportunities that extend beyond traditional classrooms. By equipping graduates and members of the public with industry-relevant skills, UM actively supports graduate employability, community empowerment, and national talent development

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Public Events Through Lifelong Learning: Ungku Aziz Thoughts and Public Policy

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Topic: “The Hidden Load: Unequal Domestic Labor Among Working Couples in Malaysia”

Date: 14 November 2024

Universiti Malaya hosted this public lecture featuring Dr. Diana Abdul Wahab (FBE UM) and moderated by Dr. Sharifah Muhaifah Shahabudin (FBE UM). The discussion highlighted the often-overlooked burden of unequal domestic labor among working couples and its implications for social policy and family well-being.

Held online via Zoom and open to the general public, the session engaged students, academics, policymakers, and community members. It provided an accessible platform for lifelong learning and critical dialogue on gender equity, work-life balance, and inclusive policymaking. This initiative advances inclusive access to lifelong learning and reinforces UM’s role in making research-based insights available to the broader community.



Above: Event poster for the public lecture on unequal domestic labour

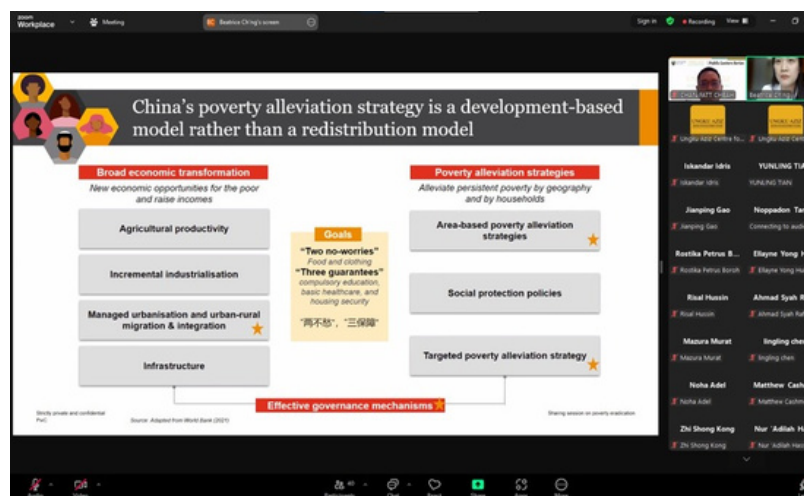
Right: A screenshot from the public lecture on poverty eradication in China (top), and other public lectures organised by the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies

Topic: “Poverty Eradication in China”

Date: 26 September 2024

The session featured Beatrice Sin Yi Ch’ng (PwC Malaysia) with Dr. Cheah Chan Fatt (UAC UM) as moderator. The lecture explored China’s poverty reduction strategies, policy frameworks, and lessons applicable to Malaysia’s development context.

Conducted online and open to the public, it attracted participants from diverse backgrounds and encouraged dialogue on global best practices in sustainable development. By sharing international case studies and connecting them to local challenges, UM strengthens lifelong learning, inclusivity, and the global relevance of higher education.



Public Events (Lifelong Learning): Breakfast@UMHealth 2024 Online Public Lecture Series

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In 2024, Universiti Malaya demonstrated its commitment to lifelong learning and public engagement through the [Breakfast@UMHealth](#) Online Public Lecture Series, organised by the Faculty of Medicine in partnership with UMHealth (Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, UM Specialist Centre, and UM Medical Centre). This Continuing Medical Education (CME) initiative opened access to high-quality medical knowledge not only to clinicians but also to the broader public. Delivered entirely online, the series exemplified inclusivity, flexibility, and sustainability, key elements aligned with THE Impact Rankings (SDG 4).

2024 Impact Snapshot

- Format: Online webinars (Zoom)
- Number of episodes: 46 (January–December 2024)
- Audience: Clinicians, healthcare professionals, students, and the public
- Topics: Wide-ranging, including global disease burden, pediatric ICU analgesia, cancer staging updates, health equity, and preventive care
- Accessibility: Live attendance and archived recordings for on-demand learning



Scan the QR code on the left: Full list of Breakfast@UMHealth recorded episodes from 2020-2025

Contribution to SDG 4: Quality Education

- Inclusivity & Reach: Free access for diverse groups: health professionals, students, and community members.
- Flexibility: Digital format enabled participation across time zones and work schedules.
- Educational Relevance: Expert-led content addressed pressing global and national healthcare challenges.
- Sustainability of Knowledge: Archived recordings allowed participants to revisit and reuse educational resources beyond the event.

The series directly contributes to Lifelong learning measures and Public resources for education by:

- Expanding professional and community learning opportunities at no cost.
- Providing enduring open-access educational materials that extend UM's educational impact beyond campus boundaries.
- Embedding UM's role as a knowledge hub that bridges academic expertise with public need.

As the Malay proverb reminds us, “*Ilmu tidak lapuk dek hujan, tidak lekang dek panas.*” Knowledge shared through Breakfast@UMHealth transcends barriers of time, distance, and circumstance. It reinforces Universiti Malaya's role as a regional leader in accessible, equitable, and lifelong education.

Lifelong Learning through Inaugural Lecture Series by Professors at UM (Faculty of Medicine)

In 2024, the Faculty of Medicine spearheaded UM's public engagement efforts by launching the Inaugural Lecture Series, a platform for newly appointed professors to share their expertise with the wider community. These lectures not only celebrated academic achievement but also extended free, open access to world-class knowledge. Events were held at the TJ Danaraj Auditorium and simultaneously livestreamed via the Faculty of Medicine YouTube Channel, ensuring broad and inclusive participation.

Highlights of 2024 Inaugural Lecture Series:

- 23 July 2024 – *Create to Rehabilitate* with Prof. Dr. Nazirah Hasnan (Rehabilitation Medicine): Emphasised innovation in rehabilitation and patient-centered care.
- 3 September 2024 – *Reimagine Ageing in Malaysia: Finding the Perfect Balance* with Prof. Dr. Shahrul Bahyah Kamaruzzaman (Geriatric Medicine): Explored strategies for healthy ageing and integrated care.
- 10 September 2024 – *The Portrait of a Woman* with Prof. Dr. Anushya Vijayanathan (Radiology): Focused on women's health and advancements in diagnostic imaging.
- 15 October 2024 – *A Journey of Discovery: The Road Less Travelled & Obesity and Public Health: Challenges and Opportunities for National Prosperity* with Prof. Dr. Victor Hoe Chee Wai & Prof. Dr. Sanjay Rampal (Occupational/Public Health): Addressed occupational health, epidemiology, and national challenges in obesity and public health.
- 10 December 2024 – *Paediatric Endocrinologist as a Change Agent* with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yazid Jalaludin (Paediatrics): Highlighted the transformative role of paediatric endocrinologists in child health.

Impact on SDG 4: Quality Education

1. Inclusive and Open Access: Lectures were free and open to all, both in-person and online, advancing SDG 4 (equal access to affordable and quality education).
2. Promotion of Lifelong Learning: The diverse topics, ranging from rehabilitation and healthy ageing to women's health and child care, fostered lifelong learning among students, professionals, policymakers, and the public.
3. Community Empowerment: The events encouraged active dialogue across multiple sectors, strengthening links between academia, healthcare, and society.
4. Digital Outreach and Equity: Livestreaming via YouTube extended UM's reach nationally and globally, aligning with SDG 4 (creating inclusive learning environments supported by technology).
5. Societal Relevance: Each lecture addressed urgent issues in public health and wellbeing, reinforcing UM's role as a thought leader contributing to Malaysia's development goals.

Below: Examples of lecture posters. The full list of the Faculty of Medicine's Inaugural Lectures can be viewed on their website



Public Events (Lifelong Learning): Science Open Day 2024 – Faculty of Science, UM

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In conjunction with its 65th anniversary, the Faculty of Science at Universiti Malaya organised a three-day Science Open Day from 14–16 May 2024 to ignite public interest in science and to inspire the next generation of learners.

Key Highlights

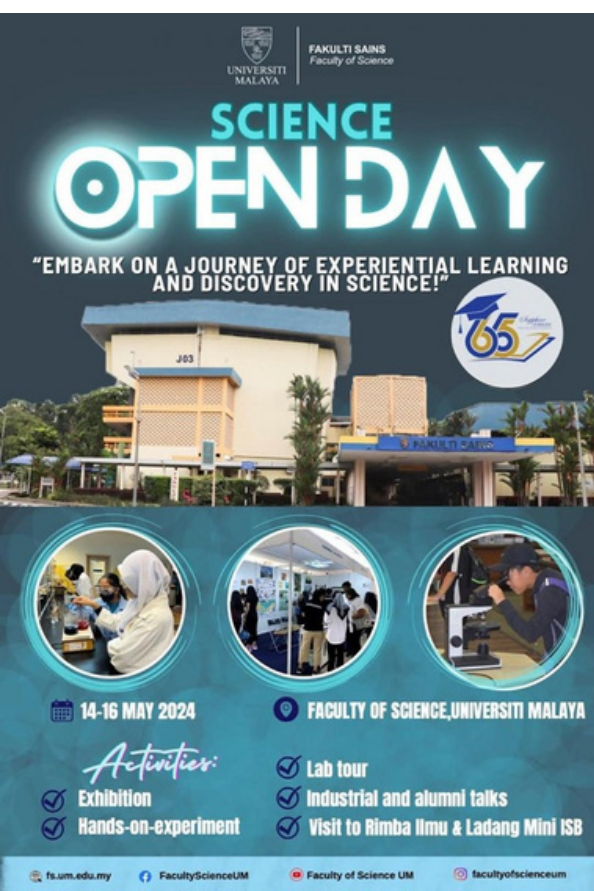
- Attended by more than 600 secondary school students, alongside teachers and members of the Universiti Malaya community.
- Officiated by Tan Sri Zarinah Anwar, Chairperson of the University Board, who described the event as “a celebration of knowledge, discovery, and innovation”.
- Featured open laboratories, interactive exhibitions, research showcases, quizzes, and academic sharing sessions across six units: Biological Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, and Science & Technology Studies.
- Guided tours introduced participants to UM’s unique learning spaces such as the Mini Farm (Institute of Biological Sciences), Rimba Ilmu, the Zoology Museum, and the Geology Museum.

Contribution to SDG 4: Quality Education

- **Inclusivity and Access:** The event welcomed students, teachers, and the public, making scientific learning accessible to all.
- **Experiential Learning:** Hands-on exposure to laboratories, fieldwork, and research highlighted practical, inquiry-based learning as key to lifelong education.
- **Inspiring Future Scientists:** Students interacted with scientists, explored STEM pathways, and gained motivation for higher studies and research careers.
- **Community Engagement and Literacy:** By connecting UM with the wider community, the Open Day promoted scientific literacy, curiosity, and awareness of science’s role in national progress.

The Science Open Day exemplifies UM’s role as a regional leader in SDG 4, advancing the THE Impact Rankings criteria by:

- Promoting lifelong learning through open, community-focused education.
- Inspiring STEM interest among youth as Malaysia’s future innovators.
- Strengthening university–community partnerships to extend the impact of higher education.



Left: Event poster for the Science Open Day

Below: A group of school students at one of the exhibitions during the event



Vocational Training Events (Lifelong Learning)

In 2024, Universiti Malaya upheld its commitment to lifelong learning through a mix of programmed and ad-hoc vocational and executive education events open to the public. Among its programmed initiatives were the Silent Mentor Program by the Faculty of Medicine, which blended surgical training with humanistic values, and the FLL Fiesta 2024 by the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics, an annual celebration of multilingualism and cultural exchange. The 4th International Malaria Workshop by the Department of Parasitology further strengthened UM's role in global health education through a periodic, hands-on platform for malaria diagnosis and elimination tools.

Complementing these recurring programmes, UMCares delivered Ped-KA-21, an ad-hoc 21st-century pedagogy and curriculum module tailored for TVET teachers from Sungai Buloh Vocational College. Together, these initiatives exemplified UM's vision of Ilmu Pelita Hidup — knowledge as the lamp of life — by extending quality education and practical skills to diverse learners beyond the university, in alignment with SDG 4: Quality Education.

Silent Mentor Programme (Faculty of Medicine)

The Silent Mentor Programme is one of UM's most profound public education initiatives, blending vocational training with humanistic values. Originating from a 2012 MoU with Tzu-Chi University Taiwan, the programme relies on voluntary body donations by members of the public, who are honoured as *Silent Mentors*.

In 2024, UM continued to deliver intensive training workshops where medical students, doctors, and surgeons refined surgical techniques while cultivating empathy, respect, and compassion. Participants first studied the life stories of their Silent Mentors, ensuring that training was grounded in both professional competence and human dignity.

Key highlights include:

- Experiential, holistic training combining medical science and ethics.
- Public participation through voluntary body donation.
- Research applications that improve disease management and medical pedagogy.

The Silent Mentor Corridor, established in 2019, remains an enduring commemorative and educational space, accessible to students, staff, and visitors. By weaving together technical training, ethical awareness, and societal engagement, the Silent Mentor Programme embodies lifelong learning and contributes directly to SDG 4 (equal access to affordable technical, vocational, and tertiary education).

Below: Medical students with their Silent Mentors





Above: A Hands-on sessions in malaria diagnosis, monitoring, and elimination tools

Ped-KA-21: 21st Century Pedagogy and Curriculum Module for TVET Teachers (UMCares)

In early 2024, Universiti Malaya through UMCares delivered the Pedagogi dan Kurikulum Abad ke-21 (Ped-KA-21) module to 74 TVET teachers from Sungai Buloh Vocational College. The programme addressed Malaysia's transition to IR 4.0 by equipping educators with cutting-edge pedagogical skills.

Feedback confirmed that teachers gained innovative tools for active learning and digital literacy, enhancing student engagement in vocational contexts. This initiative directly supports SDG 4 (substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, especially through international cooperation).

Focus areas:

- Blended learning for technical and vocational education.
- 21st-century pedagogy and technology integration.
- Technical communication strategies in curriculum design.

Below: UMCares delivered the Pedagogi dan Kurikulum Abad ke-21 (Ped-KA-21) module



Education Outreach Activities Beyond Campus

In 2024, Universiti Malaya strengthened its educational mission beyond campus through a balanced mix of programmed and ad-hoc outreach initiatives that brought learning, skills, and empowerment directly into the community. Programmed initiatives such as the Orang Asli Health and Lifeways Project (OA HeLP), Community Health Outreach & Parasitic Disease Awareness, and the Skin Microbiome & Fungal Infections Project focused on sustained collaboration with indigenous and rural communities. These long-term efforts combined field-based research, free health screenings, and educational workshops to promote health literacy while providing UM students with immersive, practice-oriented learning experiences.

Meanwhile, ad-hoc outreach programmes including the Head Lice Awareness Programme, Breathe Boldly, Projek BaktiSiswa, the K2K STEM & AI Programme, and Klinik Khidmat Nasihat Kewangan UMCares extended UM's reach to schools, low-income neighbourhoods, and adult learners. Through interactive activities ranging from hygiene education and anti-smoking campaigns to STEM learning and financial literacy workshops, these initiatives strengthened UM's role as a community-engaged institution dedicated to advancing inclusive, lifelong learning beyond campus boundaries.

Orang Asli Health and Lifeways Project (OA HeLP)

The Orang Asli Health and Lifeways Project (OA HeLP) is an ongoing initiative (2022–present) that continued its impactful activities across Peninsular Malaysia in 2024. Led by Prof. Yvonne Lim Ai Lian and a multidisciplinary team from UM, in collaboration with international partners from the University of Utah, University of Calgary, University of New Mexico, and Vanderbilt University, the project integrates field-based education, health research, and community engagement. Key Malaysian partners include Hospital Orang Asli Gombak (HOAG), the Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (JAKOA), and Orang Asli community leaders.

In 2024, OA HeLP conducted a series of free health screenings, diagnostic tests, and medical referrals, alongside health education sessions designed to promote better health-seeking behaviour within Orang Asli communities. The initiative actively engaged PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and volunteers, providing them with valuable experience in community-based education. Through these collaborative efforts, OA HeLP helped reduce health disparities, strengthen community trust, and train over 30 UM students and researchers in applied, socially responsive education — advancing lifelong learning for indigenous communities and capacity-building among future health professionals.

Below: Health screening and health education session with the Orang Asli communities



Community Health Outreach & Parasitic Disease Awareness

The Community Health Outreach & Parasitic Disease Awareness programme, held from 9 to 10 March 2024 in Ulu Kuang, was organised by a multidisciplinary team from the Faculty of Medicine, comprising senior lecturers, medical doctors, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, research assistants, and five Master of Medical Parasitology and Entomology students. The outreach featured a range of activities including free health screenings for vision, muscle strength, and blood pressure, as well as testing and treatment for parasitic diseases and hygiene education sessions aimed at improving community health practices.

Through this initiative, more than 200 Orang Asli participants benefited from enhanced health literacy, while UM students gained practical experience in applying classroom knowledge to real-world settings. The programme exemplified UM's integration of education, research, and community service beyond campus boundaries, promoting accessible health education and addressing learning inequality in line with SDG 4: Quality Education.

Below: Free health screenings with the Orang Asli communities in Ulu Kuang



Exploring Vector Dynamics of Zoonotic Brugia Filariasis

The Exploring Vector Dynamics of Zoonotic Brugia Filariasis project, led by Dr. Junaid Olawale Quazim from the Faculty of Medicine, ran from April to December 2024 as part of a broader research initiative continuing through 2025. Conducted across several sites in the Klang Valley — including Pulau Carey, Sungai Buloh, Puncak Alam, and Kampung Sungai Penchala — the project integrated research with community education to raise awareness of filariasis prevention and control. Activities included educational sessions, public awareness campaigns, and free diagnostic testing, supported by the donation of 100 diagnostic kits for community use.

The programme empowered over 150 local residents with essential disease-prevention knowledge while also training UM students in translational and field-based research. By combining scientific investigation with public engagement, this initiative advanced knowledge transfer, health education, and applied learning, aligning with UM's mission to bridge research and community impact through inclusive educational outreach.



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Above: Public awareness sessions on filariasis prevention and control

Head Lice Awareness Programme

The Head Lice Awareness Programme, held from October to December 2024, was led by Dr. Aida Syafinaz Mokhtar together with undergraduate and postgraduate students. Conducted across eight welfare homes and refugee schools, the programme provided screenings and treatments using donated resources and delivered hygiene education sessions for children. It directly benefited over 300 participants while enabling UM students to develop advocacy and leadership skills through experiential community engagement.



Above: Hygiene education on head lice at welfare homes and refugee schools

Breathe Boldly Programme

The Breathe Boldly Programme, held on 9 July 2024 at SMK Dato' Mohd Said, was organised by Universiti Malaya Medical Society (UM MEDSOC) in collaboration with Dr. Mohd Hafyuzuddin. The event featured an interactive lecture on the harms of vaping, along with student-led games, poster-making activities, and Kahoot quizzes to engage participants. Over 200 secondary students took part and made an anti-smoking pledge, strengthening health literacy and youth empowerment while enhancing UM students' leadership and advocacy skills through community-based outreach.

Below: Lecture on the harms of vaping at a public school



Projek BaktiSiswa

Projek BaktiSiswa 2024, held from 28 to 30 September 2024 in Kuala Kubu Bharu, was organised by UM MEDSOC in collaboration with the Orang Asli community. The programme featured health education sessions on hygiene, nutrition, and chronic diseases, along with free medical screenings and consultations, motivational talks, cultural exchange activities, and tailored lessons in local schools. It reached over 400 community members, strengthening trust between the Orang Asli and UM while enabling students to develop teamwork, empathy, and cultural competence through hands-on experiential learning.

Skin Microbiome & Fungal Infections Project

The Skin Microbiome & Fungal Infections Project, led by Prof. Yvonne Lim in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA, and the Hospital Orang Asli Gombak (HOAG), runs from April 2024 to April 2028. In 2024, the project delivered hygiene and disease-prevention education to Orang Asli families, conducted free screenings and treatments, and distributed hygiene kits. It also held knowledge-sharing workshops with local health authorities to strengthen community health practices. The initiative benefited over 200 Orang Asli community members while contributing valuable data to global skin microbiome research and integrating scientific inquiry with education and community service.



Above: Health education session and medical screenings with the Orang Asli community in Kuala Kubu Bharu

Below: Hygiene and disease-prevention education for Orang Asli families



Klinik Khidmat Nasihat Kewangan



The Klinik Khidmat Nasihat Kewangan UMCares, held on 13 October 2024 in Petaling Jaya, was jointly organised by Universiti Malaysia (UM) with the Petaling Jaya City Council (MBPJ), Agensi Kaunseling dan Pengurusan Kredit (AKPK), and the Employees Provident Fund (EPF). The event featured talks on financial literacy, retirement planning, and scam prevention, alongside health and family well-being workshops, free health screenings, and interactive exhibitions. It successfully empowered over 250 retirees and pre-retirees with practical knowledge on financial management, healthy living, and social resilience, promoting lifelong learning and holistic community well-being.

Left: Talk on financial literacy jointly organised by UM, MBPJ, AKPK, and KWSP

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K2K STEM & AI Programme



The K2K STEM & AI Programme, conducted in 2024 within PPR (low-income housing) communities, was a collaborative effort between Universiti Malaysia (UM) and Think City. The programme featured STEM workshops involving hands-on experiments on basic science concepts, along with AI and robotics training sessions designed for children. It successfully engaged over 150 participants, inspiring interest in science, technology, and digital literacy while promoting inclusive access to emerging technology education among underserved communities.

Left: STEM workshop with PPR community members