



Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.



Universiti Malaya's Commitment to Partnerships for the Goals

Universiti Malaya (UM) has consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17), which focuses on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalising the global partnership for sustainable development. In 2023, UM reinforced its role as a leading institution in fostering global cooperation, leveraging strategic partnerships, and contributing to international efforts to achieve the SDGs.

The university's approach is rooted in collaborative research, capacity-building initiatives, and cross-sectoral dialogues that align with both national priorities and global trends. These efforts are embedded within UM's broader strategic framework, including the UM Transformation Plan 2030 and the UM Master Plan 2050, which emphasise the importance of partnerships in driving sustainable development.

Strengthening Regional and Global Partnerships

UM has played a pivotal role in enhancing regional and global partnerships, particularly by influencing SDG-related policies and strategies. In 2023, UM actively engaged with regional NGOs, governments, and international organisations to provide expert input on policy development and implementation, thereby contributing to the global SDG agenda.

For example, UM's participation in the Selangor River Fireflies Conservation Management Workshop exemplifies its commitment to environmental sustainability through multi-stakeholder partnerships. This workshop brought together key stakeholders from government agencies, non-governmental organisations, and academia to address the conservation of natural resources, focusing specifically on preserving the habitat of the Selangor River fireflies. The collaboration reflects UM's approach to fostering partnerships that bridge local and global efforts, ensuring that conservation strategies are informed by scientific research and aligned with international conservation standards.



Above: Scenes during the “Selangor River Fireflies Conversation Management Studies Workshop” (Source: UMSDC)

Advancing Planetary Health through Transformational Sustainability Leadership

On 13 September 2023, a pivotal discussion was held on developing a Transformational Sustainability Leadership Module for Malaysia's National Planetary Health Action Plan. Led by the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) Director and Prof. Dr. Noorsaadah Abdul Rahman, Head of Research & Education at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, this session focused on setting the direction and planning for the module's creation.

Additionally, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with sustainability and leadership experts is scheduled for November 2023 to further accelerate the module's preparation and build capacity for sustainable leadership within the planetary health framework. This FGD represents UM's proactive involvement in national SDG policy making, including identifying key challenges, crafting strategies, forecasting future scenarios, and assessing intervention impacts. As an initial step, it also lays the groundwork for future initiatives, such as the Capacity Building Pilot Workshop on the Transformational Sustainability Leadership Module (TSLM-NPHAP), anticipated in early 2024, to strengthen sustainable leadership and adaptive management.



Above: Discussion session on the 13 September 2023.

Front row (from left): Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin, Prof. Noorsaadah. Back row (from left): Mrs. Nur Lisa, Mr. Ahmad, Mr. Chang, Mr. Mohd Noor, Dr. Mas, Dr. Asmawati, Dr. Ng Boon Kwee

Below: Focus Group Discussion for the Development of Transformational Sustainability Leadership Module for National Planetary Health Action Plan (TASLM-NPHAP), 30 November 2023 @ Anggerik Meeting Room, IAS Building



Universiti Malaya's Climate Change Advisory Committee: Leading Collaborative Research and Policy for a Sustainable Future

The Universiti Malaya (UM) Climate Change Advisory Committee, established in 2023, is a dedicated body aimed at addressing climate change through research, policy advisory, and collaboration. This committee's formation aligns with UM's longstanding commitment to sustainability and climate research, which dates back to initiatives like the National Antarctica Research Centre (NARC) led by YBhg. Emeritus Professor Dato' Azizan Abu Samah, who pioneered polar research expeditions since the 1990s.

Purpose and Role: The committee was created under the Research and Innovation (R&I) portfolio to:

- Consolidate climate research across disciplines,
- Facilitate integrated and holistic solutions to climate issues,
- Support Malaysia's involvement in climate action through open science, and
- Advise on national climate policies for alignment with global best practices.

Collaborations: UM's advisory role expanded when it was appointed to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), contributing expertise in the Technology and Innovation Cluster, chaired by YBhg. Tan Sri Zakri Abdul Hamid. This collaboration allowed UM to play a significant role in Malaysia's climate policy formulation and representation at international forums like the UNFCCC. At COP28, UM convened a session on the "Role of Open Science in Fostering Collaborative Solutions for a Resilient Future", underlining its commitment to collaborative research.

Research and Projects: The committee brings together researchers from various faculties, focusing on:

- Physical Sciences: Studying greenhouse gas emissions, ocean currents, and climate variability.
- Mitigation: Innovating in renewable energy (e.g., hydrogen storage, floating wind turbines) and carbon sequestration.
- Vulnerability and Adaptation: Addressing climate impacts on biodiversity, coastal resilience, and community adaptations.

Educational and Community Engagement:

The committee also emphasises youth engagement and community adaptation strategies. Initiatives like "Bite-Size Climate Action" provide online resources for Malaysian youth to understand and act on climate change. UM also fosters local and global partnerships to enhance resilience and climate readiness, with the goal of attaining observer status at UNFCCC, solidifying its influence and presence in international climate dialogues.

Through its multidisciplinary approach and strategic partnerships, the UM Climate Change Advisory Committee exemplifies the university's dedication to addressing climate challenges both locally and globally, positioning UM as a leader in climate resilience and sustainable development.

For a comprehensive overview of Universiti Malaya's climate change and resilience research, please refer to the report titled "[Sustainability in Action: Universiti Malaya's Climate Change and Resilience Research](#)" by the Universiti Malaya Climate Change Advisory Committee. This report details the university's initiatives, research projects, and collaborative efforts in addressing climate change and enhancing resilience. It serves as a valuable resource for understanding UM's commitment to sustainability and its contributions to climate science and policy.



Left: eBook Link:
<https://tinyurl.com/3j5tbymd>

Climate Risk and Governance in Malaysia – Broadening Our Horizon Online Forum 2023

The “Climate Risk and Governance in Malaysia – Broadening Our Horizon Online Forum 2023” was a significant event held in conjunction with the National Climate Governance Summit 2023. Co-hosted by Climate Governance Malaysia and Universiti Malaysia’s Sustainable Development Centre, the forum brought together policymakers, academics, researchers, and student leaders to discuss critical climate change issues specific to Malaysia.

Key topics included:

- **Climate Risks in Malaysia:** Examination of extreme weather events and long-term environmental impacts affecting the nation.
- **Collaborative Action:** Emphasis on partnerships among government bodies, private enterprises, academic institutions, and civil society to address climate challenges.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Exploration of technological advancements and best practices in climate governance to enhance Malaysia’s resilience.

The forum underscored the necessity for concerted efforts in tackling climate change, fostering meaningful dialogue, and aligning stakeholders toward building a climate-resilient and sustainable future for Malaysia.



Enhancing Social Resilience: SWRC's Role in Shaping SDG-Aligned Policies for Sustainable Well-being in Malaysia

The Universiti Malaya's Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) significantly contributes to advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Malaysia. SWRC plays a vital role in promoting social resilience through research, strategic initiatives, and direct engagement in policy-making. By collaborating with national government agencies and regional non-governmental organisations, SWRC works to develop, monitor, and adapt policies that address social protection challenges in alignment with SDGs. As an academic body, SWRC provides data-driven insights and actionable recommendations that influence social policy frameworks. The Centre's contributions are crucial for Malaysia's ongoing efforts to build an inclusive and resilient society.

Contributions to SDG Policy Development:

SWRC's expertise in identifying social and economic challenges is a core component of its involvement in SDG policy development. The Centre conducts extensive research to highlight issues such as unemployment, poverty, and social inequality, offering insights that inform evidence-based policy. Through initiatives like the Malaysia Ageing and Retirement Survey (MARS), SWRC gathers comprehensive, longitudinal data on the wellbeing of older Malaysians, identifying key issues such as financial insecurity among retirees. This survey has informed government discussions on SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by advocating for policies that improve income security for the ageing population. As detailed in the SWRC's July 2023 Bulletin, the Centre's recommendation to consider reverse mortgages as an old-age income supplement offers a practical solution to help elderly individuals access financial support without liquidating assets.

(SWRC Social Protection Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 3, pages 4 to 7).

Policy Modelling and Adaptive Management:

In addition to problem identification, SWRC engages in policy modelling and adaptive management to help anticipate the outcomes of various social interventions. For example, the Centre's research on Malaysia's Employment Insurance System (EIS) presents a model for extending unemployment coverage to informal sector workers, who are often excluded from traditional safety nets. By modelling the potential socioeconomic impact of expanding EIS coverage, SWRC supports SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), offering insights into how a more inclusive employment insurance policy could stabilise incomes and reduce vulnerabilities during economic downturns, as featured in their October 2023 Bulletin (SWRC Social Protection Bulletin - Vol. 3 No. 4, pages 1 to 8).

Monitoring, Reporting, and Intervention:

SWRC's role in monitoring and reporting on social protection interventions enables adaptive management, ensuring that policies remain effective and responsive to emerging needs. The April 2023 Bulletin highlights SWRC's focus on reducing inclusion and exclusion errors in Malaysia's social assistance programs, an approach that directly supports SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 10. By advocating for digitalisation and improved data-sharing mechanisms among social assistance providers, SWRC addresses issues of access and efficacy, ensuring aid reaches the most vulnerable populations. This initiative exemplifies how SWRC's research feeds into policy adjustments that improve the social protection system's reach and reduce inefficiencies (SWRC Social Protection Bulletin Vol 3 No 2).

Collaborative Impact on National SDG Strategies:

SWRC's collaboration with entities like Malaysia's Ministry of Finance, Department of Statistics, and other organisations solidifies its impact on SDG policy at both national and regional levels. By providing policy recommendations based on robust data and evidence, SWRC's input aligns with Malaysia's overarching goals for sustainable development. SWRC's initiatives, which span from promoting inclusive employment policies to supporting income security for retirees, illustrate its integral role in realising a sustainable and equitable future in line with the SDGs.



Above: For detailed information on SWRC's work and examples of their contributions to SDG-related policies, refer to the SWRC Social Protection Bulletins, particularly Vol. 3, No. 2 (April 2023), Vol. 3, No. 3 (July 2023), and Vol. 3, No. 4 (October 2023)

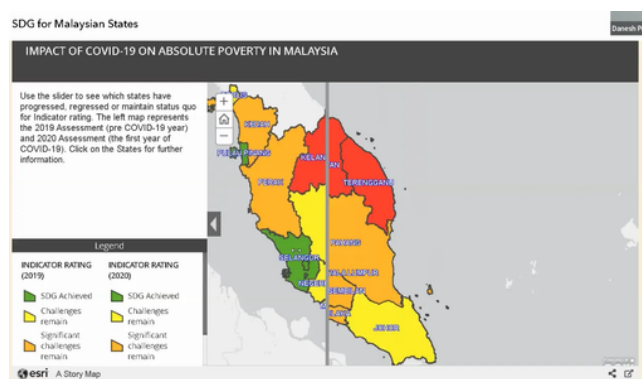


UM Demonstrates a Commitment to Advancing SDG Monitoring Frameworks That Not Only Aid Malaysia's Localisation of the SDGs but Also Provide Scalable Models for Global Application

Universiti Malaya (UM) actively collaborates with international organisations like the [ASEAN University Network \(AUN\)](#) and the [Sustainable Development Solutions Network \(SDSN\)](#) to advance the monitoring and measurement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A notable outcome of this collaboration is the SDG Monitor, a state-level dashboard developed in partnership with SDSN Malaysia. This platform offers interactive maps utilising data from the Malaysian Department of Statistics, enabling stakeholders to access localised SDG performance metrics. (Reference: [SDSN MALAYSIA](#))

The SDG Monitor exemplifies UM's commitment to data-driven policy formulation and decision-making. By providing detailed insights into state-level SDG progress, it supports the Malaysian government's efforts to localise the SDGs and serves as a replicable model for other regions. This initiative underscores UM's influence on global best practices in sustainable development.

For more information, you can explore the SDG Monitor platform, which includes insights into the [contributors](#) and collaborators involved in this initiative. This platform provides comprehensive details on the roles of various stakeholders and contributors who drive UM's efforts in advancing sustainable development practices. Visit the [SDG Monitor platform](#) to learn more.



Above: The [SDG Monitor platform](#). (Source: SDSN Malaysia)



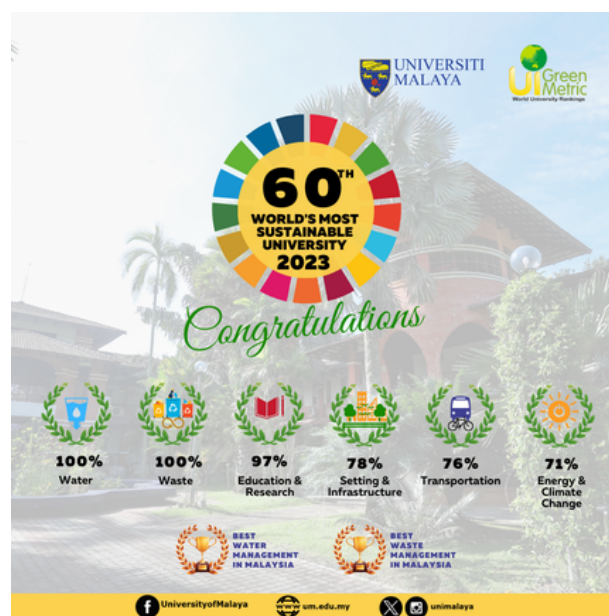
Universiti Malaya's Role in Global Sustainability: Insights from Annual SDG Reports

Universiti Malaya (UM) actively tracks and reports its progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of its commitment to sustainability and global responsibility. Each year, UM compiles key SDG metrics in its sustainability reports, providing a detailed overview of the university's impact on issues such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing energy efficiency, promoting waste reduction, supporting equitable access to education, and enhancing gender equality on campus.

These metrics are not only valuable internally for UM's strategic planning and improvement but also serve as essential data for international platforms like the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, Quacquarelli Symonds' (QS) World University Rankings on Sustainability 2023 and U GreenMetric. By contributing to these rankings, UM highlights its role and achievements in advancing the SDGs on a global stage. This participation allows UM to benchmark its performance against other leading institutions worldwide, fostering a culture of transparency and accountability while also enhancing UM's reputation as a sustainability leader in higher education.

Participating in the international rankings enables UM to track its progress in specific SDG areas - such as Quality Education (SDG 4), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) - against global standards. The insights gained from these rankings help UM identify areas for growth and innovation, ensuring that its sustainability initiatives are not only impactful but also aligned with best practices and global targets.

In this way, UM's annual reporting and international data contributions provide an invaluable resource for understanding the university's role in sustainability. This process reflects UM's dedication to supporting the SDGs, enhancing community well-being, and advancing Malaysia's goals in sustainability on a global scale.



Above: Universiti Malaya's participation in the U GreenMetric World University Rankings (Source: UMSDC)

Below: UM's participation in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings (Source: UMSDC)

UM's Overall Performances in THE Impact Rankings					
Year	Best SDGs				Score (Rank)
2024	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	1 NO POVERTY	5 GENDER EQUALITY	91.1% (63 / 1963)
2023	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	5 GENDER EQUALITY	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	85.4% (101 - 200 / 1705)
2022	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	5 GENDER EQUALITY	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	80.6% (201 - 300 / 1406)
2021	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	81.2% (101-200 / 1118)
2020	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	15 LIFE BELOW WATER	85.0% (80 / 767)
2019	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	70.1% (101-200 / 467)

UM Sustainability | @um_sustainability | @umMalayaSDC | https://sustainability.um.edu.my

Cross-Sectoral Dialogues for SDG Progress

In 2023, UM intensified its efforts to foster cross-sectoral dialogues, recognising the critical role of inclusive and multi-stakeholder approaches in advancing the SDGs. These dialogues are essential for addressing complex, interconnected global challenges that cannot be solved by a single sector alone. By facilitating platforms for dialogue, UM has positioned itself as a hub for collaborative problem-solving and innovation.

One of the most significant initiatives was the “Rejuvenating Science, Technology, and Society (STS) for Sustainability Transitions” conference, where UM facilitated discussions on the intersection of science, policy, and society in various contexts.

This event emphasised the university’s role in bridging the gap between academic research and policymaking, ensuring that SDG-related strategies are grounded in robust scientific evidence. The workshop brought together a diverse group of participants, including policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, and civil society representatives, fostering a collaborative environment where new ideas and solutions could emerge.



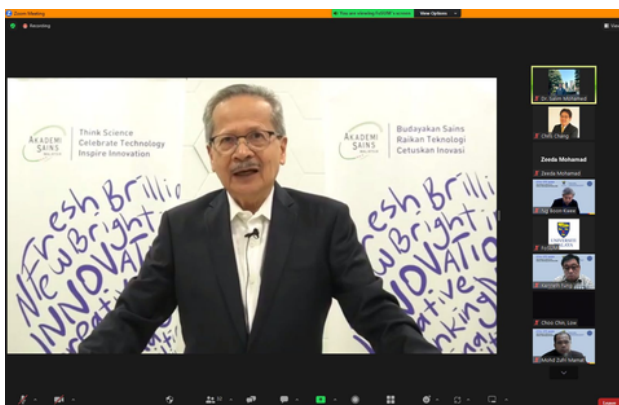
Rejuvenating STS for Sustainability Transitions a Cross-Sectoral Dialogue on SDGs at iCON-STs 2023

The International Conference on Science, Technology & Society 2023 (iCON-STs 2023) conference, hosted by the Department of Science and Technology Studies, UM, exemplified the power of cross-sectoral collaboration in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Bringing together stakeholders from government, NGOs, academia, and industry, the event fostered critical discussions on the role of science, technology, and society (STS) in creating sustainable pathways. Key focus areas included:

- **Science Policy:** Exploring how policies can drive responsible innovation and sustainable practices, with government and industry leaders highlighting regulatory frameworks aligned with the SDGs.
- **Science Diplomacy:** Emphasising the importance of global partnerships and collaborative research to address shared challenges, particularly climate resilience.
- **Public Engagement:** Showcasing citizen science initiatives and participatory approaches that empower communities and enhance SDG impact.
- **Ethics and Equity:** Addressing fair and inclusive decision-making in science and technology, with discussions on the social dimensions of sustainability.

Right: Poster for International Conference on Science, Technology & Society 2023 (iCON-STs 2023)
(Source: UM Event)

Below: Opening Speech by YM Academician Datuk Dr Tengku Mohd Azzman Shariffadeen, FASc, President of Academy of Sciences Malaysia during the conference



Through these discussions, UM contributed to the SDGs by building frameworks for action-oriented partnerships and driving initiatives that prioritise community involvement and ethical practices. UM has taken a proactive approach to the SDGs by organising events like iCON-STs, where cross-sectoral dialogue is encouraged, and practical solutions are discussed. By hosting this conference, UM not only facilitates knowledge-sharing but also strengthens ties between academia, government, and civil society. This commitment positions UM as a regional leader in sustainability-focused research and community engagement, underlining the university's dedication to creating a positive societal impact and addressing pressing global issues.

Through its continuous participation and organisation of SDG-centered conferences, UM enables a robust exchange of ideas and solutions, contributing actively to the advancement of the SDGs on both local and global scales.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
International Conference on
Science, Technology and Society 2023
iCON-STs 2023 | Rejuvenating STS for Sustainability Transitions

15-16 August 2023 VIRTUAL

SUB THEME

- Science and Technology Policy
- Public Engagement in Science and Technology
- Science Communication
- Dialogue and Science Diplomacy
- Ethics and Law in Science and Technology
- Philosophy of Science and Technology

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

IMPORTANT DATES

- 30 April: Abstract Submission
- 19 May: Abstract Acceptance Notification
- 2 June: Early Bird Registration Closed
- 28 July: Payment Confirmation Deadline
- 15-16 August: Virtual Conference

REGISTRATION FEE

INTERNATIONAL	LOCAL
Academic presenter: USD 150 110*	Academic presenter: RM 300 250*
Student presenter: USD 120 100*	Student presenter: RM 200 150*
Regular participant: USD 60	Regular participant: RM 100
Student participant: USD 40	Student participant: RM 70

ORGANISED BY

UM Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD)

More Information: iconsts@um.edu.my
<https://umevent.um.edu.my/iCON-STs2023>

Submit your abstracts here!

Moreover, UM's active involvement in global networks, such as the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), has enabled the university to contribute to international discussions on the role of higher education in achieving the SDGs. Through these networks, UM has shared its experiences and best practices in promoting sustainable development, while also learning from other institutions around the world. This exchange of knowledge and ideas has further strengthened UM's capacity to address global challenges and contribute to the SDG agenda.

In October 2023, the Department of Science and Technology Studies at Universiti Malaya had the honor of hosting Prof. Sujatha Raman, Research Director at the Australian Centre for the Public Awareness of Science, Australian National University, and UNESCO Chair in Science Communication for the Public Good, for a seminar titled "Science Engagement for Sustainability Transitions: Understanding the Science-Policy-Society Interface in Different Contexts".

The seminar fostered a dynamic exchange among Professor Raman, students, stakeholders, and staff, delving into the significance of contextual understanding in implementing sustainability transitions and building public trust in science. This engaging dialogue underscored the vital role of science communication in connecting science, policy, and society, essential for advancing sustainable development goals.



Above: The speaker and participants during the seminar titled "Science Engagement for Sustainability Transitions: Understanding the Science-Policy-Society Interface in Different Contexts"

International Collaboration and Best Practices

UM's dedication to international collaboration is evident in its active participation in global initiatives to develop and share best practices for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through these initiatives, UM has played a key role in creating curricula and educational materials that emphasise global citizenship, sustainability, and environmental stewardship. These resources are carefully designed to equip students not only with knowledge and skills but also with the values essential for addressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, and climate change. By fostering critical thinking, cultural awareness, and problem-solving abilities, UM prepares students to become effective contributors to the SDGs in their communities and beyond.

UM's leadership in this area highlights its broader commitment to sustainable development through education, research, and outreach. By collaborating with international institutions, UM not only strengthens its academic impact but also demonstrates its role as a global partner in advancing the SDGs for a more sustainable, inclusive future.



Sustainable Development Goals in Journalism Reporting (SDGsJR) Workshop Series

Another significant initiative by UM in supporting the SDGs is its collaborative work on SDG best practices. Through international partnerships and research, UM not only assesses and contrasts various approaches to achieving the SDGs but also contributes to developing globally recognised best practices to address these challenges. Effective communication is essential for establishing partnerships (SDG 17) among governments, the private sector, and civil society to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. However, challenges remain, including shortfalls in official development assistance, misalignment of private investments with sustainable goals, and ongoing trade tensions.

In May 2023, a symposium titled Communicating the SDGs for Effective Partnerships was held, bringing together speakers from academia, the media, and civil society in Malaysia. Participants shared current SDG-focused initiatives and projects in their respective fields, exploring the benefits of multi-stakeholder partnerships for Malaysian society. The symposium also tackled challenges and barriers to impactful SDG initiatives and policies, providing a critical reflection on current progress and the steps needed to build a sustainable society for future generations in Malaysia.

Additionally, the Storytelling Tools for Reporting the SDGs Workshop is scheduled for 2-3 December 2023. Part of the Sustainable Development Goals in Journalism Reporting (SDGsJR) series and HRD Corp-claimable, this workshop is aimed at equipping journalists and media professionals with effective tools for reporting on SDG-related topics. The workshop will blend traditional storytelling methods with digital techniques, such as audio-visual media and data visualisation, to support impactful and inclusive SDG reporting. Featuring experts from UM's Faculty of Languages & Linguistics and Professor Xu Xiaoge from the University of Nottingham Ningbo China, this event underscores UM's commitment to fostering international collaboration and advancing SDG communication best practices.

Through these initiatives, UM strengthens its role in the global discourse on sustainable development, contributing meaningfully through education, outreach, and research collaborations.

SDGs | Journalism Reporting

SYMPOSIUM:

COMMUNICATING THE SDGS FOR EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

In conjunction with the Erasmus+ "Sustainable Development Goals in Journalism Reporting (SDGsJR)" Study Visit to Kuala Lumpur

15 MAY 2023 | EASTIN HOTEL, PETALING JAYA + ONLINE | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN JOURNALISM REPORTING (SDGsJR) WORKSHOP SERIES

Become better storytellers for a sustainable future through insightful sessions & hands-on activities conducted by our experts.

Professor Xu Xiaoge
Director of Institute for Mobile Studies
University of Nottingham Ningbo China

Dr Law Yao Hua
Co-founder of Misaanaga
Science journalist

Dr Ayesha Syed
Certified HRDf trainer
Deputy Dean
Faculty of Languages and Linguistics, University Malaysia

Ms Chiang Shea Lee
Certified HRDf trainer
Language Teacher
University Malaysia

REGISTRATION:
012-221842 (MS ELEENA)
eleena@um.edu.my
shealee@um.edu.my

2 DAY WORKSHOP
9 AM - 5 PM (2 HRS BREAK)
RM500/COURSE
ONLINE
HRD CORP CLAIMABLE

Above (left): Poster for "Symposium: Communicating the SDGs for Effective Partnerships" (Source: Faculty of Languages & Linguistics)

Above (right): Poster for "Sustainable Development Goals in Journalism Reporting" (Source: Faculty of Languages & Linguistics)

Driving Global Collaboration: UM's Role in the APRU for a Sustainable Future

The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is one of the key international networks that Universiti Malaya (UM) is a member of. APRU unites leaders, researchers, and policy-makers to exchange ideas and collaborate on solutions to pressing 21st-century challenges. By harnessing the collective educational and research strengths of its members, APRU influences the international public policy landscape. In the post-pandemic era, APRU's strategic priorities emphasise creating a neutral platform for high-level policy dialogue, advancing climate action, and championing diversity, inclusion, and minority support. UM's Vice-Chancellor was appointed to the APRU Steering Committee, with the term running from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

The APRU 27th Annual President's Meeting took place on 25–27 June 2023 at the University of Hong Kong under the theme “From Invention to Implementation: Solutions for a Sustainable Future”. During this meeting, presidents and senior administrators examined global challenges and opportunities, exchanging forward-thinking insights on goals like achieving carbon neutrality and implementing green technologies. The meeting underscored the need for unified action from individuals, businesses, and governments to realise these solutions, fostering a sustainable future for all.

Professor Dr. Yatimah Alias, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), represented UM at the meeting on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, accompanied by Associate Professor Dr. Sheena Kaur, Head of the Strategic Global Alliance Division. Professor Dr. Yatimah was one of the panelists in the session titled “Our Planet, Our Future”, moderated by Dr. Jane Lee, President of OHKF. During this session, she shared UM's best practices in incorporating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in both research and student activities.



Above: Photos during the APRU 27th Annual President's Meeting

The Launch of the Indo-Pacific Research and Outreach Project

Furthermore, the Universiti Malaya (UM) demonstrates a strong commitment to advancing the SDGs through its Indo-Pacific Research and Outreach Project, an initiative spearheaded by the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) and funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. This project creates a collaborative platform for UM, the European Union (EU), ASEAN, and regional stakeholders to address the unique sustainability challenges within the Indo-Pacific region.

Through this initiative, UM reviews and compares regional approaches to SDG implementation, drawing from diverse perspectives across the Indo-Pacific. The project facilitates dialogue on pressing sustainability issues - such as economic cooperation, social equity, and environmental protection - and brings together best practices to develop effective frameworks and policies.

By focusing on comparative analysis and collaborative research, UM aims to refine international SDG strategies and set benchmarks for sustainable development. This approach not only advances UM's contributions to the SDGs but also enhances regional resilience and unity, underscoring ASEAN's role in fostering Indo-Pacific cooperation. Through such initiatives, UM strengthens its position as a leading institution in the region, dedicated to addressing sustainability challenges through impactful, globally relevant research.

References:

<https://aei.um.edu.my/launch-of-the-indo-pacific-research-and-outreach-project>
<https://selangorjournal.my/2023/05/asean-should-initiate-indo-pacific-dialogue>



Above: Poster for the Launch of the Indo-Pacific Research and Outreach Project. (Source: UM Asia-Europe Institute)

Below: Speakers and participants during the launch.



Empowering Students and Advancing the SDGs through Volunteering, Research, and Educational Initiatives

Student-Led Sustainability Groups at UM

UMSDC works closely with several student-led sustainability groups, each making significant contributions to UM's commitment to the SDGs:

- **UM Zero Waste Centre (UMZWC):** A leading student group in waste reduction, UMZWC organises recycling drives, upcycling workshops, and awareness campaigns to reduce plastic waste and foster a culture of sustainability, aligning with SDG 12.
- **Water Warriors UM:** This group is dedicated to water conservation through restoration projects like Varsity Lake, water quality monitoring, and clean-up events. Their efforts, aligned with SDG 6, offer students practical experience in environmental science and engineering.
- **The Rimba Project 2.0:** Focused on biodiversity, The Rimba Project transforms campus spaces with native plant species, supporting SDG 15 and fostering an appreciation for nature conservation among students and community members.
- **Imarah Eco-Friends Surau Academy of Islamic Studies (IEF APIUM):** A unique group that integrates sustainability with Islamic teachings, IEF APIUM organises educational workshops from a faith-based perspective, contributing to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 12 by promoting environmental stewardship.

There are more student-led sustainability groups at UM contributing to these efforts. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. For a more comprehensive overview, visit [Sustainability Student & Voluntary Led Group - Universiti Malaya](#).

By supporting these student-led initiatives and fostering collaborations, UMSDC strengthens UM's impact on the SDGs. These efforts ensure that students are empowered to take active roles in sustainability, equipping them with essential skills and commitment to creating a more sustainable future. Through these programs, UMSDC positions Universiti Malaya as a leader in sustainability, driving meaningful impact both locally and globally.



Collaborate with NGOs to tackle the SDGs through student volunteering programmes

Universiti Malaya (UM) collaborates extensively with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through various initiatives, including student volunteering programs, research projects, and the development of educational resources. These partnerships enable UM students to engage directly in community-focused projects that foster sustainable development and address real-world challenges.

Soup Kitchen Jinjang KL

In April 2023, Royal Wekasih Kolej Kediaman Ke-12 partnered with Soup Kitchen Jinjang KL to provide food support to the underprivileged, aligning with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). This collaboration offered UM students an opportunity to volunteer, experience community service firsthand, and contribute to food security initiatives in urban settings.

Ecofund Campaign

In June 2023, UM collaborated with the Malaysian Nature Society to support mangrove reforestation efforts. Through a recycling initiative, UM students and staff collected recyclable materials, which were then used to fund the planting of mangrove trees. This effort supports SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land) by promoting environmental conservation and biodiversity protection. Mangroves play a critical role in carbon sequestration and protecting coastal areas, making this initiative a valuable contribution to environmental sustainability.

Right (top): Royal Wekasih Kolej Kediaman Ke-12 volunteered with Soup Kitchen Jinjang KL

Right (bottom): UM partnered with the Malaysian Nature Society to enhance mangrove reforestation efforts



Ar-Riqab and Pusat Pembelajaran Komuniti Chow Kit

Pusat Pembelajaran Komuniti Chow Kit supports homeless children in securing equal educational rights, offering them essential resources such as free education, spiritual classes, and more to improve their quality of life. As part of Service Learning Malaysia - University for Society (SULAM), UM students collaborated with Ar-Riqab, the NGO managing this initiative, in a one-day project on 13 January 2023 at Pusat Pembelajaran Komuniti Chow Kit in Kuala Lumpur. The project engaged 26 children (11 boys and 15 girls) from the Chow Kit community, with the goal of enhancing their proficiency in reading Bahasa Malaysia.

The project included various activities: an ice-breaking session, the main reading and writing activity using standard Bahasa Malaysia, mini-games, a gift-giving session, and a feedback session. Following the structured plan, the project successfully achieved its objectives, focusing on:

1. Improving the children's foundational reading skills in standard Bahasa Malaysia.
2. Encouraging the children to use standard Bahasa Malaysia in their daily communication.
3. Providing informal, engaging learning experiences to motivate their language development.
4. Teaching general language skills aligned with established Bahasa Malaysia guidelines.

Overall, the SULAM project was a meaningful experience, providing the children with valuable language skills and promoting UM's commitment to community outreach and inclusivity.



Right: Photos during the SULAM project with Ar-Riqab

River Care Programme (RCP)

The Global Environment Centre (GEC) and Fujitsu Malaysia collaborated with UM's Water Warriors program in August 2023 to host the RIVER Ranger 2.0 training at the Samali Tree House in Universiti Malaya. This program involved 33 participants, including Fujitsu employees, local community members, and UM students. By educating participants on water conservation and river management, this initiative aligns with SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 15. The training equipped students and the community with knowledge and skills essential for safeguarding local water resources, fostering a deeper commitment to environmental stewardship. For more information, visit the GEC, [Quarterly Update \(July to September 2023\)](#) on RCP, page 1&2.

Rumah Titian Kaseh (RTK)

In June 2023, UM students participated in a donation drive for Rumah Titian Kaseh (RTK), a shelter for disadvantaged individuals. This drive, conducted in partnership with local sponsors, provided essential items for residents at RTK, supporting SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 10. By addressing basic needs and promoting social equity, UM and its students contributed to creating a more inclusive and supportive community.

Eco Bazaar Lestari

Most recently, in December 2023, UM organised the Eco Bazaar Lestari, an event focusing on sustainable practices and environmentally friendly products. This event encouraged students and the public to adopt eco-conscious behaviors, supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). The bazaar showcased sustainable products and promoted waste reduction and recycling efforts, underscoring UM's commitment to raising awareness about environmental responsibility.

Through these diverse collaborations, UM empowers students to actively engage in sustainable development and community service, fostering a generation of socially responsible and environmentally conscious individuals. By partnering with NGOs, UM not only contributes to the SDGs but also reinforces its role as a leader in sustainability and social impact within Malaysia.



Above: Donation drive for Rumah Titian Kaseh

Below: Poster for Eco Bazaar Lestari



Empowering Communities through Education for the SDGs

Education remains a cornerstone of UM's strategy for achieving the SDGs. The university recognises that building a sustainable future requires educating and empowering individuals and communities to act. In 2023, UM continued to integrate SDG education into its curriculum, ensuring that all students, regardless of their field of study, have access to meaningful education on sustainability. This approach aligns with global trends in higher education, where there is an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary learning and the integration of sustainability across all disciplines.

Beyond the classroom, UM expanded its outreach efforts to the broader community, offering a range of educational activities aimed at raising awareness about the SDGs. The REFAMAN project, a SULAM (Service-Learning Malaysia–University for Society) initiative, exemplifies UM's commitment to education for sustainable development. This project brought together local youth and refugee youth in Malaysia to foster mutual understanding and tolerance, addressing SDG 17's focus on partnerships that promote peaceful and inclusive societies. The project not only provided valuable learning experiences for the participants but also contributed to social cohesion and community resilience.

In addition to community-based projects, UM has developed partnerships with other educational institutions, both locally and internationally, to enhance the impact of its educational initiatives. These partnerships have facilitated the exchange of knowledge and best practices, enabling UM to continuously improve its approach to SDG education and to contribute to the global effort to build a more sustainable and equitable world.



Above: Poster for the REFAMAN project on refugees in Malaysia (Source: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)

Below: Speakers for the REFAMAN forum includes Mr Joshua Teh, a Senior Protection Associate at UNHCR Malaysia, Ms Kirjane Ngu, a Senior Research Executive at the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) Malaysia and Ms Heidy Quah, a human rights activist and founder of Refuge For The Refugees (RFTR)



“Intercultural Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Equality in Higher Education”, - United Kingdom-Malaysian University Consortium (UK-MUC) Student Conference

Universiti Malaya (UM) hosted the UK-MUC Student Conference 2023, themed “Intercultural Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Equality in Higher Education”, from 17-21 July 2023. This program was jointly organised by the UK-Malaysia University Consortium (UK-MUC) with the support of the UK-MUC Secretariat and Liverpool John Moores University, along with consortium members Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and sponsored by the British Council. During the five-day program, nearly 100 students from universities across the UK and Malaysia gathered to discuss issues and identify solutions based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Equality in Higher Education.

Through a combination of guest lectures, workshops, and cultural activities, the students expanded their knowledge on sustainable development while building friendships and networks with other participants. They also participated in various activities throughout the program, including the COIL Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) initiative, encouraging them to apply classroom knowledge into innovative ideas. They experienced a variety of cultural activities such as batik painting, Chinese calligraphy, henna art, and traditional Malay dance, as well as wellness sessions, including Mental Health Well-being, Tai Chi, and Cultural Awareness and Diversity. On the final day, participants presented their work for the COIL Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Challenge at the Hilton Hotel in Petaling Jaya.



Left (top): Participants during the “Intercultural Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Equality in Higher Education” conference (Source: British Council)

Left (below): Various activities in UM during the program

Universiti Malaya Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Mobility

Following the UK-MUC Student Conference at the University of Malaya (UM), 15 students from Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) participated in the Education for Sustainable Development Mobility Programme at UM from July 23 to August 5, 2023. This program was organised by the International Students & Mobility Centre in collaboration with the Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC).

The two-week program covered various sustainability topics, including an introduction to Sustainability@UM, the EcoCampus living lab, citizen science, and sustainability in different contexts.

Besides attending lectures, students engaged in various activities, field trips, and workshops, such as exploring Varsity Lake, Rimba Ilmu, the UM Zero Waste Centre, interactive experiences at MRANTI Makerslab, and visits to Putrajaya Wetlands, the Klang River, and the Kuala Selangor Nature Park.

During the reflection session at the closing ceremony, all participants agreed that they had gained substantial knowledge about sustainable development in Malaysia and would share their experiences with peers in the UK while aiming to integrate sustainable practices into their daily lives.

Please visit [HERE](#) for more information.



Above: Participants during the Education for Sustainable Development Mobility Programme

“AUA UI-UM Deep Dive 2023: Asian Civilization and Its Preservation” - Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) Universitas Indonesia-Universiti Malaya (UI-UM)

The “AUA UI-UM Deep Dive 2023: Asian Civilization and Its Preservation” program was held in a hybrid format from 7-19 August 2023. The Universiti Malaya’s Center for Civilisational Dialogue and International Students & Mobility Centre organised the online segment, while Universitas Indonesia hosted the physical segment.

A total of 28 participants from universities within the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA), including 6 students from UM, embarked on both virtual and in-person journeys to explore the history, current developments, and future potential of Asian civilisations. Through academic lectures, forums, and interactive activities, participants gained new insights into the region’s socio-economic landscape while building deep, cross-cultural connections with their peers. The cultural experience activities were designed to give students a comprehensive understanding of Asia’s diverse cultures and societies. Click [HERE](#) for more information, Pages 1 & 3 Bulletin Centre for Civilisational Dialogue.



Left: Program information: [LINK](#)

Below: Photos from UM Strategic Global Alliances Division, International Relations Centre



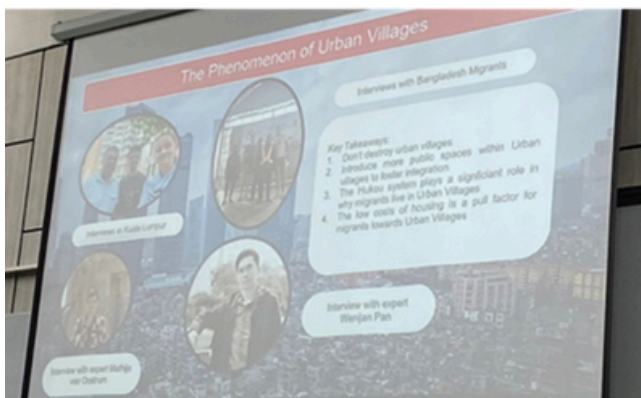
“Reinventing Growth and Globalisation” - Netherlands Asia Honours Summer School

The Netherlands-Asia Honours Summer School program was held on August 7 and 10, 2023, at the Faculty of Business and Economics (FBE) of the Universiti Malaya (UM) in collaboration with International Students & Mobility Centre. A total of 68 students from various universities in the Netherlands participated in this program, themed “Reinventing Growth and Globalisation”.

On August 7, students attended four lectures by FBE lecturers covering topics related to the program theme, including “The Globalisation Debate - A Case of Barking Up the Wrong Tree”, “Digitalisation and Sustainable Entrepreneurship”, “Green Financing in Malaysia”, and “New Era Global Trade Restructuring / New Shore Strategy (Post Pandemic)”.

On August 10, the students presented their project outcomes, with a judging panel composed of UM faculty members and representatives from the Dutch Embassy in Malaysia.

Below: Photos from UM Strategic Global Alliances Division, International Relations Centre.



Exploring Asia Programme 2023

On August 19, 2023, the University Malaya (UM) welcomed 14 students from Daito Bunka University, Japan, and Sungshin Women's University, Korea, for the short-term mobility program, Exploring Asia Programme 2023. The program ran from August 19 to September 2, 2023, organised by the International Students & Mobility Centre in collaboration with the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics.

During their two-week stay at UM, in addition to attending daily classes, students participated in various activities, such as tours around Kuala Lumpur, a trip to Melaka, and Cultural Day, where students engaged in activities like batik painting, Chinese calligraphy, traditional Malay and Indian dances, and henna art. They also joined UM Global Buddies in events such as Movie Night, kayaking, sports, sampling local cuisine, and visiting night markets.

English Language & Cultural Programme – Silpakorn University

On November 5, 2023, the University of Malaya received 16 students from Silpakorn University, Thailand, for the short-term mobility program, the English Language and Cultural Programme. The program runs from November 5 to 19, 2023, organized by the Global Enrichment and Mobility (GEM) Division along with the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics.

During this program, students participate in various assignments such as individual presentations, group presentations, and other in-class activities. They also join UM Global Buddies for activities such as Bahasa Malaysia classes, Movie Night, tours around Kuala Lumpur, kayaking, and cultural activities.



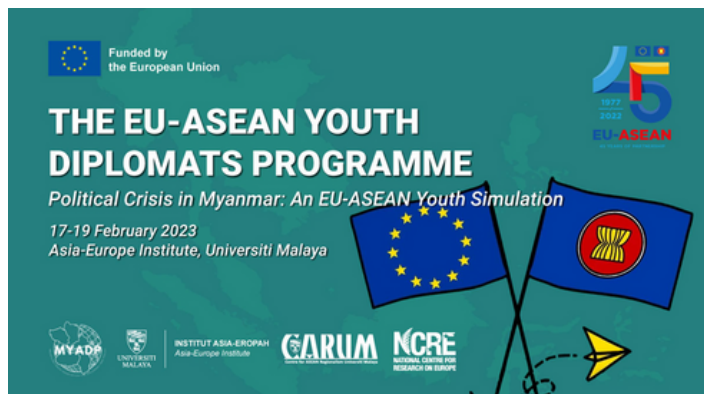
Above (left): The “Exploring Asia Programme 2023”

Above (right): The “English Language & Cultural Programme – Silpakorn University”
(Source: UM Strategic Global Alliances Division, International Relations Centre)

The EU-ASEAN Youth Diplomats Programme (EAYDP)

The EU-ASEAN Youth Diplomats Programme (EAYDP) at the Asia-Europe Institute, Universiti Malaya, unites youth from ASEAN and the EU in diplomatic training and simulations, such as the 2023 focus on Myanmar's political crisis. Through role-playing real-world negotiations, participants gain essential skills in negotiation, public speaking, and conflict resolution while engaging with diplomats and scholars to broaden their perspectives.

This program supports the Sustainable Development Goals by providing experiential learning in diplomacy (SDG 4), promoting peace-building and inclusive institutions (SDG 16), and fostering ASEAN-EU partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17). Overall, EAYDP empowers young leaders to actively contribute to global peace, justice, and collaboration for sustainable development.



Above: Poster for the “EU-ASEAN Youth Diplomats Programme (EAYDP)”
(Source: UM Asia-Europe Institute)

Civilisational Dialogue for a Sustainable Future

Through the Asia-Europe Institute's Summer School program, the Universiti Malaya (UM) reinforces its commitment to providing meaningful and impactful education around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This initiative exemplifies UM's dedication to integrating SDG principles across all areas of learning, offering students from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to explore global challenges and develop the skills necessary for driving sustainable change.

By engaging with this program, students gain relevant, universally applicable knowledge and hands-on experience that empowers them to actively contribute to the SDGs in their communities. UM's approach through this program underscores its commitment to cultivating informed, sustainability-focused leaders who are prepared to make positive contributions to a more inclusive and equitable future.



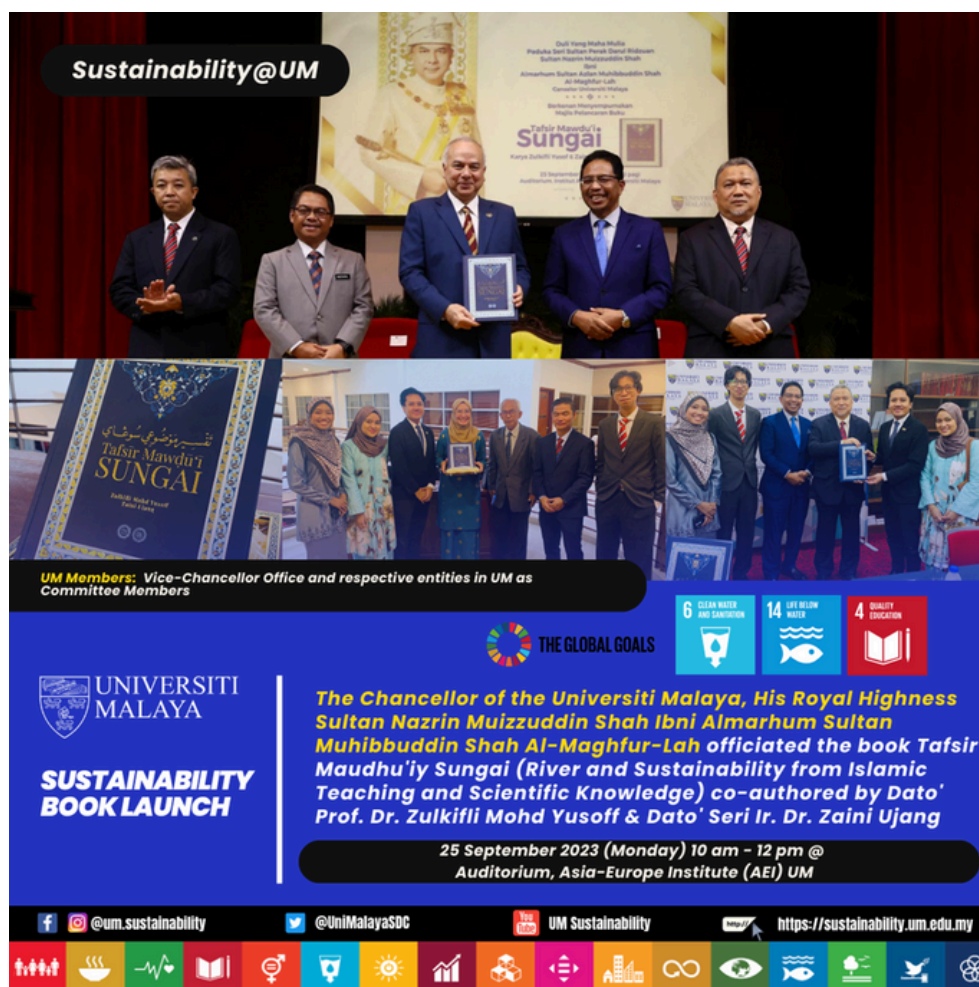
Above: Poster for the “AEI-ASEM Summer School 2023” program
(Source: UM Asia-Europe Institute)

'Kitab Tafsir Mawdu'i Sungai' Book Launch Pioneers Sustainable River Management at the Intersection of Islamic Wisdom and Scientific Knowledge

The "Kitab Tafsir Mawdu'i Sungai" is a collaborative work by Prof. Datuk Dr. Zulkifli Mohd Yusoff and Datuk Seri Ir. Dr. Zaini Ujang, integrating Islamic teachings with environmental engineering to promote sustainable river management. The book was launched in the presence of Sultan Perak, highlighting the importance of combining religious principles with scientific knowledge for environmental conservation.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Zulkifli, from the Academy of Islamic Studies at Universiti Malaya, explores Quranic verses and prophetic traditions that emphasise human responsibility as stewards of the Earth. Datuk Seri Ir. Dr. Zaini Ujang, an environmental engineer, contributes practical solutions informed by both science and Islamic ethics.

This interdisciplinary approach offers valuable insights for policymakers, environmentalists, scholars, and the public, fostering a deeper understanding of the connection between spirituality and environmental stewardship. Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) played a role in organising the event, with the Vice-Chancellor's Office overseeing coordination.



Above: Scenes during the Kitab Tafsir Mawdu'i Sungai' Book Launch

UM's Commitment to Meaningful Education for SDGs via Full Curriculum Review Exercise

Universiti Malaya (UM) is deeply committed to fostering meaningful education aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its academic curriculum. The Academic Strategic Planning Department (ASPD) and the Quality Management and Enhancement Centre (QMEC) are spearheading a transformative approach by integrating the Global Sustainability Agenda, specifically Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), into the curriculum across all academic programs. This strategic intervention ensures that every course is designed, reviewed, and enhanced to instill ESD competencies, enabling students to develop vital skills such as systems thinking, anticipatory thinking (future-focused), critical analysis, strategic planning, collaboration, integrated problem-solving, self-awareness, and ethical (normative) reasoning. Through these competencies, UM is equipping future leaders to drive sustainable solutions and make a profound impact on global challenges.

Below: Curriculum Review - Global Sustainability Agenda Exercise with ESD Competencies by ASPD and QMEC
(Source: Academic Strategic Planning Department)

GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA: EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY DEVELOPMENT (ESD)	
NAME OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMME:	
DEPARTMENT / FACULTY:	
ESD COMPETENCIES	COURSE CODE
1. Systems thinking competency	
2. Anticipatory competency (Future thinking)	
3. Critical thinking competency	
4. Strategic competency	
5. Collaboration competency	
6. Integrated problem-solving competency	
7. Self-awareness competency	
8. Normative competency	
<p>Remarks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fill in the "Course Code" column. If there is more than one course, list all courses, separating them with commas. 2. All ESD competencies must be addressed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For the diploma programmes, the "Self-awareness competency" is addressed in KIAR. b. For the undergraduate programmes, the "System Thinking competency" is addressed by GIG1003, while the "Self-awareness competency" is addressed by KIAR. c. Addressing at least one (1) of the ESD competencies is required for the postgraduate programmes. 	

Highlight: Faculty of Engineering's Courses Integrates Environmental and Sustainability Attributes

The Faculty of Engineering is committed to delivering engineering education that meets the highest global standards, as outlined by the Washington Accord. This requires all graduates to demonstrate 12 essential attributes that prepare them to address modern engineering challenges with a strong focus on environmental responsibility and sustainability. The Engineering Accreditation Council (EAC) under the Board of Engineers Malaysia (BEM) has embraced these attributes for all accredited programs, embedding them as the core outcomes of all faculty of engineering's curriculum.

The program outcomes (POs) include:

- PO1: Engineering Knowledge - Apply principles from mathematics, science, and engineering to solve complex engineering problems.
- PO2: Problem Analysis - Analyse and address complex engineering challenges, rooted in fundamental principles.
- PO3: Design/Development of Solutions - Develop solutions with a focus on public health, safety, societal, and environmental considerations.
- PO4: Investigation - Use research-based approaches to investigate and resolve complex issues.
- PO5: Modern Tool Usage - Utilise advanced engineering tools and techniques, recognising their limitations.
- PO6: The Engineer and Society - Assess social, health, and cultural impacts relevant to engineering practices.
- PO7: Environment and Sustainability - Evaluate the sustainability and societal impact of engineering solutions on environmental contexts.
- PO8: Ethics - Commit to ethical standards and professional responsibilities in engineering practice.
- PO9 Individual and Team Work - Function effectively as an individual, and as a member or leader in diverse teams and in multidisciplinary settings.
- PO10 Communication - Communicate effectively on complex engineering activities with the engineering community and with society at large, such as being able to comprehend and write effective reports and design documentation, make effective presentations, and give and receive clear instructions.
- PO11 Project Management and Finance - Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of engineering management principles and economic decision-making and apply these to one's own work, as a member and leader in a team, to manage projects in multidisciplinary environments.
- PO12 Life Long Learning - Recognise the need for and have the preparation and ability to engage in independent and life-long learning in the broadest context of technological change.

These outcomes ensure that all graduates are equipped to tackle environmental and societal challenges regardless of their engineering specialisation, aligning with UM's vision of fostering sustainable engineering solutions for a better future.

Source: Academic Strategic Planning Department & Faculty of Engineering

Right: *Sample of Programme Handbook by Faculty of Engineering.*



Integrating SDGs through UM's Student Holistic Empowerment Courses

The commitment to providing meaningful education on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is also reflected through the Student Holistic Empowerment (SHE) Courses, coordinated by Centre for Integral Learning (CITrA), which promote a well-rounded educational experience within a broad spectrum of sustainability topics. All UM undergraduate students are required to select and register for one course from each cluster within the SHE courses, as shown in the figures below:

Student Holistic Empowerment Courses

The Student Holistic Empowerment (SHE) courses are categorized into four (4) clusters:

CLUSTER	COURSE
CLUSTER 1:	Thinking Matters: Mind and Intellect
CLUSTER 2	Emotional, Physical and Spiritual Intelligence: Heart, Body & Soul
CLUSTER 3	Technology/Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics: I-Techie
CLUSTER 4	Global Issues and Community Sustainability: Making The World A Better Place

Above: Student holistic empowerment courses
(Source: Centre for Integral Learning (CITrA))

Below: Example of Student Holistic Empowerment (SHE) Courses under Cluster 4: Global Issues and Community Sustainability: Making the World a Better Place (Source: Centre for Integral Learning (CITrA))

GLOBAL ISSUES AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY: MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE				
Home // Global Issues and Community Sustainability: Making the World a Better Place				
13		GQE0013	Amalan Kelestarian / Sustainability In Practice	Lulus Senat 22 Julai 2021
14	FEDU	GQP0014	Pendidikan untuk Lestari dan Kelestarian / Education for Sustainable and Sustainability	Lulus Senat 22 Julai 2021
15		GQP0015	Pendidikan Global / Global Education	Lulus Senat 22 Julai 2021
22		GQA0022	Bite-Size Climate Action	Lulus Senat 22 Julai 2021
23		GQS0023	Geowarisan dan Geopelancongan / Geoheritage and Geotourism	Lulus Senat 22 Julai 2021

Empowering Future Leaders: Universiti Malaya's Comprehensive Academic Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Universiti Malaya (UM) offers a range of academic programs dedicated to sustainability, reflecting its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These programs encompass both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to address global sustainability challenges.

Undergraduate Programs: UM provides approximately 12 undergraduate programs related to sustainability. These include:

- **Bachelor of Environmental Studies:** Offered by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, this program focuses on environmental issues and sustainable development.
- **Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management:** Provided by the Faculty of Science, it emphasises the management of environmental resources.
- **Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning:** Available through the Faculty of Built Environment, this program addresses sustainable urban development.

Postgraduate Programs: At the postgraduate level, UM offers around 18 programs centered on sustainability, including:

- **Master of Sustainability Science:** This program aims to equip students with the necessary knowledge and tools in sustainability science through the lens of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) studies. [Faculty of Science](#)
- **Master of Renewable Energy:** Designed to produce experts in the field of renewable energy, this program offers advanced understanding in various core applications in renewable energy technology and management. [Institute of Graduate Studies](#)
- **Master of Environmental Management Technology:** Offered by the Faculty of Science, this program focuses on the technological aspects of environmental management. [Faculty of Science](#)

These programs align with UM's mission to foster future leaders in sustainable practices, actively contributing to the global SDG agenda. For more detailed information on these programs, please visit UM's [Sustainability Academic Programs and Courses](#).



Above: Programme flyer:
<https://sts.um.edu.my/Image/STS%20MSc%202023.pdf>

Campus Sustainability Final Year Project (FYP) @ UM on Just Net-Zero & SDGs

One of the initiatives that exemplifies Universiti Malaya's (UM) commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and carbon neutrality is the Campus Sustainability Final Year Project (FYP) program.

In Year 2023, Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) has launched the Campus Sustainability Final Year Project (FYP) program, focusing on the theme "Just Net-Zero and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". This initiative aims to engage students and faculty in developing innovative solutions to campus sustainability challenges, aligning with UM's commitment to carbon neutrality and the SDGs.



Above: Scenes during the "Campus Sustainability Final Year Project (FYP) @ UM on Just Net-Zero & SDGs" (Source: UMSDC)

Program Objectives:

- Support FYPs that address campus sustainability issues in line with UM's Sustainability Policy and EcoCampus Blueprint.
- Train students in responsible, action-oriented research to tackle real-world sustainability challenges.
- Empower students to contribute to UM's transition towards a sustainable and just net-zero campus.

Program Highlights:

- Town Hall Introduction: UMSDC hosted an initial town hall session with 30 representatives from various academic entities to introduce the program's objectives and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration. For more information, please visit the official event page [HERE](#).
- Evaluation Process: The program received 86 applications from diverse faculties, including Built Environment, Engineering, Science, and others. A panel evaluated submissions based on technical completeness, project relevance, and potential impact, selecting the top 50 candidates for participation. For more information, please visit the official event page [HERE](#).
- Selected Projects: The chosen projects encompass a range of sustainability topics, such as green infrastructure, sustainable transportation, and energy efficiency.

These projects will be showcased at the Campus Sustainability FYP Symposium 2024. For more information, please visit the official event page [HERE](#).

This program underscores UM's dedication to fostering a culture of sustainability and empowering students to contribute meaningfully to environmental stewardship.

Heartiest Congratulations & Best Wishes to All 50 Recipients of
CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FYP@UM
2023/2024

THEME: JUST NET-ZERO & SDGS

RECIPIENT LIST ACCORDING
TO 6 SUSTAINABILITY CLUSTERS



WASTE



ENERGY



WATER



MOBILITY



WELL-BEING



FACILITIES



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CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FYP@UM
2023/2024

RECIPIENT LIST



WASTE

WASTE

Adi Anak Agustinus Sandi - Chemical Upcycling of Unwanted Plastic Waste into High-Value Liquid Products

Amar Fikry Mohd Aznan - Rolling with Sustainability: Transforming Campus Paper Waste into Water-Soluble Toilet Rolls

Ilya Nazifa Nordin Amini - Cellulose Nanofibers Extracted from Office Waste Paper as Reinforcement for Biodegradable Poly(vinyl alcohol) Hydrogel

Kanegeswaran A/L M Sivam - Floating Waste Plastic Detection and Classification at Water Bodies near Universiti Malaysia Using Drone and Machine Learning

Lee Kar Mun - Investigating the Effects of Spent Coffee Grounds (SCGS) On the Properties of Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement

Muhammad Naufal Syabil Mazlan - Smart IoT-Based Recycle Bin for Waste Management

Muhammad Qasim Abbas Zaidi - Repurposing Spent Coffee Grounds for UM Campus Sustainability: Potential and Challenges as Dye Adsorbent

Shubass A/L Yogeswaran - Smart Waste Management System: An IoT-Based Approach For Automated Waste Classification and Bin Monitoring

Tan Kheng Hong - GHG Accounting For The Solid Waste Management System on Universiti Malaysia Campus

Venessa anak Julian - Synthesis and antimicrobial susceptibility test of mycelium-based bioplastics using kitchen-waste compost as a component of growing substrate.



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RECIPIENT LIST

WATER



- Chew Yao Dong** - An IoT-Enabled Sensing On Water Surface Robot To Predict Algae Concentration Level
- Dhayallan A/L Siva Balan** - A Comprehensive Study of Multifaceted Carbon Concentrations in Universiti Malaya's Water Ecosystems
- Iman Daniel Omar Hakeem** - Developing Potential Chelating Agent in Attempt to Reduce the Level of Heavy Metals in Water
- Lai Chen Fang** - Profiling of Biochemical Content in Tropical Microalgae
- Netilish A/L Tharmaraja** - The Potential of Microalgae-Based Biofloc Technology for the Sustainable Tilapia Production in Ladang Mini ISB, Universiti Malaya.
- Soon Kah Le** - Microbiological Analysis of Drinking Water from Vending Machines in Universiti Malaya Residential Colleges: Implications for Just Net-Zero Campus Initiatives

GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING



- Davina Anne Rajah** - Enhancing Climate Education for a Sustainable World: Fostering Language Inclusivity with ESL-Focused Teaching and Multilingual Digital Resources
- Nurul Afiqah Hashim** - The Perception of Undergraduate Students on Self-Development Programmes at University of Malaya
- Nurul Aqilah Rosli** - Isolation and characterisation of fungal contaminants in the Faculty of Dentistry



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CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FYP@UM 2023/2024

RECIPIENT LIST

ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE



- Ahmad Irsyadi Abdul Rahman Yap** - Characterisation and Identification of Anaerobic Bacteria from Anode Biofilm of Microbial Fuel Cell
- Chan Chong Wei** - Revitalizing Universiti Malaya's Icon: Sustainable Pathway Design for Safe and Illuminated Tasik Varsiti through Kinetic Energy Harvesting
- Fatima Zahra Ahmad Ariff** - Personalized Dashboard for Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory
- Futra Hafiz Soleheen Md Fadzil** - Development and Implementation of a Novel Hybrid Evaporative-Radiative Cooling System for PV Modules Installed at UM
- Hay Yeong Chyi** - Energy Auditing and Environmental Retrofitting Of UM Heritage Buildings
- Heng Kar Lok** - University campuses' sustainable future: Footstep Power Generation System
- Lim Qian Yi** - Developing maintenance strategy for Mould remediation in Hospital Buildings: Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC)
- Muhammad Naufal Fadhlurrahman** - Urban Heat Island Phenomenon in Hot Humid Cities- Microclimate Variations Between Green And Non-Green Urban Spaces
- Nurul Zalikha Zamani** - Strategies for Balancing Heritage Authenticity and Sustainability Heritage Buildings in UM Upon Rehabilitation
- Nadhirul Atiq Ruzali** - Fabrication durable nanostructures coating of Tin Dioxide doped with Titanium Dioxide to improve antifogging and self-cleaning properties in solar cell application.
- Noh Haikal Aripin** - Development of heatstroke treatment system based on thermoelectric device for energy efficiency.
- Shonashree A/P Elangovan** - Striding Forward into Tomorrow's Adventure: Proposal for Kinetic Pathway Linkage for a Sustainable Community in UM
- Umie Nadia Jimmy** - Balancing Heritage Preservation and Modern Architecture Through Design: Case Studies from UM's Historic Buildings



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CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FYP@UM 2023/2024 RECIPIENT LIST

TRANSPORTATION



Ahmad Rifqi Fahrezi - UM Eco-Mobility: A Campus Sustainability Tracker

Chow Kim Hong - The Study On The Effect Of Electric Scooters As A Travel Mode In The Universiti Malaya Campus

Mizan Kamalina Mazlan - Missed Opportunities in Campus Design and Planning: A barrier to Achieve a Bicycle-Oriented Campus (Green & Sustainable)

Mohamad Arsyad Abdullah - Promoting Sustainable Mobility and Enhancing Pedestrian Safety: A Case Study of the Universiti Malaya

Noorzulaikha Salimun - Achieving Net Zero Campus: Exploring Suitable Sustainable Transportation Choices and the Potentials in Reducing Parking Congestion and GHG Emissions in UM Campus



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CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY FYP@UM 2023/2024 RECIPIENT LIST

SETTING & INFRASTRUCTURE



Aileen Diasip - Mapping and Assessing Pedestrian Facilities in UM Campus For Zone A

Aisyah Qarirah Hijat - Sustainability of Adaptive Reuse Heritage Building at Universiti Malaya

Azhar Reynard Sitompul - Encouraging a Pedestrian-Friendly and Carbon Neutral Environment: An Exploration in Connecting Walkable Spaces in UM Campus

Dametia Netia David - Creating Connections: Fostering a Human-Centric Campus Environment at University Malaya by Enhancing the Interstitial Spaces

Hassan Basri Ghani - Green Infrastructure Networks: Strategies for Interconnected Urban Green Spaces for Enhanced Biodiversity Within Lingkungan Budi, Universiti Malaya

Izatul Balqis Dianna A Gaffar - Elevating Sustainability: Universiti Malaya's Architectural Revolution for Flood-Resilient Campus Build

Megat Iskandar Najib - Striving for Sustainable Campus: A Focus on Green Building Principle at Universiti Malaya

Muhammad Aizat Zabidi - Building Crack Detection and Classification for Wall Assessment through Drone Inspection and Deep Learning Techniques

Muhammad Furqaan Mohd Rashid - Accessing Indoor Physically Active Buildings for A Healthy Workplace: A Case Study of Universiti Malaya Building

Noor Hasni Abdullah - Analysis of Coverage of Green Area in Universiti Malaya

Nurnazleen Natasha Suhaimi - Addressing the Student Housing Crisis: Converting Abandoned Urban Structures into Livable Spaces to Enhance Campus Communities in Universiti Malaya

Shiva Sanjayan Rajakumar - Applying Adaptive Resuse to All Unused or Abandoned Buildings in Universiti Malaya for Better Sustainability Development

Tan You Sheng - Innovative Façade Solutions: A Case Study of Lightweight Concrete Façade in Block G, Department of Civil Engineering, Universiti Malaya



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Empowering Student Leaders for a Sustainable Future: UMSDC's Sustainability@UM Session for UM-WOW 2023/2024

In preparation for the UM Week of Welcome (UM-WOW) 2023/2024, the Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC), in collaboration with the Student Affairs Department (HEP), conducted a two-hour Sustainability@UM session for 200 student facilitators. Held at the PerdanaSiswa Complex Auditorium, this initiative aimed to empower student leaders with sustainable and carbon-neutral lifestyle practices.

The session began with an introduction to Sustainability@UM by UMSDC Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zeeda Fatimah Mohamad, who provided insights into the centres establishment and guidance on organising environmentally responsible events. Following this, the UMSDC and UM Zero Waste Centre teams led an interactive “ECO-ARTISTIC COLLAGE” activity. Participants created eco-themed cheers and collages using recycled textiles and banners, focusing on carbon neutrality and climate action.

The First Residential College (ASTAR/KK1) was awarded first place for their creative efforts, earning a guided tour of the Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden and priority representation at future sustainability events. UMSDC extends gratitude to HEP UM for their ongoing support in promoting sustainable practices among students.

Below: UM Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) with Student Affairs Department (HEP) UM and UM residential colleges during the UM Week of Welcome (UM-WOW) 2023/2024
(Source: UMSDC)



Dedicated Outreach Educational Activities For The Wider Community

UMCares' Role in Promoting Sustainable Development Goals at Universiti Malaya

UMCares, the Universiti Malaya Community Engagement Centre, plays a pivotal role in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through impactful partnerships, flagship programs, and international networks that bridge the university with broader society. By focusing on collaboration and education, UMCares facilitates efforts to tackle complex social and environmental challenges while empowering communities with the knowledge and skills needed for sustainable development.

1. Collaboration with NGOs to Address SDGs

UMCares collaborates with numerous non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to drive initiatives that align with the SDGs. These collaborations often come to life through student volunteering programs, which actively involve students in environmental conservation, public health campaigns, and social services. For instance, through its flagship program **University for Society (U4S)**, implemented under the Ministry of Higher Education, UMCares extends its collaborative reach by facilitating partnerships between UM researchers, students, and community-based organisations. This program enables the transfer of research-based knowledge to targeted communities, fostering sustainable practices in local agricultural methods, waste management, and renewable energy initiatives, which contribute to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy).

UMCares also collaborates with NGOs to develop educational resources that raise awareness of sustainable practices. The DIY Made Simple Competition, for instance, empowers students to tackle small infrastructure problems within local schools, fostering resourcefulness and innovation while promoting SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).

2. Education for SDGs in the Wider Community

To promote SDG education among a broader audience, UMCares implements outreach programs tailored to various community groups, including alumni, local residents, and displaced populations. Through the UM The Pulse of Lembah Pantai initiative, UMCares reaches out to the university's neighboring communities, providing seminars and workshops on topics like waste management, sustainable gardening, and personal finance, aimed at promoting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

UMCares also organises the International Conference on Academia-Community Engagement (InACE), which gathers stakeholders, including researchers, NGOs, and community leaders, to share insights and best practices in community engagement. This platform helps participants exchange ideas on promoting SDGs, thereby strengthening community ties and encouraging collaborative action toward sustainable development.

Right: Poster for the forum on "Fostering Partnership for Community Sustainability: Lessons Learnt from the Past, Present and Future" (Source: UMCares)



UMCares' flagship programs, such as **Health is Wealth: Healthy Aging for Senior Citizens of Petaling Jaya**, showcase its commitment to the well-being of local communities. This program focuses on enhancing the physical, mental, and financial health of the elderly, addressing the holistic needs of senior citizens while promoting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being). Similarly, the Universiti Malaya Wellbeing Program utilises the university's resources to transfer valuable knowledge and skills to local communities, contributing to a more resilient society.

In addition to flagship programs, UMCares' participation in international networks amplifies its impact and supports the university's goals of global engagement. By joining networks like the **Asia University Network (AUN) – AsianEngage** and the **Asia Pacific University Community Engagement Network (APUCEN)**, UMCares connects with other institutions that are equally dedicated to community engagement and sustainable development. These affiliations enable UMCares to collaborate on SDG-focused research and projects, learn from best practices globally, and align its efforts with the international agenda on sustainable development. The **Talloires Network** further strengthens UMCares' outreach by promoting the importance of university social responsibility on a global scale, allowing UM to contribute meaningfully to the discourse on community engagement.

Through these collaborations, educational initiatives, and international partnerships, UMCares reinforces Universiti Malaya's commitment to the SDGs, creating a sustainable future for both the university community and society at large. This multifaceted approach not only positions UM as a leader in sustainable practices but also ensures that its contributions have a lasting impact on communities both locally and globally. This outreach aligns with the vision of SDG 4 (Quality Education) and emphasises the importance of lifelong learning for all.

Below: For more detailed information on these programs, please visit the UMCares Flagship Program page <https://myumcares.um.edu.my/flagship-program>



UMSDC's Role in Advancing Sustainable Development Goals at Universiti Malaya

The Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) is a key driver of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through collaborative, educational, and student-led initiatives. By focusing on partnerships, research, and outreach, UMSDC enhances sustainability within the university and across the broader community.

1. Collaborating with NGOs to Address SDGs

UMSDC forms strategic partnerships with NGOs to tackle SDGs by involving students in volunteer and research projects. A flagship example is **Water Warriors**, where UMSDC collaborates with local environmental groups to involve students in water conservation efforts. Activities include water quality testing and clean-up campaigns, particularly in restoring Varsity Lake, a campus ecosystem used as a practical learning space. These efforts not only build students' skills but also directly support SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

Additionally, UMSDC supports student research initiatives focused on sustainable waste management, biodiversity, and renewable energy, advancing SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy). These research programs provide students with real-world opportunities to apply sustainable practices in partnership with community-focused NGOs.

2. Education for SDGs in the Wider Community

UMSDC actively extends sustainability education beyond the campus, reaching alumni, local residents, and even displaced populations. In collaboration with **UM Zero Waste Centre (UMZWC)**, UMSDC conducts workshops on waste reduction, recycling, and composting to promote responsible consumption (SDG 12). These programs encourage sustainable living practices within the wider community, with UMZWC also organising regular recycling drives and awareness campaigns to reduce waste on campus and beyond.

Through **The Rimba Project 2.0**, UMSDC collaborates with local schools and communities to foster environmental stewardship. By transforming campus spaces into green zones and organising conservation workshops, The Rimba Project promotes SDG 15 (Life on Land). Student volunteers gain valuable hands-on experience in biodiversity conservation, while community members gain insight into sustainable practices.

For a more comprehensive overview on UMSDC, visit <https://sustainability.um.edu.my>



UM Explorace 2023 Kicked Off UM Research Carnival to Promote Eco-and-Edutourism

On January 8, 2023, Universiti Malaya (UM) inaugurated its annual Research Carnival with the UM Explorace 2023, co-organised by the UM Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) and UM Community Engagement Centre (UMCares). This event featured 13 teams, each comprising five participants, who navigated eight checkpoints across the UM campus, engaging in both physical and mental challenges. The primary objectives were to promote UM's research initiatives, introduce educational and eco-tourism destinations, and foster healthy, recreational activities that connect the UM community with the public. The winning team, CoC, led by UM alumnus Mr. Mohamad Azarulazuan Omar, received a prize of RM1000.00. All participants were awarded official t-shirts, e-certificates, and UM merchandise, underscoring the event's success in promoting sustainability and community engagement.



Right: Scenes during the UM Explorace 2023

Sustainable Literacy

In 2022, Universiti Malaya (UM) made strides in promoting sustainability literacy by focusing on the critical issue of climate change among its students. A targeted survey was conducted as part of the Week of Welcome orientation (UM-WOW), involving a selected group of first-year students. This initiative aimed to assess their knowledge, attitudes, and practices concerning climate change, providing insights into students' awareness and the actions they were willing to take. The findings highlighted a strong awareness of the impacts of climate change and a commitment to sustainable practices, even among new students. However, it also revealed gaps in engagement and the availability of information on climate-related issues, underscoring the need for broader educational outreach across the campus. Visit [HERE](#) for more details.

Looking ahead to the 2024/2025 academic session, UM's Sustainability Development Centre (UMSDC) and the Academic Strategic and Planning Department (ASPD) are collaborating to extend this survey to all UM students, expanding its scope to cover all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) beyond climate change. By broadening the survey, UM aims to capture a more comprehensive understanding of sustainability literacy across the SDGs, enabling the university to address diverse areas like poverty, health, education, and gender equality in its programs. This approach not only strengthens UM's role in fostering a generation of environmentally and socially conscious graduates but also aligns with its mission to embed a holistic understanding of sustainability at the heart of campus culture, supporting global efforts toward achieving the SDGs.



Aligning with UM's Strategic Plans and Global Trends

UM's achievements in 2023 align closely with the objectives outlined in the UM Transformation Plan 2030 and the UM Master Plan 2050. These strategic plans emphasise the importance of global partnerships and collaborations in achieving sustainable development. By aligning its efforts with these plans, UM has positioned itself as a leader in promoting SDG 17 and contributing to the global effort to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UM's focus on data-driven partnerships, cross-sectoral dialogues, and inclusive education reflects broader global trends towards collaborative approaches in addressing the SDGs. As the world moves towards 2030, there is an increasing recognition that achieving the SDGs will require coordinated efforts across all sectors and levels of society. UMs active involvement in international networks and its leadership in developing best practices demonstrate its commitment to playing a key role in this global movement.

Furthermore, UM's strategic plans highlight the university's long-term vision of becoming a global leader in sustainable development. By 2050, UM aims to be recognised as a model of sustainability, with its campus and operations reflecting the highest standards of environmental and social responsibility. This vision aligns with global trends towards greater sustainability in higher education, as universities around the world increasingly adopt sustainable practices and policies.

UM's Role in Strengthening Global Partnerships

In 2023, Universiti Malaya made significant contributions to SDG 17 through its commitment to fostering global partnerships, enhancing cross-sectoral dialogues, and promoting education for sustainable development. These efforts, aligned with UM's strategic plans and global trends, demonstrate the university's leadership in advancing the SDGs. By continuing to build on these achievements, UM is well-positioned to contribute to the global effort to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to establish itself as a leader in sustainability by 2050.