



2025

SUSTAINABILITY

REPORT



UNIVERSITI
MALAYA

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 **No Poverty**
Zero  **Hunger**
 **Good Health & Wellbeing**
 **Quality Education** 
Gender Equality

 **Clean Water & Sanitation**
Affordable &  **Clean Energy**
 **Decent Work & Economic Growth**

 **Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure**
Reduced Inequalities  
Sustainable Cities & Communities

 **Responsible Consumption & Production** 
Climate Action
Life Below Water

 **Life on Land** 

 **Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions**
Partnership for the Goals 



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GREENHOUSE GAS

EMISSION REPORT: 2025

The aspiration towards a carbon neutral campus by 2030 and Net Zero by 2050 is guided by the [Universiti Malaya Net Zero Blueprint 2030](#). Endorsed in December 2024, the Blueprint was strengthened in 2025 from six to eight priority sectors—Energy, Mobility, Waste, Value Chain, Beyond Campus, Water, Green Building, and Biodiversity—reflecting a more holistic, ecosystem-based approach.

In parallel, the UM Strategic Plan 2026–2030 positions carbon neutrality as a flagship initiative under an ESG-driven ecosystem, reinforcing institutional accountability across operations, research, and campus development.

UM's GHG accounting began in 2022 and currently covers Scope 1 (direct emissions) and Scope 2 (electricity use), forming the basis for performance tracking and future improvements.

Scope 1 Emissions (Direct Emissions)

Fuel Consumption

Total emissions from university-owned vehicles in 2025:

- Total: 366.49 tCO₂e
- Vehicles (cars, lorries, vans): 154.28 tCO₂e
- Buses: 212.21 tCO₂e

This represents a 16% increase from 2024, likely due to higher campus activity and population.

Fugitive Emissions (Air Conditioning Systems)

For the first time, UM included emissions from refrigerant leakage:

- Total: 18,814 tCO₂e

Major contributors:

- R32: highest share
- R22: significant, and being phased out
- Others: R134a, R410A, R407C

This highlights air conditioning systems as a major emission source, with strong potential for reduction through system upgrades and refrigerant transition.

Total Scope 1 Emissions

- 19,180.49 tCO₂e
(Fuel + Fugitive emissions)

Scope 2 Emissions (Electricity Use)

- Total electricity consumption: 73.49 million kWh
- Total emissions: 54,382.95 tCO₂e

This reflects a 4.17% reduction from 2024, attributed to:

- Lower national emission factor
- Improved energy efficiency

Total Emissions (Scope 1 + Scope 2)

- 73,563.41 tCO₂e (2025)
- +29% compared to 2024
- The increase is mainly due to the inclusion of fugitive emissions, improving reporting completeness rather than indicating purely higher operational emissions.

Key Insights

- Air conditioning systems are now a critical emission hotspot
- Electricity remains the largest contributor overall
- Improved reporting strengthens data transparency and decision-making
- Scope 3 emissions are not yet included but are expected to significantly increase total footprint in future reporting

Note on Scope 3

Scope 3 emissions (e.g., commuting, travel, procurement) are currently excluded due to data limitations. Based on global benchmarks, total emissions could be 3–4 times higher once included. UM is working towards expanding this boundary in future reporting cycles.



Read the full report

sustainability.um.edu.my/ghg-um-2025

SDG CHAMPIONS

In 2025, 33 staff were appointed as UM SDG Champions, selected for their SDG expertise to support and guide the University's sustainability strategies.



Read more

sustainability.um.edu.my/um-sdg-champions-2026

SDG 1

NO POVERTY



Financial and Welfare Support for Low-Income Students

Zakat Distribution for Student Support

In 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM), through UM Giving, continued to provide financial assistance to students from lower-income backgrounds through the distribution of zakat contributions collected via the Universiti Malaya Zakat Counter. The distribution was implemented in line with principles of transparency, accountability, and good governance, with the aim of supporting students' educational continuity and basic living needs.

Zakat assistance was provided to eligible students facing financial hardship, including those from the bottom income group. Through this support, UM helped financially vulnerable students meet essential academic and living needs, enabling them to continue and complete their studies.

The total zakat assistance allocated for student support in 2025 was as follows:

- Educational assistance: RM3,189,652
- Cost of living assistance: RM125,200
- Programme assistance: RM265,925
- Scholarships: RM33,000
- Special cases: RM20,724

BANTUAN STAF	
Bantuan Sara Hidup	RM 243,350.00
Bantuan Pendidikan	RM 39,250.00
Bantuan Bencara	RM 18,000.00
Res-kes Khas	RM 151,999.36

BANTUAN PELAJAR	
Bantuan Pendidikan	RM 3,189,652.00
Bantuan Sara Hidup	RM 125,200.00
Bantuan Program	RM 265,925.00
Bekaswa	RM 33,000.00
Res-kes Khas	RM 20,724.00

Agihan Keseluruhan
RM 4,087,100.36

Raihan Hari Gaji dengan Berzakat

Amaliah zakat akan disediakan kepada mereka dengan zakat yang mereka mahu berzakat dan mahu berzakat, dan disalurkan untuk mereka. Berzakatlah dan mahu berzakat, dan mahu berzakat, dan mahu berzakat.

Silalah ke Taawun 2025

Waktu Operasi 'Kauinter Zakat' UM	Jenis-jenis Zakat
Isnin - Khamis 9.00 pg - 4.30 ptt Rehat (12.30 - 2.00 ptt)	• Pendapatan • Perumahan • Wang Simpanan • Saham
Jumaat 9.00 pg - 4.30 ptt Rehat (12.00 - 2.45 ptt)	• KWSP • Emas & Perak • Harta • Qadha Zakat

Kaedah Bayaran	BAHARAN KERAJAAN PPT	BAHARAN KERAJAAN L25
• Cek • Kad Debit • Kad Kredit • Online Transfer	Pusat Pungutan Zakat No. 1000 1000 1000 1402 3010 0116 91	Lembaga Zakat Selangor No. 1000 1000 1000 5505 1076 0211

Kauinter Zakat UM (UM Giving Centre)
Ara 8, Bangunan Canselor, Universiti Malaya
10003 Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur

zakat@um.edu.my | 03-7367 4439
UM Giving Centre

Support for Financial Aid from Various Organisations

In July 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) witnessed [the launch of the Rahmath Musthafa Endowment Fund](#), a philanthropic endowment established through charitable contributions to strengthen educational funding and provide sustainable support for students' academic pursuits, research opportunities, and learning needs. The fund aims to expand access to higher education for students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, particularly those from the bottom national income bracket, and support them throughout their studies.

In October 2025, [UM formalised a Deed of Donation with Bodhi Meditation Charity Foundation](#) (BMCF), reaffirming its commitment to supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds. As part of the 2025 contribution, BMCF donated RM300,000 to fund the UM Jinbodhi Bursary programme, which provides tuition and accommodation support for high-achieving non-Muslim students from B40 families. The initiative helps ensure that deserving students can remain focused on their academic progress and successfully complete their studies at UM.

UM also facilitated the [distribution of the Skim Dana Ehsan Pendidikan \(SDEP\) YPM](#), sponsored by Ekuiti Nasional Berhad, to support students from lower-income backgrounds. For the 2025/2026 session, 14 students received financial assistance of RM2,500 each, enabling them to meet essential study-related expenses and continue their academic journey with greater financial stability.



Bus Transport Support for Students

UM provides [free campus bus services](#) throughout the day, ensuring safe, reliable, and accessible transportation for all students. The service supports students in travelling between academic, residential, and recreational facilities across campus, while particularly benefiting those from low-income backgrounds by reducing transportation costs and facilitating full participation in university life.

UM, through the Student Affairs Department with support from UM Giving, also [sponsored bus transportation for students returning to their hometowns](#). Conducted in March 2025 and June 2025, this initiative eased travel costs and enabled students to celebrate festive occasions with their families. This effort reflects UM's continued commitment to student welfare by ensuring that students, especially those facing financial constraints, are supported in staying connected with their families during important cultural moments, with the Aidilfitri programme sponsored by the Johor State Government and MAINJ, while the Aidiladha initiative was supported by UM Giving.



Facilitation of Government Travel Subsidy for Students (FLYsiswa)

UM [facilitates the implementation of the FLYsiswa initiative](#), a government subsidy programme administered by the Government of Malaysia to reduce the financial burden of air travel for students in public universities. The programme supports students who need to travel for academic and personal reasons, with the subsidy increased from RM300 to RM400 effective 1 January 2025, further easing transportation-related costs for eligible students.



Supporting Financially Disadvantaged Students through Affordable and Prioritised Housing

UM ensures that all first-year undergraduates are guaranteed accommodation in one of its thirteen residential colleges. For continuing students, placement is based on established selection criteria under two main categories. Part 1 prioritises students with specific needs, including differently-abled students, those with health conditions, student leaders, members of SUKSI and PALAPES, as well as clinical students. Part 2 prioritises students from lower-income households (B40) and those actively involved in student activities across various levels of achievement.

Additionally, the UM Student Union (UMSU) facilitates the application process for Rumah Kediaman Siswa (RKS), providing students with a structured channel to apply for on-campus accommodation and access affordable housing during their studies. This support helps ease housing-related challenges and contributes to a more stable living environment, particularly for students facing financial constraints.



Provision of Learning Devices for Students in Need

As part of efforts to support student welfare and learning needs, the Minister of Communications, Dato' Ahmad Fahmi bin Datuk Mohamed Fadzil, contributed 10 laptop computers to students at Universiti Malaya who required access to learning devices. The laptops were provided to support students' academic activities and help reduce barriers to participation in teaching and learning, particularly for students facing financial constraints.



Access to Education for Students from Lower-Income Countries

Support for Postgraduate Students from Developing Countries through MTCP

In 2025, ten international postgraduate students were selected as recipients of the [Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme \(MTCP\) Scholarship](#) and enrolled at UM. This builds on support provided between 2021 and 2024, during which nine postgraduate students at UM were awarded the scholarship. Funded by the Government of Malaysia, the MTCP Scholarship is designed to support students from developing countries in pursuing postgraduate studies.

The MTCP Scholarship supports access to postgraduate education by covering key study-related costs, thereby reducing financial barriers faced by students from lower- and lower-middle-income countries. While the scholarship is funded by the Malaysian government, UM participates as a host institution by facilitating enrolment, academic supervision, and access to its postgraduate programmes.

The 2025 MTCP recipients at UM represent a diverse range of countries, including Yemen, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Peru, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, and Maldives. These scholars are enrolled across multiple faculties, including the Academy of Islamic Studies, Faculty of Business and Economics, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, Faculty of Medicine, and the International Institute of Public Policy and Management. Collectively, this reflects UM's role in supporting inclusive access to higher education for students from developing countries through participation in nationally administered scholarship schemes.



Supporting Sustainable Local Start-ups

Advancing Urban Poverty Eradication through BMT Implementation (2022–2025)

Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC) continued its role as a strategic partner for the [Program Pembasmian Kemiskinan Tegar \(BMT\)](#), reaffirming its commitment to Malaysia's national target of eradicating hardcore poverty. As the lead implementing university for the Central Zone, UM oversaw programme implementation across four key urban localities—PPR Kerinchi, PA Desa Rejang, PPR Kg. Muhibbah, and PPR Taman Mulia—communities primarily comprising low-income households within the Federal Territory.

Throughout the final phase of implementation (2022–2025), UM remained responsible for supervising, monitoring, and strengthening delivery mechanisms to ensure measurable income improvements and long-term economic resilience among participating households. This oversight role was further reinforced through active participation in governance platforms, including the Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal Inisiatif Basmi Miskin Tegar (IBMT) Fasa 1 & 2 Wilayah Persekutuan (January–April 2025), held on 13 May 2025 at the Jabatan Wilayah Persekutuan. The meeting provided a coordination mechanism to review progress, address operational challenges, and align implementation strategies with federal-level poverty eradication objectives.

Through an action-based approach, UAC continued to empower Heads of Households (Ketua Isi Rumah, KIR) by delivering structured entrepreneurship and motivational training, alongside targeted skills development programmes in both food and non-food sectors based on participants' interests and market viability. In addition, participants were supported through in-kind financial assistance in the form of business tools and equipment to help establish or expand income-generating activities. The 2025 phase placed greater emphasis on business sustainability, post-training mentoring, and strengthening community support ecosystems to ensure continued income generation beyond the programme cycle.



Kudap Kukis

This collaboration with the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) in conjunction with the ISWC 2025 Conference directly supported the objectives of the Program Pembasmian Kemiskinan Tegar (BMT) by creating market access opportunities for programme participants. Through UAC's facilitation, selected participants with high-potential products were connected to a corporate platform where their products, including healthy mixed nuts, were procured as official conference souvenirs. In addition to generating income, participants gained exposure through a dedicated exhibition booth that enabled product promotion, networking with industry stakeholders, and increased market visibility. This initiative strengthened the sustainability of participant-led microenterprises and demonstrated how strategic partnerships between academia, government agencies, and the corporate sector can support long-term poverty eradication efforts beyond training and capacity-building activities.

Projek Dapur Sambal OKU: Empowering OKU Entrepreneurs

Projek Dapur Sambal OKU, a collaboration between UM and Akademi Permata Impian (APIM), Semenyih, empowers OKU learners to develop entrepreneurship and vocational skills. Supported by a start-up grant from the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC), the project trains participants in producing sambal belacan and ibu sambal at a commercial scale, covering product preparation, quality control, and marketing strategies.

Workshops under the project were successfully conducted on 12 March and 8 May 2025, providing hands-on guidance, mentorship, and entrepreneurship modules to OKU learners with learning difficulties. These sessions enhance practical skills, build confidence, and expose participants to small-scale business management, enabling them to gain financial independence and self-reliance. Projek Dapur Sambal OKU also strengthens community engagement and fosters a sustainable local entrepreneurship ecosystem, creating lasting benefits for the OKU community.





Digital Empowerment for Women Entrepreneurs

UMCares, in collaboration with Wanita Perak and Pertubuhan Prihatin Wanita Perak, implemented a [digital empowerment initiative for women entrepreneurs](#) operating micro and small businesses in Ipoh and Taiping. Supported by a UMCares research grant, the programme provided training on social media, WhatsApp Business, and digital accounting tools such as Zoho Books to strengthen business management and customer engagement. Participants also gained knowledge on sustainable business practices, including product safety, hygiene, and environmentally responsible operations. Follow-up support helped entrepreneurs apply these skills in their businesses, contributing to more resilient and sustainable local enterprises.

Supporting Early-Stage Entrepreneurship through Competition Grants

UM provided financial support for aspiring entrepreneurs through entrepreneurship competitions that encouraged participants to develop and refine innovative business ideas. In June 2025, Royal Business (RoyalBizz), Kolej Kediaman Raja Dr. Nazrin Shah, and the UM Centre of Innovation and Enterprise (UMCIE) organised the [PITCHLAB – Ideation & Entrepreneurship Competition](#). The programme introduced participants to entrepreneurial thinking through ideation workshops, mentoring sessions, and live pitching opportunities. To support further development of promising ideas, cash prizes of RM2,000, RM1,500, and RM1,000 were awarded to the top three teams.

Additional financial assistance was provided through the [Campus Pitch competition](#) held during UM Giving Carnival 2025, where participants presented ideas related to healthcare, sustainability, community development, entrepreneurship, and other impactful solutions directly to industry professionals. Winning teams received cash awards of RM1,200, RM1,000, and RM800, providing early-stage financial support and recognition for their proposed ventures.





Improving Access to Basic Services

Volunteer Support for Access to Basic Services during Emergency Response

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs), together with the Department of Student Affairs, Ministry of Higher Education, through the Majlis Sukarelawan Universiti Malaysia (MASKUM), mobilised volunteers from public universities to [support communities affected by a fire incident](#) in Putra Heights. Volunteer teams were deployed to Temporary Evacuation Centres (Pusat Pemindahan Sementara, PPS) to provide immediate assistance to affected individuals.

Teams from UM, working in collaboration with Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), supported access to basic services at the evacuation centres. Assistance included the provision of psychological support, basic medical services, and welfare assistance to displaced residents. This coordinated response contributed to maintaining basic living conditions and supporting the wellbeing of affected communities during the emergency response and recovery period.



OPKIM Community Programme Supports Local Households

The Alumni Engagement Centre and UM Giving, in collaboration with the Universiti Malaya Pahang Students' Alumni Association, organised the Perkampungan Kekeluargaan – [Operasi Khidmat Masyarakat \(OPKIM\)](#) programme in Kuala Tahan, Pahang, on 19 September 2025. The initiative aimed to strengthen UM's engagement with the local community through welfare-focused activities. A key component of the programme was the distribution of basic household necessities to residents, presented by Dr. Azni Zarina Taha, Executive Director of UM Giving, together with Dr. Nor Azlin Abd Aziz. This contribution offered practical support to local families in their daily living needs while fostering a positive connection between UM and the community.

Smart Water Purification Project Enhances Rural Access to Clean Water

UM's Department of Chemical Engineering carried out a community engagement visit to the Bachok Marine Research Station (BMRS) as part of an ongoing project to improve access to basic services in rural areas. Led by Prof. Mohd Azram Ramli, Dr. Zullhelmi Amir, and Dr. Mohd Usman Mohd Junakli, the initiative focuses on developing [a smart water purification system](#) that will provide a sustainable clean water supply to BMRS and nearby villages. Through the research project "Enhancing the Quality of Life in Rural Area Community by Providing Sustainable Clean Water Supply Using Smart Water Purification Technology," the team is working to address gaps in safe drinking water access. This effort strengthens community resilience by ensuring long-term access to essential services and improved living standards.

Projek SPARK (Sanitation Outreach and Awareness Programme – SOAP)

Projek SPARK is a community service initiative by Kolej Kediaman Tuanku Abdul Rahman (ASTAR) that implemented the Sanitation Outreach and Awareness Programme (SOAP) in Kg. Orang Asli Sungai Congkak, Hulu Langat, Selangor. The programme focused on [improving access to basic health and sanitation awareness](#) through hygiene talks, practical demonstrations, pre-hygiene screening, and interactive activities, alongside the distribution of essential items to households. Conducted in collaboration with the Department of Orang Asli Development (Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli, JAKOA) and the College of Health Sciences, UM Medical Centre, the initiative supported community understanding of sanitation and personal health practices, contributing to improved living conditions and access to basic health-related services at the local level.





Smile with the Samaritans – Expanding Access to Health Education

UM dental students, together with engineering students from National University of Singapore (NUS), ran Smile with the Samaritans, a community service project at Good Samaritan Home, Klang. The programme provided children with interactive oral health education, nutrition guidance, and healthy habit activities using hands-on sessions and digital learning tools. Educational materials, Oral Health Education kits, and a laptop were supplied to improve access to essential services and digital learning. Career talks and motivational sessions further inspired the children, helping broaden their horizons and build confidence for the future.

CEGAH JaP: Community-Based Parasitic Infection Prevention

The “Bersama Mencegah Jangkitan Parasit” (CEGAH JaP) program supported residents of low-cost public housing (PPRs) in Klang Valley by providing interactive health education on intestinal parasitic infections. Participants of all ages learned about risk factors, preventive measures, and the importance of deworming through games and visual demonstrations. Supported by the Ministry of Higher Education’s FRGS and ThinkCity’s K2K Community Grant, the program helped improve understanding of hygiene and disease prevention, reducing health risks for vulnerable urban communities. This local-level initiative contributed to better access to basic health services and enhanced the overall quality of life for residents.





Shaping Poverty Reduction Policies

Seminar Ungku Aziz 2.0 – From Data to Policy Action

Seminar Ungku Aziz 2.0, held on 17–18 December 2025 brought together 20 poverty-focused research grant recipients under the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC). The seminar, themed “*Data ke Tindakan Dasar: Mengarusperdanakan Penyelidikan dalam Agenda Pembasmian Kemiskinan*,” featured presentations from 20 multidisciplinary research teams showcasing evidence-based findings aimed at strengthening poverty eradication strategies. The programme served as a platform to translate research data into actionable policy recommendations, facilitating engagement between researchers, stakeholders, and policymakers to inform local and national poverty alleviation initiatives.



Ungku Aziz Memorial Forum 2.0 Explores Hidden Dimensions of Poverty

Held in conjunction with the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the Ungku Aziz Memorial Forum 2.0 brought together academics, policy practitioners, and institutional representatives to revisit the “Sarong Index” introduced by Allahyarham Prof. Diraja Ungku Abdul Aziz Ungku Abdul Hamid and discuss hidden dimensions of poverty in contemporary Malaysia. Organised by the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC), the forum provided a platform for critical discussion on poverty measurement and inclusive development.

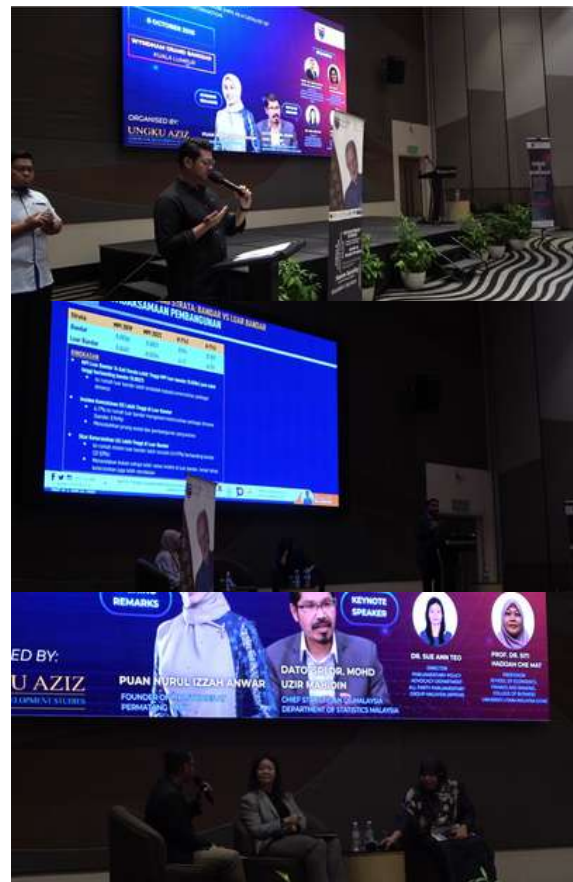
The programme featured keynote presentations by Dr. Muhammad Syafiq Borhanuddin (IKIM) and Dr. Muhammed Abdul Khalid (IKMAS-UKM), followed by a panel discussion with Prof. Dr. Fatimah Kari (UM), Dr. Sharifah Fatimah Alzahrah Syed Hussein (UIAM), and Encik Azlan Shah Nabees Khan (ARBA Foundation). Through evidence-based discussions and expert perspectives, the forum contributed to national policy dialogue, generating insights that can inform policy considerations and strategies to address poverty in Malaysia.



SWRC Conducts Focus Group to Inform Belanjawanku Expenditure Guide

As part of the preparation for the Belanjawanku (Expenditure Guide for Malaysians) 2026/2027, the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), UM, conducted a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in Georgetown, Penang, to collect monthly household expenditure data for [developing a realistic budget](#) covering essential categories such as food, housing, and transportation. More than 50 participants representing diverse household types, including singles, married couples, single parents, and senior citizens, took part in the sessions.

Led by Puan Nik Noor Ainoon Nik Osman (SWRC), Dr. Sharifah Muhairah Shahabudin (UM), and Dr. Muhammad Aizat Zainal Alam (UM), the discussion generated evidence on the cost of living experienced by different groups. The insights gathered contributed to national policy dialogue and preparation through the development of the Belanjawanku expenditure guide, providing evidence to support policymaking on household financial wellbeing, living standards, and poverty reduction strategies in Malaysia.



Forum on Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) as a Policy Tool

The Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC), organised a national-level [forum and workshop on the Multidimensional Poverty Index \(MPI\)](#) to support evidence-based policy development for poverty reduction in Malaysia. The event brought together policymakers, statisticians, academics, and experts from organisations such as UNDP Malaysia, the Parliamentary Policy Advocacy Department (APPGM), and multiple universities, to discuss the application of MPI in policy planning, field research, and data analysis.

The forum provided a platform to advance understanding of poverty measurement, share empirical insights, and explore strategies for integrating MPI into national policy-making. Through this initiative, UM contributed to the formulation of policies aimed at addressing poverty in all its dimensions at the national level.

Framework for Old-Age Income Protection Reform under RMK13

The Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), produced a policy working paper titled “[Securing Dignity in Ageing: A Framework for Malaysia’s Integrated Old-Age Income Protection in Advancing RMK13.](#)” The paper presents a comprehensive situation analysis, policy objectives, reform strategies, and a phased roadmap to strengthen Malaysia’s old-age income protection system under the 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK13). By proposing structural reforms, including the consolidation of social assistance and long-term pension adequacy measures, the study contributes to national policy efforts aimed at reducing poverty and improving income security among the elderly population.



Integrating ESG into Institutional Policy for Inclusive Wellbeing

UM hosted the [UM Sustainability & ESG Policy Development Workshop](#) on 16–17 December 2025, bringing together diverse stakeholders to develop an integrated sustainability policy framework aligned with the UM Strategic Plan 2026–2030. Organised by the Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC) in collaboration with the UM Centre of Excellence on ESG, the workshop examined how environmental, social, and governance (ESG) principles can be embedded across governance, operations, research, and teaching.

Importantly, the social dimension of ESG includes poverty-related elements, particularly in addressing equitable access to education, wellbeing, and institutional support systems for students and staff from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Through focused group discussions involving academic and non-academic staff, students, university leaders, industry partners, alumni, and government agencies, the workshop generated insights to strengthen inclusive policies that reduce economic vulnerability within the university community.



ASEAN Forum on Inclusive Development

The Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC), UM, together with the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), Malaysia, organised the regional forum “*Higher Education and Poverty Eradication: ASEAN’s Path to Inclusive Growth*” under the theme “*Redefining Poverty Eradication in ASEAN: Multidimensional Perspectives, Evidence and Pathways for Inclusive Development*.” The event took place on 6 November 2025 at Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC), as part of Festival IDEA Putrajaya.

The forum opened with a welcome address by YBhg. Professor Dato’ Seri Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman, Vice-Chancellor of UM. This was followed by two keynote presentations. The first keynote, “*National and Regional Commitment Towards Ending Poverty in ASEAN*,” was delivered by YBhg. Dato’ Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Former Minister of Economy, Malaysia. The second keynote, “*Policy Innovations and Social Protection for Poverty Eradication in Southeast Asia*,” was presented by Dr. Vivi Alatas, Chief Executive Officer of Asakreativita and Former Lead Economist at the World Bank, Indonesia. The perspectives shared in these sessions contributed to ongoing national and regional discussions on designing and strengthening policies related to poverty reduction.

A forum session titled “*Higher Education and Poverty Eradication: ASEAN’s Path to Inclusive Growth*” then gathered experts to discuss approaches relevant to improving access to essential services, wellbeing, and inclusive development. Moderated by Mr. Azlan Shah Nabees Khan, Chief Executive Officer of the ARBA Foundation, the panel featured Dr. Ririn Salwa Purnamasari (World Bank East Asia and Pacific, Indonesia), Professor Dr. Sulochana Nair (Binary University, Malaysia), Associate Professor Dr. Alellie Sobreviñas (De La Salle University, Philippines) and Associate Professor Dr. Somporn Chuai-Aree (Prince of Songkla University, Thailand). Their contributions supported policy-relevant dialogue by sharing evidence, institutional experiences, and sectoral insights that can inform regional and national strategies.

The event concluded with closing remarks by YBhg. Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Director of the Malaysian Inclusive Development and Advancement Institute (MINDA-UKM). Overall, the forum served as a regional-level platform, with national-level representation, enabling academics, policymakers, and practitioners to exchange views that may guide policy considerations and collaborative efforts related to multidimensional poverty in ASEAN.



Supporting Malaysia's Sandwich Generation: Policy Roundtable on Social Protection

The “sandwich generation” refers to individuals supporting both ageing parents and dependent children. In Malaysia, this demographic is growing due to an ageing population, rising life expectancy, and entrenched cultural expectations for children to care for elderly parents. Balancing the costs of children’s education with medical and living expenses for elderly parents places substantial financial and emotional strain on working adults, increasing their vulnerability to poverty.

In 2025, UM’s Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), in collaboration with the Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, convened a national and global policy roundtable. Policymakers, experts, and stakeholders, alongside representatives from UNICEF, UNFPA, and the World Bank Group, examined the [growing pressures faced by the sandwich generation](#) and the policy gaps in current social protection frameworks.

Key presentations addressed pension shortfalls and proposed a consumption-based contributory pension model, explored global lessons on ageing and labour markets, and emphasised the importance of investing in children within an ageing demographic context. Panel discussions delved into intersections of social protection, wellbeing, and the care economy, highlighting the need for integrated strategies and rights-based approaches.

The event concluded with calls for greater investment in the care economy, improved retirement planning, and holistic policies that support both caregiving responsibilities and economic participation. This roundtable exemplifies Universiti Malaya’s contribution to national and global policy dialogues aimed at reducing vulnerability and poverty among intergenerational caregivers.



SDG 2

ZERO HUNGER



Food Support for Student

Student Food Security Programme and Affordable Meal Initiative

A structured institutional framework has been established to address student food insecurity through coordinated efforts under the Student Affairs Department, UM Student Unions and other responsible centres. [Food banks](#) are available across residential colleges and faculties and operate within an organised monitoring system to support students experiencing financial hardship. These food banks form part of a broader student welfare ecosystem, ensuring consistent access to basic food supplies for students in need.

In addition to direct assistance, preventive structural measures are implemented through vendor agreements that regulate food pricing on campus. Food operators within residential colleges and university premises are required to maintain student-friendly prices, including the provision of Menu Siswa Rahmah, which offers affordable meal options to ensure students can access nutritious food at reasonable prices. These efforts are further guided by the [UM Sustainability Policy 2021–2030](#), particularly under the Social pillar, which emphasises hunger eradication initiatives aligned with broader efforts to ensure food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. This integrated approach reflects a formal programme that combines financial accessibility, policy safeguards, and structured support mechanisms to reduce the risk of student hunger and food insecurity.





Happy Iftar Ramadan: Sharing Meals with UM Students

The [Happy Iftar Ramadan](#) initiative, provided 600 meal packs daily to students at the Musolla, Academy of Islamic Studies, for the 2024/2025 session. The programme, led by Dr. Ahmad Faisal bin Abdul Hamid and the PMAPIUM Welfare and Unity Committee, ensured students had access to nutritious meals during Ramadan. Contributions from local mosques, alumni, and generous individuals enabled the initiative to reach a wide number of students, fostering a sense of community while directly alleviating hunger and supporting student wellbeing on campus.



Sustainable Procurement Practices

Sustainable Food Sourcing

Under the UM Sustainability Policy 2021–2030 (Pillar 3: Environment), the university emphasises Green Procurement to prioritise sustainable products, including food. The policy encourages the purchase of goods and services that meet ethical and environmental standards, such as durability, energy efficiency, biodegradability, and recyclability. This includes sourcing organic food and responsibly produced agricultural and aquatic products.

UM's Bursary also aligns with the [Government Green Procurement \(GGP\)](#) framework, requiring at least 50% of procurement in selected categories, including catering and food services, to consist of green-certified products or services.

These practices support more sustainable food sourcing, encourage responsible producers, and strengthen UM's commitment to environmental stewardship and food security.





Food Support for Staff



“1 Staf 1 Barang” Campaign

The “Jom Menyumbang: 1 Staf 1 Barang” campaign, coordinated by the Centre for Counseling & Disability Empowerment, reinforced commitment to staff welfare by encouraging each staff member to contribute at least one essential item such as rice, cooking oil, flour, or other dry goods. The initiative aimed to support staff in need while fostering a culture of care and solidarity within the UM community.

The campaign saw strong participation from staff, with additional support from corporate partners including Maybank Islamic Berhad, AlRajhi Bank Malaysia, Mass Rapid Transit (MRT), and Dato’ Ir. Abdul Rashid Musa. Contributions were compiled into food packs, alongside items such as books and festive clothing vouchers.

Ramadan 2025: Bubur Lambuk Distribution

In conjunction with Ramadan 2025, 4,000 packs of bubur lambuk were distributed to the campus community during the Majlis Iftar Perdana UM, reflecting the spirit of togetherness and giving.

Distribution took place across key locations including Universiti Malaya Medical Centre, Dewan Tunku Canselor, and main campus entrances, reaching staff and the wider community. The effort provided accessible meals while reinforcing a culture of wellbeing, inclusivity, and community care.



Agricultural and Aquaculture Knowledge for Food Security



Community Urban Farming & Soil Health Training

Healthy soil is the foundation of a thriving city. At the Kebun Komuniti Sejahtera Rasah Kemayan in Negeri Sembilan, the programme [Inovasi Teknologi Hijau Pemangkin Tanah Sihat, Bandar Sejahtera](#) brought communities together to explore how green technology can strengthen food security in urban spaces.

Held in conjunction with World Soil Day, the initiative provided local community members with hands-on exposure to sustainable urban agriculture practices. These included composting from organic waste, organic pest control, eco-friendly fertilisers, water-efficient systems, and integrated crop techniques.

The programme also encouraged two-way knowledge sharing between academics, students, industry partners, and NGOs to strengthen local capacity in managing healthy soil for sustainable food production. It was organised in collaboration with KOBUNISS, Biosense, UM, OUM Negeri Sembilan, the Negeri Sembilan Islamic Religious Council, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science, government agencies, and women's organisations, supporting more inclusive and sustainable urban food systems.



AquaRover for Sustainable Fish Farming

[AquaRover](#) is a solar-powered robotic water cleaner designed to support sustainable aquaculture and strengthen food security in Malaysia. It helps fish farmers tackle key challenges such as water pollution, algae growth, disease outbreaks, and labour shortages by autonomously removing organic waste, algae, and leftover feed. At the same time, it monitors water quality in real time, including pH, temperature, and ammonia levels, enabling faster and more informed farm management decisions.

Developed in close consultation with fish farmers in Pahang, the system was designed to be practical, community-informed, and scalable. Field trials under the Komuniti@UniMADANI grant showed improved water quality, healthier fish growth, reduced disease cases, and lower labour demands.

Beyond its field impact, AquaRover was also used in educational outreach with secondary school students, introducing them to robotics, sustainability, and modern aquaculture practices.



Empowering B40 Through Sustainable Pineapple Farming

What happens when pineapple farming meets community empowerment? At the [Ladang Nanas MPower B40](#) programme held at the Glami Lemi Biotechnology Research Centre in Negeri Sembilan, agriculture became a platform for learning, collaboration, and opportunity.

The programme focused on strengthening community-based sustainable agriculture while empowering B40 groups through hands-on pineapple farming. It brought together Universiti Malaya entities, including the Universiti Malaya Centre of Addiction Sciences, Faculty of Science, AMMP Centre, Pusat Asasi Sains, and the Academy of Islamic Studies, alongside key partners such as the Ministry of Health and the Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board. This wide participation highlighted a strong collaboration between academia, government agencies, industry, and community stakeholders.

B40 participants, including individuals from the Methadone Treatment Therapy Programme, gained hands-on exposure to pineapple cultivation and sustainable farming practices. Through practical training and knowledge sharing, they developed skills that support agriculture-based livelihoods, strengthen community resilience, and improve long-term economic opportunities.



Protecting Aquaculture

At the AgTech International Agro Expo 2025, Prof. Dr. Lim Po Teen was invited by the Malaysia Aquaculture Development Association (MADA) to deliver a talk titled [“Harmful Algal Blooms \(HABs\): A Threat to Sustainable Aquaculture.”](#) His session provided industry practitioners and the wider community with valuable insights into how HABs impact aquaculture operations and the importance of adopting sustainable management practices. The outreach helped strengthen community understanding of responsible aquaculture and the need for science-based approaches to ensure long-term fisheries sustainability.





Food Producer Knowledge Exchange

Soil Classification & Land Suitability Training

Understanding the soil beneath our feet is key to building a more resilient food system. A two-day programme brought together researchers, practitioners, and farmers to create a shared space for learning on soil classification, land suitability, and sustainable soil management, which are essential for improving agricultural planning and food production.

The [Soil Classification and Evaluation for Agriculture Course](#) was organised by the Malaysian Society of Soil Science in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Malaysia and UM. It was held on 25–26 February 2025 and involved 35 participants from 13 organisations, including the Department of Agriculture Sabah, FGV R&D, RISDA Estates, MARDI, FRIM, Carbon Zero Sdn. Bhd., Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, UNA Corp, CTOS Ecofarm, Universiti Malaya, ERAS, and local farmers.

Through expert-led sessions and open discussions, participants gained practical insights to improve land use decisions, reduce crop failure risks, and adopt more sustainable agricultural practices that support long-term food security.

Urban Gardening Knowledge Sharing

At PPR Kampung Limau, a shared learning experience brought together [low-income community members](#), students, and researchers through a sustainable urban gardening programme led by Ungku Aziz Centre for Development (UAC) grant recipients. Participants engaged in hands-on activities, from composting and soil care to cultivating urban vegetables, gaining practical skills they could apply directly in their community garden.

With support from industry partners and local NGOs, the initiative went beyond training, nurturing confidence, self-reliance, and a sense of collective responsibility. The programme strengthened food security, sustainable practices, and community cohesion.



Community Agro Science Carnival

The Community Scientist Carnival was held in Kampung Seri Gambut, Tanjung Karang, [bringing science and technology closer to local farmers](#). Organised by the Institute of Biological Sciences, Universiti Malaya, the programme was carried out in collaboration with JPKKP Kampung Seri Gambut, HS Megah Enterprise, Carbon Zero Sdn. Bhd., and local authorities.

Over 200 community participants took part in demonstrations and training on sustainable agriculture, including the use of biofertilisers and drone-based precision farming. Through forums, exhibitions, and hands-on activities, the programme supported knowledge sharing and practical learning. The initiative helped strengthen local farming capacity and encouraged collaboration between the community, university, government, and industry to support more sustainable food production and long-term food security.



Hands-on Urban Gardening Programme

The [Suburkan Tanah @ Kobunden](#) programme in Seremban, Negeri Sembilan brought together local communities and international students to explore sustainable urban gardening in a hands-on learning environment. It also provided practical training for 22 Master's students in Environmental Technology Management from UM.

Organised by UM in collaboration with Heritage Environment Sdn. Bhd., KEMAS Seremban, and the local community, the programme focused on soil restoration, composting, organic fertilisers, and urban farming techniques.

Through practical activities and demonstrations, students applied classroom knowledge in real settings, while the community gained exposure to sustainable agriculture practices. The initiative supported local food security, skills development, and meaningful knowledge exchange between students and the community.





Vertical Farming for Kacip Fatimah

Bringing technology into [traditional herbal farming](#), a new initiative introduced a vertical planting system for Kacip Fatimah at FELCRA Seberang Perak. Led by UMCares, the programme aimed to improve productivity while supporting community livelihoods.

Implemented in December 2025 in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education under the Social Innovation Fund, the project highlights strong multi-stakeholder partnerships in advancing sustainable agriculture.

The initiative applies research-driven solutions such as vertical farming structures and smart irrigation systems to optimise land use and increase income potential for local communities. It also reflects Universiti Malaya's commitment to translating academic innovation into practical solutions that support environmental sustainability and socio-economic development.

Aquaponics Workshop for Youth

Learning how food is grown can start at a young age. The [#GreenDeen 2025 Aquaponics Workshop](#) brought together 40 Form 1 students from INTERSABER and MRSM Ulul Albab Sungai Besar for a hands-on introduction to sustainable aquaponics.

Guided by teachers, the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), and GRASS Malaysia, participants spent two days exploring fish-tank systems, plant media preparation, and organic nutrient management. The programme connected STEM concepts with Islamic values and food sovereignty. Through this experience, students developed practical skills and a deeper understanding of sustainable food production, encouraging them to play a role in supporting local food security and environmentally responsible agriculture.





Established
in 2025

UM Centre of
Excellence for Food
Security & Intelligent
Farming (CoE FSIF)

Supporting Local Farmers through UM Innovation

Smart Urban Farming: Rooftop Living Lab

Turning unused rooftop space into a productive green hub, the [Smart Engineering & Sustainable Urban Farm](#) showcases how urban areas can support food production. Led by Dr. Fathiah Mohamed Zuki, the project combines hydroponics, aquaponics, composting, and solar energy to create a self-sustaining system where plants, fish, and bees coexist.

The rooftop farm serves as a living lab for students and researchers while offering practical insights for local farmers and food producers. It demonstrates how urban and high-efficiency farming methods can be applied to improve productivity, support biodiversity, and strengthen food security through shared knowledge and innovation.

Pilot Rice Cultivation with Tekno Alami

In Desa Gemalai, a pilot project is introducing a more sustainable way to grow rice. Led by Universiti Malaya's Centre of Excellence: Food Security and Intelligent Farming (CoE FSIF) in collaboration with Yusri Maju Sdn. Bhd., the initiative provides local farmers with access to UM's research and technology, including the use of beneficial [Bacillus salmalaya bacteria](#). The bacterium was discovered and researched by Universiti Malaya scientists and is applied to improve soil health, support plant growth, and enhance overall farming sustainability.

The approach combines [traditional practices with scientific innovation](#) to enhance yields, restore soil fertility, and reduce reliance on chemical inputs. Early projections show strong potential to increase rice production, contributing to Malaysia's long-term food security goals.



SDG 3

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Strategic Health Collaborations

Medical Student Community Posting Programme

Future doctors learn best by working directly with communities. In 2025, the Faculty of Medicine placed medical students in health districts across Selangor and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur through its Community Posting programme. Working closely with [local District Health Offices](#), students conducted community health assessments and carried out health promotion projects. These covered key public health issues such as maternal health and non-communicable diseases. The programme reflects a strong partnership between the university and local health institutions in strengthening community-based healthcare.



Hospital Safety

Sharing knowledge is key to improving hospital systems. On 20 August 2025, Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) hosted a benchmarking visit from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) to strengthen [hospital safety management](#). The visit focused on best practices in perimeter control, risk management, and security governance. Through this collaboration, both institutions exchanged insights to enhance operational safety, improve efficiency, and support higher standards in hospital security management across Malaysia.

Deaf Healthcare

This first-of-its-kind collaboration between a public teaching hospital and a deaf organisation aims to improve healthcare access for the [hearing-impaired community](#). The partnership focuses on better communication, more inclusive services, and improved patient care. UMMC partnered with the Malaysian Federation of the Deaf (MFD) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 12 February 2025.



UMMC–Cytomed Research Partnership

Advancing clinical research and healthcare innovation, this partnership improves [patient access](#) to new therapies and clinical trials while supporting smoother study processes and stronger coordination among stakeholders. UMMC formalised the collaboration with Cytomed through an MoU signed on 1 December 2025, reinforcing its commitment to research excellence and better health outcomes.



AI Malaria Diagnosis

A joint initiative between Hospital Kapit, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), and UM demonstrates how academic–clinical collaboration can improve [malaria detection in rural areas](#). Blood smear samples from Hospital Kapit are digitised and analysed using MalariaCare+, an AI-powered tool developed by UM researchers and processed at UNIMAS. The system improves the speed and accuracy of detecting *Plasmodium knowlesi*, particularly in low-resource settings.



Smart Hospital

The digitalisation of health systems enables more efficient and seamless patient management. UMMC partnered with Sultan Ahmad Shah Medical Centre IIUM (SASMEC) through an [MoU on Medical Record Exchange](#), marked by the Digital Transformation of Patient Experience and officiated by the Minister of Higher Education. The initiative introduces the [Patient Journey mobile application](#) and Virtual Ward system, supporting UMMC's vision of becoming a Smart Hospital.

Sports Medicine

The Faculty of Medicine partnered with the Malaysian Association of Sports Medicine (MASM) to organise the [Malaysian Sports Medicine Symposium 2025](#), officially launched by the Minister of Health Malaysia. Held under the theme “Enhancing Performance, Preventing Injuries and Promoting Health,” the symposium gathered over 300 participants and contributed to building a healthier and more active society.



ASEAN Geriatric Dentistry

Advancing oral healthcare for ageing populations, this regional conference brought together nearly 400 healthcare professionals, researchers, clinicians, and policymakers from ASEAN and beyond. The Faculty of Dentistry organised the ASEAN Geriatric Dentistry Conference (AGDC 2025) in August 2025, focusing on improving the health, dignity, and quality of life of older adults. A key outcome was the launch of the [ASEAN Geriatric Dentistry Network \(AGDN\)](#), a platform for continued collaboration in research, clinical practice, training, and policy development.



UMMC–Fortrea Clinical Research Partnership

Strengthening global clinical research capacity, UMMC launched the [UMMC–Fortrea Synergy Hub](#) with Fortrea, an international clinical research organisation, enabling multiple global clinical trials with strong patient recruitment and research management while expanding access to innovative therapies and reinforcing its commitment to improving health outcomes through global collaboration.



UMMC–Renji Hospital Healthcare Collaboration

Enhancing clinical excellence through international exchange, this collaboration advances healthcare innovation, training, and research. On 29–30 September 2025, a UMMC delegation visited Renji Hospital, Shanghai, to explore [cooperation in artificial intelligence-driven healthcare, liver transplantation, and smart hospital systems](#), including knowledge sharing and observation of advanced transplant procedures, supporting shared goals in healthcare development.

Health Outreach Programmes

HOPE@PPUM

HOPE@PPUM is a series of community health outreach initiatives focused on improving access to preventive healthcare, health education, and early disease detection for diverse communities across Malaysia, including urban, rural, indigenous, and frontline groups.

Through collaborations with government agencies, universities, NGOs, and local partners, HOPE@PPUM delivers comprehensive services such as general health screenings (blood pressure, BMI, glucose, cholesterol), mental health support, eye and ENT checks, dental care, NCD risk assessments, health education talks, vaccinations, and mobile clinic services. The programme also extends to specialised interventions including child nutrition and stunting prevention training, emergency response support, and psychosocial care.



HMA Awards 2025



Best in Community Involvement

HOPE@PPUM: A Teaching Hospital's Commitment to Sustainable Outreach

First piloted
in 2023

Health Outreach
Programme and
Education
(HOPE@PPUM)



Key engagements include outreach for the Kuala Lumpur Deaf Association community, PDRM officers at Bukit Aman, urban communities in Gombak, as well as indigenous communities in Kuala Tahan, Pekan, Hulu Kuang, and Royal Belum. HOPE@PPUM also supported disaster response efforts, including healthcare services for Putra Heights fire victims in collaboration with public university teaching hospitals under KHUAM.

Across all initiatives, HOPE@PPUM has reached more than a thousand beneficiaries, strengthening health awareness, promoting early detection of diseases, and improving equitable access to healthcare services.

Diabetes Awareness

Promoting diabetes awareness, UM PharmSoc organised a public health campaign themed “[Know, Prevent, Treat: Diabetes is Not a Barrier](#)” at IWK Eco Park @ Pantai Dalam on 4 May 2025. It included free health screenings, pharmacist consultations, and interactive exhibits on diabetes, nutrition, and healthy lifestyles, supported by multiple health agencies and partners to strengthen local community health awareness.



Oral Health for Children with Autism

[Tooth-TASTIC](#) promoted inclusive oral healthcare through a programme organised by UM dental students at BrightFuture Academy on 26 April 2025 in conjunction with World Autism Day. The initiative used sensory-friendly activities, interactive learning tools, and caregiver engagement to improve oral hygiene awareness among children with autism and support long-term preventive care.

Urban PPR Health Literacy

The HeLP-PPR Outreach Programme improved [health literacy among local urban low-income communities](#) through a collaboration between Tropical Infectious Diseases Research and Education Centre (TIDREC) UM and the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) at two PPR locations in Selangor in May 2025. The initiative used interactive booths, demonstrations, and activities to educate residents on infectious diseases, hygiene practices, and early symptom recognition, reaching about 160 residents and increasing awareness of preventive healthcare.



Oral Health for Orang Asli Rompin

Improving access to [healthcare for indigenous communities](#), UM's Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Dentistry conducted a health outreach programme for the Jakun community in Rompin, Pahang on 15–16 February 2025. The initiative provided dental care, oral health education, cancer screening, and preventive services to 261 villagers while strengthening collaboration with NGOs and healthcare partners.

Orang Asli Health Outreach in Kuala Kubu Bharu

A community health programme in Kampung Orang Asli Tun Abdul Razak from 28–30 September 2025 saw 74 medical students from [UM Medical Society](#) deliver health screenings, consultations, and education on nutrition, dental hygiene, and women's health. The initiative improved access to preventive care for villagers.



Health Outreach for Intellectual Disabilities

At IQ70+ Centre, Kuala Lumpur on 23 April 2025, UM students from the Faculty of Dentistry and Faculty of Pharmacy implemented the [3D \(Dental, Diabetes & Disability\)](#) programme to provide screenings, diabetes awareness, and tailored health education. The initiative used interactive and accessible methods to support individuals with intellectual disabilities.



ODOCS Mobile Dental Care Outreach

The ODOCS (Outpost Dentist for Community Service) initiative by the Department of Restorative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Universiti Malaya, delivered mobile dental services to underserved communities through the UM Mobile Dental Clinic.

At [Rumah Kasih Ulu Inas](#), Johol, the programme provided free dental care to 16 orphans, including fillings, scaling, extractions, and oral health education to improve awareness of preventive dental care. In Nilai, the initiative extended to [asnaf and B40 communities](#) in Taman Semarak, offering dental treatment such as extractions, scaling, and fillings, alongside oral health education and broader community activities in conjunction with the Program Khatam Al-Quran & Khatan Jama'ie 2025 Negeri Sembilan.





Drug Rehabilitation Oral Health Programme

Between April and May 2025 at [Rumah Sahabat Drug Rehabilitation Centre](#), Hulu Langat, UM dental students delivered oral health screenings, HIV testing, preventive care, and health education. Conducted in collaboration with the Hulu Langat District Health Office, National Anti-Drugs Agency, and Persatuan Mencegah Dadah Malaysia (PEMADAM), the programme improved health awareness, enhanced access to care, and promoted well-being among this disadvantaged and underserved community.



Refugee Health Collaboration and Advocacy

Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) Malaysia organised [Building Bridges Towards Refugee Dignity](#) on 10 June 2025 in Kuala Lumpur in conjunction with World Refugee Day. The event brought together policymakers, NGOs, and humanitarian organisations to discuss refugee rights, healthcare access, and inclusive policy development through panel discussions, a film screening, and a refugee artisans fair highlighting community resilience and entrepreneurship.

The Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM), Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, was represented by Prof. Victor Hoe, Assoc. Prof. Dr Tharani Loganathan, and Dr Bala Murali, reflecting its commitment to refugee health and health equity. The programme also enabled networking with UN agencies and the World Health Organization in Malaysia, supporting future collaboration in research and public health initiatives for displaced populations.

Building on this, the [UNHCR Health Stakeholders Coordination Meeting](#) on 21 August 2025 in Petaling Jaya further strengthened multi-agency collaboration on refugee health. The meeting brought together UNHCR Malaysia, healthcare partners, NGOs, and grassroots organisations to align efforts on maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, and community-based care, emphasising coordinated and culturally sensitive approaches.

Student Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

Campus Healthcare and Sexual Health Services

UM provides students with access to healthcare services through campus facilities such as the [UM Clinic](#) and Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), including the [Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology \(O&G\)](#). Services include consultations, health screening, and referrals, delivered by qualified healthcare professionals in a confidential and student-friendly environment.

In addition, the [Centre of Excellence for Research in Infectious Diseases and AIDS \(CERiA\)](#) contributes through HIV/STI-related research, awareness programmes, and health education initiatives. The [Department of Social and Preventive Medicine \(SPM\)](#) further supports these efforts through webinars, research projects, and community-based programmes that promote sexual and reproductive health awareness and preventive care among students.



Youth Sexual Health Seminar 2025

The [Seminar Kesihatan Anak Muda IPT–Universiti Malaya 2025](#), held on 25 June 2025, provided over 200 UM students with comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education and services. Organised by UM Clinic in collaboration with Majlis AIDS Malaysia, Yayasan AIDS Malaysia, the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Lembah Pantai, PT Foundation, Majlis Kesihatan Universiti Awam Malaysia, Reszon Diagnostics, PALAPES, and SUKSIS UM, the seminar featured interactive talks, educational booths, quizzes, and live demonstrations. Students also had access to free HIV, STI, and Hepatitis C screenings, and were introduced to initiatives such as KAMI – Kelab Kesihatan Anak Muda IPT. The seminar aimed to promote safe sexual practices, family planning, and general well-being, delivered in an open, stigma-free environment. By empowering students with knowledge and practical tools, this initiative enhanced access to sexual and reproductive health services and underscored UM’s commitment to supporting a healthy, informed, and resilient campus community.

Mental Health Support for Students and Staff

Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CCDE)

The Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CCDE) serves as Universiti Malaya's central hub for providing free and confidential support services related to mental health, well-being, and disability inclusion for both students and staff. In line with the university's commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive campus environment, CCDE promotes mental health awareness, early intervention, and accessible psychosocial support services.

CCDE delivers its services through a multidisciplinary approach, including individual and group counselling, psychological interventions, and consultations tailored to diverse needs. The centre also conducts psychological assessments, including standardised tools such as the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS-21), and provides psychotherapy and support for psychological case management. In addition, CCDE contributes to mental health awareness programmes, workshops, and outreach activities, while also engaging in research, publications, and the development of psychometric tools to strengthen evidence-based practice within the university community.



Happiness Screening Instrument

In April 2025, CCDE organised a workshop to develop the Happiness Screening Instrument for students and staff. Led by psychology experts, the tool is designed to assess well-being and support early intervention strategies for mental health. This initiative reflects UM's commitment to fostering a caring and inclusive campus environment, while strengthening resilience and overall well-being within the university community.

SMILED ASEAN 2025 Mental Health Symposium

The SMILED ASEAN 2025 Symposium (Solutions for Mental Health from a Dakwah Perspective) brought together over 700 participants from Malaysia and across ASEAN on 29–30 April 2025 at the Academy of Islamic Studies. Organised in collaboration with Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM) and key national agencies, the event was officiated by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs). The symposium promoted a holistic approach to mental health, integrating clinical, educational, spiritual, and community perspectives, while strengthening awareness and support for student well-being.



Psychological First Aid Training for Campus Leaders

The [Psychological First Aid \(PFA\) Certification Programme](#) was held on 18–19 October 2025, bringing together 95 campus leaders, including deputy deans, faculty managers, college wardens, and representatives from student affairs and My Rescue Team UM. The programme equipped participants with essential skills to support mental health, respond to crises, and provide basic psychosocial support, strengthening a more responsive and caring campus environment for staff and students.

Program Sejahtera OSHEC 360

Held on 25 November 2025, this OSHEC initiative promotes healthy lifestyles and supports the mental and physical well-being of the UM community. The programme included health screenings, a smoking cessation clinic, and a dental exhibition provided by the Lembah Pantai Health Office. Through interactive activities and health education sessions, it raised awareness on workplace well-being and encouraged active participation among staff and students in maintaining a healthier and safer environment.

Psychology Open Day 2025

In collaboration with the Psychology Management Section, Ministry of Higher Education (KPT), and the Centre for Counselling & Disability Empowerment (CCDE), the [Psychology Open Day 2025](#) was held on 10 October in conjunction with National Counselling Month and World Mental Health Day.

Under the theme “Minda Sejahtera; Revolusi Digital”, the programme promoted mental well-being alongside digital transformation, offering psychosocial support, mental health awareness activities, and resilience-building sessions for staff in support of holistic workplace well-being.



SDG 4

QUALITY EDUCATION

Lifelong Learning for All

Ungku Aziz Thought and Public Policy Lecture Series

The [Ungku Aziz Thought and Public Policy Lecture Series 2025](#), organised by the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC) serves as a public platform for evidence-based discussions on poverty, inequality, gender issues, and sustainable development in Malaysia. Inspired by the intellectual legacy of Royal Professor Ungku Abdul Aziz, the lecture series brings together academics, policymakers, students, and civil society to explore multidimensional aspects of poverty and policy responses.

In 2025, the series featured a wide range of topics addressing socio-economic challenges and development policy in Malaysia. These included:

- *Period Poverty: The Intersection Between Multidimensional Poverty and Gender Inequality*
- *Melangkaui Angka: Menyingkap Realiti Kemiskinan Pelbagai Dimensi*
- *Malaysia Sponsored Resolution (52/8) on Promotion of Human Rights & SDG at the Human Rights Council: Implications for Effectively Addressing Poverty & Inequality in Malaysia*
- *Equalising Opportunities in Malaysia: Local Rejoinders*
- *Sektor Beras Negara: Mengapa dan Bagaimana Reformasi Struktur Perlu Dirasionalisasikan?*
- *Legasi Ungku Aziz: Pemangkin Ekonomi Sosial Melayu*
- *Ungku Aziz, Gerakan Koperasi dan Pemerkasaan Ekonomi Bumiputera*

- *Multidimensional Poverty: Figure and Lived Realities in Malaysia*
- *Kemiskinan dan Pembasmiaannya: Kontroversi dan Realiti*
- *Mitigating Learning Loss Among B40 Students in PPR Kerinchi*

Through these lectures, UAC promoted interdisciplinary dialogue on poverty eradication, economic reforms, human rights, and inclusive development, strengthening research-policy engagement on poverty and inequality in Malaysia.

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Ungku Aziz Thought and Public Policy Public Lecture Series 9/2025

KEMISKINAN DAN PEMBASMIANNYA: KONTROVERSI DAN REALITI

30 SEPTEMBER 2025
10.30 AM - 12.30 PM
ONLINE: ZOOM APPLICATION

SPEAKER
PROF. MADHYA DR. JALEHAM MD SHAH
SENIOR LECTURER
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH (JUNE)

MODERATOR
DR. NURLE IBRAHIM MOHD NOOR
SENIOR LECTURER
SCIENCE & POLICY STUDIES
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (JUNE)

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Ungku Aziz Thought and Public Policy Public Lecture Series 6/2025

"LEGASI UNGKU AZIZ: KOPERASI PEMANGKIN EKONOMI SOSIAL MELAYU"

13 JUNE 2025 (FRIDAY) 10.00 AM - 12.00 PM ZOOM APPLICATION

SPEAKER
DR. MOHD AZLAN YAHYA
DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR
ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR (BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT)

MODERATOR
DR. AHMAD FARID OSMAN
SENIOR LECTURER
FACULTY OF DECISION SCIENCE
FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (JUNE)

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

FASS Seminar Series: Advancing Intellectual Exchange in Arts, Society, and Policy

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) continued to promote vibrant academic discourse in 2025 through several seminar platforms, including the FASS Seminar Series, RMU Seminar Series, and the Lloyd Fernando Seminar Series. These seminars brought together scholars, policymakers, writers, and practitioners to explore contemporary issues across literature, politics, culture, research, and public policy. Open to students, researchers, and the wider community, the series provided an accessible platform for knowledge exchange and interdisciplinary learning.

Key seminars and events held throughout 2025 included:

- Faculty of Arts and Social Science Open Day 2025
- *The Unquiet Dreams of Lesser Malaysian Writers: A Dialogue with Brandon Liew*
- *Resurgence of Racialized Nationalism: Re-Election of Trump and the Resistance to Multiracial Democracy* by Dr. Lily Zubaidah Rahim
- *Telling Local Stories for Global Audiences: How Malaysian Culture Inspires Cinematic Storytelling* by Irwan Junaidy
- *The Unpaid in Care Labour: Critical Policy Perspectives*, organised with the Khazanah Research Institute
- *Smart Start: Mastering Research Tools for Academic Impact*
- *AI in Education: Research Findings and Practical Suggestions* by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sumera Batool
- Book Launch: *In the Mirror: New and Selected Poems of Wong Phui Nam (1935–2022)*
- *Roles and Responsibilities of Academicians in Contributing to the Country's Efforts to Achieve SDGs* by Dr. Teo Sue Ann, Director of the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on SDGs
- *A Reading and Conversation with Madeleine Thien*
- Book Launch: *Chinese Family Businesses in Malaysia* by Dr. Lee Kean Yew

FASS RMU Seminar Series 02/2025
(In collaboration with UM Library)

SMART START: MASTERING RESEARCH TOOLS FOR ACADEMIC IMPACT

Introduction to UM Library's Scholarly Services
Puan Vijayalathum Marudharam (Librarian)

WOL, SCOPUS, UM ESigns
Puan Zubaida Abd Rahim (Senior Librarian)

UM Repositories (Research & Students) Repositories, Open Science
Puan Siti Maswani Salim (Senior Librarian)

Moderator:
Dr. Randa Kishan Shunmugam (Senior Lecturer, Department of Library and Information Science)

Wednesday 9 July, 2025
Time 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Venue The Cube, FASS, UM

OPEN TO ALL

Registration <https://forms.gle/txhgT143s>
EyoTNA

Inquiries Pn. Faqihah (+03 7967 5420)

FASS SEMINAR SERIES 06/2025

TELLING LOCAL STORIES FOR GLOBAL AUDIENCES: HOW MALAYSIAN CULTURE INSPIRES CINEMATIC STORYTELLING

Irwan Junaidy

FRIDAY, 25TH APRIL 2025
10.00 AM - 12.00 PM

THE CUBE, FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITI MALAYA

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

REGISTRATION

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/43317a7LzoeR6d48>

Inquiry: +603-7967 5305 / 5543

FASS SEMINAR SERIES 05/2025

RESURGENCE OF RACIALIZED NATIONALISM: RE-ELECTION OF TRUMP AND THE RESISTANCE TO MULTIRACIAL DEMOCRACY

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Seminar Details:
Wednesday, 9 April 2025
10.00 - 11.30 AM
The Cube, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, Universiti Malaysia

About the Speaker
Dr. Lily Zubaidah Rahim
Visiting Professor, Department of International and Strategic Studies

REGISTRATION

Registration Link
<https://forms.gle/cb375M7h4pZu8i8>

Inquiry
03-7967 5420 / 03-7967 5818

Email: tdpp_tss@um.edu.my

Breakfast@UMHealth: Continuous Medical Education for the Healthcare Community

Launched in 2020, [Breakfast@UMHealth](#) is a recurring online Continuing Medical Education (CME) initiative that provides accessible clinical updates for healthcare professionals. Organised under UMHealth—which comprises the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre, and the Universiti Malaya Specialist Centre—the programme brings together clinical academics, medical specialists, and researchers from Universiti Malaya and leading experts from across the healthcare sector. Conducted in an online format and open to the public, the sessions allow busy clinicians, healthcare professionals, and interested members of the public to access the latest medical knowledge through live broadcasts or recorded episodes at their convenience.

In 2025, the programme continued its strong momentum with 46 episodes, covering a wide spectrum of topics including emerging diseases, medical technologies, clinical innovations, and public health challenges. Selected highlights include:

- Ep.1 – *The Global Burden of Disease: From Data to Policy*
- Ep.2 – *Dengue in Malaysia: Evolving Trends and Advances in Prevention*
- Ep.7 – *Colorectal Cancer Awareness Forum: A Unified Approach to Patient-Centred Care*
- Ep.14 – *Role of Gut Microbiota & Psychotherapy in Depression*
- Ep.17 – *Pathogen Detection to Outbreak Response*
- Ep.23 – *CRISPR-Cas9 in Malaria Research & Drug Repurposing in ASEAN*
- Ep.27 – *AI for Health: Prevention, Treatment and Personalised Care*
- Ep.31 – *Malaysian Sports and Health Development: A Critical Review*

- Ep.35 – *Breast Cancer Awareness 2025*
- Ep.42 – *Antibiotic Awareness Day: From Farm to You*
- Ep.44 – *World AIDS Day Forum: Balancing Care and Confidentiality in HIV*

The full list of 2025 episodes can be viewed on the official Breakfast@UMHealth webpage. Through this annual initiative, UMHealth continues to strengthen professional development among healthcare practitioners while supporting the dissemination of evidence-based medical knowledge to the wider clinical community.



UM Open Science Workshop for Researchers 2025

Advancing research transparency and data accessibility remained a key focus through the [UM Open Science Workshop](#) for Researchers, a series designed to provide practical training on Open Science principles, research data management (RDM), and effective data sharing practices. Open to both researchers and members of the public, the workshops created opportunities for participants from various backgrounds to gain hands-on experience in managing and sharing research data responsibly.

Three sessions of the workshop were conducted throughout the year, each covering *Introduction to Open Science*, *Research Data Management & Data Sharing*. The sessions aimed to strengthen awareness and practical understanding of Open Science, Research Data Management (RDM), and the development of Data Management Plans (DMPs). Participants also received hands-on training using the UM Dataverse platform to support effective and responsible research data sharing.

Gender Studies Programme Seminar Series 2025

The [Gender Studies Programme](#) organised a seminar series in 2025 to encourage discussion on gender-related issues and policy perspectives. The sessions were open to the public, providing a platform for students, researchers, and community members to engage with current research and social challenges.

Key seminars in 2025 included:

- *The Unpaid in Care Labour: Critical Policy Perspectives* – presented by Dr. Christopher Choong Weng Wai, Deputy Director of Research, Khazanah Research Institute (KRI).
- *COVID-19 and Beyond: Exploring the Health and Wellbeing Experiences of Women in the Informal Economy and Perspectives on Future Crises*

BioBanter@PPBGL Seminar Series 2025

BioBanter@PPBGL, hosted by the [Glami Lemi Biotechnology Research Center](#), continued its seminar series in 2025, showcasing cutting-edge research and collaboration in biotechnology and life sciences. The series is open to the public, providing a platform for knowledge exchange between researchers, industry partners, and the wider community.

Notable seminars in 2025 included:

- *An Introduction to Breeding and Larviculture of Local Fish Species* – in collaboration with Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UNISZA).
- *A Journey Through Ferns: The Unique World of Fern Diversity and Its Biotechnological Promise* – exploring fern diversity, morphology, and biotechnological applications.
- *From Microsatellites to High-Density SNP Panels: The Evolution of Applied Animal Genetics at MARDI* – highlighting genomic innovations in animal genetics and their role in sustainable agriculture, in collaboration with the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI).



CEBAR Expert Seminar Series 2025

The [Centre for Research in Biotechnology for Agriculture \(CEBAR\)](#), organised the Expert Seminar Series 2025 as a platform for knowledge exchange between local and international experts in agricultural biotechnology and related fields. The series brought together researchers and practitioners to share advances in crop improvement, microbial biotechnology, plant-soil interactions, climate resilience, and sustainable agriculture. Open to the academic community and the public, the seminars promoted interdisciplinary learning and research collaboration.

Throughout 2025, six seminar sessions were conducted:

- *Intergeneric Hybridization and Fertigation in Mungbean Breeding: A Strategy for Yield Improvement and Iron-Zinc Biofortification* - Focused on improving yield and micronutrient (Fe and Zn) content in mungbean using hybridization and fertigation approaches.
- *Lost Cures, Living Traditions: The Medicinal Plant Knowledge of Sarawak's Ethnic Minorities* - Highlighted indigenous medicinal plant knowledge and its validation through ethnobotanical and laboratory analysis.

- *Rhizosphere Engineering: How Biochar and Microbes Reshape Plant-Soil Interaction* - Discussed biochar-microbe interactions in improving soil health and crop productivity.
- *Microbial Biofertilizer Application Enhances Drought Stress Tolerance in Okra* - Examined microbial biofertilizers in enhancing drought tolerance and yield in okra.
- *High Nitrogen Use of Plant Can Improve High-Temperature Adaptation* - Presented genetic mechanisms behind heat tolerance and nitrogen efficiency in rice.
- *Seed Traits and Nitrogen Fixation Regulation in Rice and Bradyrhizobium* - Explored seed trait regulation in rice and nitrogen fixation mechanisms in symbiotic bacteria.

The 2025 seminar series strengthened knowledge exchange in agricultural biotechnology by addressing key themes such as biofortification, climate resilience, microbial applications, and plant genetic improvement. It also fostered collaboration among researchers while supporting sustainable solutions for global agricultural challenges.

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

CEBAR EXPERT SEMINAR

SERIES 4/2025

Invited speaker:
PROF. DR. AVISHEK DATTA
Professor
Head, Department of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources,
Asian Institute of Technology,
Klong Luang, Pathum Thani,
Thailand

Seminar title:
Microbial Biofertilizer Application Enhances Drought Stress Tolerance in Okra

Date: 18th June 2025 (Wednesday)
Time: 11.00am – 12.00pm
Mode: Online
Link: <https://tinyurl.com/mv3mrvba>

Scan me for the MS Teams Link

Call us with your inquiry: +603 7967 6990/6993 | cebar@um.edu.my

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

CEBAR EXPERT SEMINAR

SERIES 5 / 2025

Speaker:
PROF. DR. FAN XIAORONG
Professor
State Key Laboratory of Crop Genetics & Germplasm Enhancement,
College of Resources and Environmental Sciences,
Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China

Date: 12th September 2025 (Friday)
Time: 11.00am – 12.00pm
Venue: CEBAR Meeting Room

Seminar title:
High nitrogen use of plant can improve high-temperature adaptation of rice.

Abstract
Climate change negatively affects crop yield, which hinders efforts to reach agricultural sustainability and food security. Here, we show that a previously unidentified allele of the nitrate transporter gene OsNRT2.3 is required to maintain high yield and high nitrogen use efficiency under high temperatures. We demonstrate that this tolerance to high temperatures in rice accessions harboring the mTNE-2 high-temperature resistant and nitrogen efficient-2) alleles from enhanced translation of the OsNRT2.3b mRNA isoform and the decreased abundance of a unique small RNA (sNRT2.3-1) derived from the 5' untranslated region of OsNRT2.3. sNRT2.3-1 binds to the OsNRT2.3b mRNA in a temperature-dependent manner. Our findings reveal that allelic variation in the 5' untranslated region of OsNRT2.3 leads to an increase in OsNRT2.3b protein levels and higher yield during high-temperature stress. Our results also provide a breeding strategy to produce rice varieties with higher grain yield and lower N-fertilizer input suitable for a sustainable agriculture that is resilient against climate change.

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IOES Scientific and IOES-NARC Seminar Series 2025

The Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES), Universiti Malaya, organised the IOES Scientific Seminar Series 2025 and IOES-NARC Seminar Series 2025 to promote knowledge exchange on environmental science, oceanography, and sustainability. The seminars and workshops brought together researchers, industry experts, and the public to discuss emerging scientific issues and practical solutions related to environmental challenges.

Key sessions in 2025 included:

- *Introduction to Air Selangor and Sustainable Water Management* – featuring speakers from Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd who shared insights on water production, water quality, and sustainability approaches related to the circular economy and climate change.

- *Improvement of Wave Forecasting with Directional Wave Observations of CFOSAT and Impact on Ocean/Wave Coupling* by Dr. Lotfi Aouf (Météo France)
- *Invisible Threat, Visible Solutions: Microplastics in Our Water* by Prof. Melissa E. Lenczewski (Northern Illinois University)
- *Exploring the Lethal Arsenal of Killer Yeasts for Biotechnology & Beyond* under the IOES-NARC Seminar Series
- *Plastic Pollution from Pole to Pole: Scientific Insights and Global Mitigation Strategies Workshop* (in collaboration with Air Selangor) – provided a multidisciplinary platform to discuss scientific evidence, governance frameworks, and public perspectives on plastic pollution while exploring collaborative strategies for global mitigation.

UNIVERSITI MALAYA & FROZEN HORIZONS
Plastic Pollution from Pole to Pole: Scientific Insights and Global Mitigation Strategies Workshop
 Two-day workshop covering legal and governance perspectives, scientific evidence, public perceptions and interdisciplinary discussions with experts in the field.

OUR ESTEEMED GUEST SPEAKERS

DATIN PROF. DR. MARY MATHEWS GEORGE (UM)
 Datin Dr. Mary George is an esteemed academic and legal expert from the Faculty of Law, Universiti Malaya. With extensive experience in maritime law and environmental governance, she has contributed significantly to research and policy development on marine pollution, including plastic waste. Her work has resulted in the implementation of regulatory and environmental measures, offering valuable insights into how legal frameworks can support sustainable development and ocean health. As a passionate advocate for environmental responsibility, Datin Dr. Mary George has participated in various national and international forums, sharing her expertise on legal strategies to combat plastic pollution. Her presence at this workshop highlights the crucial role of legal and policy instruments in addressing the global plastic crisis.

DR. CLARA MANNO (BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY)
 Dr. Clara Manno is a dedicated environmental scientist with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), where she focuses on the impact of ocean plastic, including plastic pollution, in polar environments. Her research explores how microplastics affect remote ecosystems, particularly in the Arctic region, providing insights into how plastic waste enters cold waters and impacts marine life. With her expertise in some of the world's most pristine and fragile ecosystems, Clara brings a unique perspective on how plastic trash affects sensitive and remote areas, offering valuable insights into the global plastic pollution crisis. She will share her experience from the field and discuss the broader implications of plastic waste on polar and marine biota.

RM150/ pax
Limited to 60 pax
 Scan QR to register

Make payment via um.edu.my

For more information, contact us:
 Dr. Khairunnisa Pateirobo
 +603 79671643
ioes-workshop@gmail.com

IOES SCIENTIFIC Seminar Series

14 MARCH 2025
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 FRIDAY

Anggerik Room, Block D, Advanced Studies Complex, Universiti Malaya

INTRODUCTION ON AIR SELANGOR

MDM PRISCILLA ALFRED
 Vice President, Customer Strategy, Customer Experience Department, Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd

PRODUCTION OF CLEAN AND TREATED WATER

IR. TS. DR. NURUL SA DAN BAHAS
 Vice President, Production Department, Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd

WATER QUALITY DEMONSTRATION

MR. SUKHYINDER SINGH
 Assistant Vice President II, Customer Strategy, Customer Experience Department, Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd

AIR SELANGOR SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

MR. MAIMAL FAIZ ABDUL MALIK
 Vice President I, Strategy & Performance, Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd

<https://ioes.um.edu.my> [ioes](https://ioes.um.edu.my) [Air Selangor](https://ioes.um.edu.my)

IOES Scientific Seminar Series | Ocean

Improvement of wave forecasting with directional wave observations of CFOSAT and impact on ocean/wave coupling

Speaker
Dr. Lotfi Aouf
Météo France

Dr. Lotfi Aouf is a Senior Scientist at Météo France (French Meteorological Administration). He is leading the wave modelling and data assimilation in wave models at Météo France and also the science lead of the French-Chinese satellite mission CFOSAT. He is involved in the development of ocean/wave/atmosphere coupled earth systems. He is also involved in the Copernicus Marine Service and is leading the global wave Monitoring Forecasting Center (MFC). He participated during the last two decades in the calibration/validation phase of several satellite missions for operational oceanography and major FP7 European research projects. He is interested, particularly in the assimilation of new wave observations (open ocean and coastal, atmosphere/wave/ocean coupling and extreme wave prediction). He is a member of IOC/WHO expert teams ETOORS (Operational Oceanography Forecasting Systems) and ETWCHMER (Waves Coastal Hazards and Marine Emergency Response). He is also a member of advisory group for next generation satellite missions (S3ING) implemented by European Space Agency in the Copernicus Space program.

Venue:
 Bilik Mesyuarat Anggerik Level 3, Block D Advanced Studies Complex Universiti Malaya Kuala Lumpur

Date:
 21 May 2025, Wednesday

Time:
 9:30 - 11:30 am

[ioes](https://ioes.um.edu.my) [Universiti Malaya](https://ioes.um.edu.my) [Air Selangor](https://ioes.um.edu.my)

Vocational and Executive Training

Centre of Business Excellence (CBE@UMFBEC): Executive and Professional Development Programmes

The Centre of Business Excellence (CBE@UMFBEC), established under the Faculty of Business and Economics, serves as a dedicated platform for executive education and professional upskilling. Designed to meet the evolving needs of industries and organisations, CBE offers high-impact short courses and customised corporate training programmes open to professionals, managers, and public sector leaders beyond the university's regular student body.

CBE's flagship programmes include the Middle Management Development Programme (MMDP), Executive Development Programme (EDP), Strategic Global Manager Programme (SGMP), Talent Management Programme (TMP), MyTech Technical Leadership Development Programme, and the Public Policy Development Programme (PPDP). These short-term, practice-oriented programmes combine expert-led lectures, case studies, group discussions, and applied problem-solving to strengthen leadership, strategic planning, digital transformation, data analytics, financial management, and policy analysis capabilities. Through these initiatives, UM supports lifelong learning and enhances workforce readiness in alignment with industry and governance needs.



AUN-DPPnet Accessibility & Universal Design Training Course (AUDT) 2025

The [9th Accessibility and Universal Design Training Course \(AUDT\) 2025](#), held from 6–20 September 2025, brought together 13 participants with disabilities from ASEAN member countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Brunei, Thailand, and Vietnam for intensive, hands-on training in accessibility planning, universal design standards, and inclusive development practices. Organised under the ASEAN University Network – Disability and Public Policy Network (AUN-DPPnet), the programme aimed to strengthen participants' practical and professional skills in addressing accessibility barriers faced by persons with disabilities (PwDs) across the region.

The programme combined lectures, site visits, applied workshops, and expert-led sessions on disability policies, universal design principles, and accessibility implementation in public and private spaces. Participants also took part in Country Report Presentations, where they shared national experiences, legislation, accessibility challenges, and initiatives related to disability inclusion within their respective countries, encouraging regional knowledge exchange and collaboration.

A key component of the training was the hands-on Access Audit conducted at Rawatan Utama Klinik Am (RUKA), Universiti Malaya Medical Centre. Participants assessed real-world accessibility barriers, proposed practical improvements, and compiled their findings into comprehensive audit reports, which were formally presented at the end of the programme. This practical exercise strengthened participants' competencies as future Access Inspectors while promoting more inclusive and accessible environments throughout the ASEAN region.



Evolving TVET Symposium at AEI

The Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), Universiti Malaya, hosted the symposium “[Evolving the Technical and Vocational Education and Training \(TVET\) System in Malaysia: Towards Catching Up with the Global Frontier](#)” on 1–2 July 2025. The event brought together leading TVET experts from Malaysia and abroad to exchange ideas, policy perspectives, and best practices for strengthening Malaysia’s TVET ecosystem and enhancing workforce competitiveness.

The symposium was formally opened by YBhg. Dato’ Seri Diraja Dr. Zambry Abdul Kadir, Minister of Higher Education, and welcomed by UM’s Vice-Chancellor, YBhg. Prof. Dato’ Seri Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman. Over the two-day programme, participants attended a series of presentations and discussions covering international and industry-driven TVET models, including sessions on TVET systems in Korea, Germany, and Japan, industry-led TVET practices, incubation and innovation spaces, legal governance frameworks, and collaborations between Malaysian and international TVET universities. The symposium also featured discussions on embedding ecosystems and the role of TVET universities in driving industrial upgrading and sustainable economic development.

Through this initiative, UM continued to strengthen strategic partnerships and promote knowledge exchange in vocational education, supporting the development of a more inclusive, industry-responsive, and globally competitive TVET system.



Educational Outreach Beyond Campus

Makerspace@UM STEM Outreach for Young Learners

Makerspace@UM aims to empower the community through hands-on learning and innovation. Its mission is to foster a creative and inclusive environment that encourages collaboration and the maker spirit, aligned with STEM and STEAM values. Guided by creativity, inclusivity, and experiential learning, it supports individuals in turning ideas into impactful solutions.

In June 2025, Makerspace@UM hosted two immersive educational activities for students from underserved and local communities. On 20 June, students from Shelter After School attended a workshop at the Technology Innovation Centre. The session involved 14 students and three teachers, providing children and adolescents from underserved and low-income communities with hands-on learning in robotics, automation, and basic electronics. Facilitated by technical experts and volunteers, participants built simple automated systems using microcontrollers and programmable robotics kits, gaining early exposure to STEM concepts in an interactive environment.

On 26 June, 40 students and five teachers from SMK Tok Perdana, Sitiawan, visited Makerspace@UM for a practical introduction to university-level innovation and technology, supported by UMcares officers. Students engaged with digital fabrication tools, 3D design painting, laser cutting, laser engraving, and Internet of Things applications. Both programmes provided structured educational opportunities that made STEM learning accessible, fostered creativity and critical thinking, and encouraged students to envision future pathways in technology. These initiatives highlight Makerspace@UM's role in widening access to innovation and nurturing a generation of skilled, confident, and future-ready learners.





Bakti Siswa Secholian

A week-long community outreach programme was conducted at Kampung Telaga Nenas, Lumut, Perak, involving 34 student participants from Kolej Kediaman Tuanku Bahiyah, in collaboration with the Manjung District and Land Office. The programme placed students in a rural setting where they stayed with host families and engaged directly with the local community through activities such as village clean-ups, school teaching sessions, and cyber safety workshops. These hands-on educational engagements enabled students to share knowledge while also learning from community experiences in real-world contexts. The programme strengthened students' leadership, teamwork, communication skills, and social responsibility, while also fostering closer university-community ties and supporting meaningful educational outreach beyond the classroom.

DIY MADE SIMPLE 2025

A nationwide education outreach programme supervised by UMCares and organised in collaboration with Mr D.I.Y. engaged secondary school students from across Malaysia in exploring the potential of waste as a source of sustainable energy. Running from 17 February to 8 August 2025, the programme encouraged participants to apply STEM concepts through hands-on DIY projects, fostering creativity, problem-solving, teamwork, and entrepreneurial thinking. Themed “Waste to Energy: Innovate for a Greener Future”, it provided guided mentorship from university faculty members, enabling students to transform discarded materials into innovative and environmentally friendly solutions. The programme strengthened students' technical and innovative skills while raising awareness of renewable energy and environmental responsibility through practical, real-world learning beyond the classroom.





PEARL Project

A community-based literacy initiative

implemented in collaboration with Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya (MBPJ) and Yayasan Amal ASAS has supported foundational learning among children from low-income urban communities since 2018. Conducted beyond the university campus, the programme focuses on strengthening English language, digital, financial, and STEM literacy through activity-based and experiential learning approaches. Delivered by selected UM education students, the initiative has demonstrated measurable improvements in literacy outcomes among participating pupils while also providing meaningful teaching and outreach experience for student facilitators.



MIRACLE Programme

An inclusive education outreach initiative

organised under the Royal Facilitator Project of Kolej Kediaman Ke-12 provided 60 special education students from SMK Sinar Bintang with opportunities to participate in interactive and meaningful learning activities. Modules such as Hands of Miracle and Little Scientist encouraged creativity, curiosity, and problem-solving within a supportive educational environment. Guided by 37 student facilitators, participants developed academic and practical skills while also gaining confidence and a stronger sense of inclusion. At the same time, the facilitators strengthened their empathy, patience, and leadership skills through direct engagement with the students.

SDG 5

GENDER EQUALITY

Women's Access and Support Schemes



Educational Awards by Malay Girl College/Tunku Kurshiah College

UM hosted a ceremony to present the [Malay Girl College/Tunku Kurshiah College Old Girls' Association \(MGC/TKC OGA\) Education Awards](#) to seven female students from the Centre for Foundation Studies in Science. The event provided recognition and support as a form of provision for their educational development. Alumni and university leaders shared messages of inspiration, encouraging the recipients to pursue their goals with confidence.



Educational Support through Tunku Kurshiah College Alumni Awards

On 15 December 2025, UM hosted the Tunku Kurshiah College (TKC) Old Girls' Association Education Awards at Rimba Ilmu, attended by TKC OGA members from UM's academic community. Five first-year undergraduate students each received a [financial award](#) of RM2,000, providing encouragement and support for their academic journey. This initiative reflects continued provision to empower female students and promote their educational development, with gratitude extended to the TKC alumni for their ongoing support.



Provision of Scholarship Support for Female Students through the Jardine Cycle & Carriage Scholarship 2025

UM welcomed representatives from Jardine Cycle & Carriage (JC&C) for the presentation of the [Jardine Cycle & Carriage Scholarship 2025](#) on 19 June 2025. Although the scholarship is open to all eligible students, this year's awards were received by two UM students, Nur Allysa and Mareffa Olevia, demonstrating continued access and support for female scholars. This initiative reflects UM's commitment to providing opportunities and provision that empower women in their academic pursuits.

Menstrual Health Support Initiatives

Throughout 2025, UM conducted menstrual health support initiatives in collaboration with Blood Malaysia to improve access to essential hygiene products for students. Earlier efforts by UMSU CARE, UMSU Engineering, UMSU FOCA, and UMSU Central included [free sanitary pad distribution campaigns](#) at key student locations such as UM Central, the Main Library, and study areas, promoting menstrual health awareness, dignity, and student welfare.

Building on these initiatives, Center for Integral Learning and Teaching (CITrA UM) and Blood Malaysia later organised the "Free Pads Giveaway – Let's Break the Stigma!" campaign during the UM Internship Fair 2025 in November 2025, distributing nearly 3,000 menstrual hygiene product samples worth RM50,000 free of charge to UM students. The continued collaboration reflected ongoing efforts to support student well-being and improve access to menstrual hygiene products on campus.



Inclusive Welfare Support Through Home Visits

The Student Welfare Division, Student Affairs Department (HEP), UM provides financial and welfare assistance to support students in gaining access to university education, particularly those facing economic difficulties. Through [outreach efforts and home visits](#), the division engages directly with families to better understand students' circumstances and provide appropriate support. In one such visit, two female students were among the recipients of this assistance at their respective hometowns, reflecting UM's commitment to ensuring equitable access to education. The same support is also extended to male students, ensuring that assistance is provided based on need regardless of gender.



Professional Development through Grooming Workshop for Women

[AKRAB UM](#) organised the [Grooming Workshop \(Women and Styles\)](#) at the Faculty of Education in collaboration with CRICE and Persatuan Wanita Universiti. Led by Puan Faraliza Alias, a Certified Professional Image Consultant, the workshop provided guidance on style, appearance, and self-confidence for women staff and students. This initiative offered informal mentoring and capacity-building support, empowering participants to enhance their professional presence and personal development.

SDG 6

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Community Water Management Education

Enhancing Community Flood Preparedness Through CEPA Activities

The programme “[From Awareness to Action: University Commitment to Flood Preparedness](#)” took place on 5 November 2025 at the Faculty of Science, in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology Studies and UM Water Warriors. It is part of the Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Flood Forecasting and Warning Programme – Phase 2 (Package 1), jointly implemented by the National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM) and the Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia. The initiative focuses on strengthening flood awareness and preparedness in the Klang River Basin, Kuala Lumpur, and includes a visit to the flood CCTV and siren systems installed by JPS since 2022. Through CEPA-PRAB, students and lecturers are engaged in learning and action to help build flood-resilient communities.



Scientific Seminar on Clean Water Management with Air Selangor

On 14 March 2025, the Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES) hosted a free Scientific Seminar Series featuring experts from Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd to strengthen [public understanding of effective water management](#). The two-hour session introduced participants to Air Selangor’s operations, including the production of clean and treated water, key processes that ensure water quality, and a live demonstration of monitoring methods. The speakers also highlighted the organisation’s sustainability initiatives, particularly its circular economy practices and strategies for addressing climate change. This educational programme provided valuable, accessible knowledge to the UM community and the wider public, supporting informed awareness of responsible water resource management.



Off-Campus Water Conservation

Rainwater Harvesting at Sabah Schools

Under the Student Empowerment in Climate Action in Sabah (SECA) Phase 2 initiative, Universiti Malaya supported practical water conservation off campus by installing rainwater harvesting devices in eight schools across Kudat, Kota Marudu, and Pitas. These systems provided an alternative water source for schools facing water shortages. The initiative helped school communities use water more efficiently and demonstrated UM's commitment to practical water conservation beyond the campus.

SMART AQUA-EZ Water Purification for Rural Communities

Through the UM Community Engagement Centre (UMCares) grant, the [SMART AQUA-EZ](#) water purification system was deployed in rural and remote communities to provide clean and safe drinking water while promoting efficient water use. The system features Self-Cleaning Ultrafiltration, deploying advanced membrane technology that automatically removes accumulated contaminants to ensure high-quality water with minimal manual intervention (Principal Investigator: Dr. Mohamad Fairus Rabuni), and Solar Steam Generation, an innovative solar thermal purification method that delivers clean water using renewable energy for sustainable rural applications (Principal Investigator: Dr. Mohd Usman Mohd Junaidi). Community members were trained on the operation and maintenance of the system, equipping them with practical skills to manage water resources sustainably.

Water Quality Monitoring at Taiping Zoo

The [Surface Water Assessment, Eutrophication Treatment, and Monitoring of Water Bodies in Taiping Zoo](#) project, led by Dr. Fathiah Mohamed Zuki from the Faculty of Engineering, focuses on evaluating water quality and addressing eutrophication in the zoo's water bodies. The initiative supports sustainable water resource management through scientific monitoring and targeted treatment measures to maintain healthy aquatic ecosystems and improve environmental conditions within the zoo.

This project forms part of UMCares@Taiping, a high-impact initiative by Universiti Malaya in collaboration with the Taiping Municipal Council (Majlis Perbandaran Taiping). Through research-driven solutions and community engagement, the initiative contributes to environmental sustainability while supporting the welfare of animals in captivity and the long-term conservation of water resources.



Water Usage Awareness

“Stop That Drip” Campus Water Conservation Campaign

UM promotes conscious water usage on campus through the “Stop That Drip” campaign, which encourages the university community to promptly [report water leaks](#) using the UM Touch app. Launched as part of UM’s sustainability initiatives and highlighted around World Water Loss Day, the campaign empowers staff and students to take immediate action in reducing water loss in both common areas and faculty or college premises. By facilitating easy reporting through the Helpdesk feature, with cases directed to Estates Department or the relevant PTj, the initiative supports efficient maintenance response and reduces unnecessary water wastage.



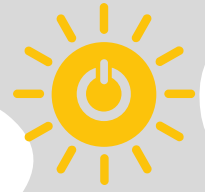
Water Footprint Awareness for Sabah Schools

Under the Student Empowerment in Climate Action in Sabah (SECA) Phase 2 research initiative, led by TPr Dr. Goh Hong Ching, Universiti Malaya promoted awareness of conscious water usage in the wider community through an online talk on water footprint held on 24 June 2025. The session was delivered by Dr. Lee Soon Loong and involved participants from 13 secondary schools across the districts of Kudat, Kota Marudu, and Pitas. The talk increased understanding of both direct and indirect water use embedded in daily activities and provided practical guidance on reducing individual and household water footprints. By engaging school communities beyond the campus, the initiative empowered students and educators to adopt more mindful water-use behaviours and practical water-saving practices.



SDG 7

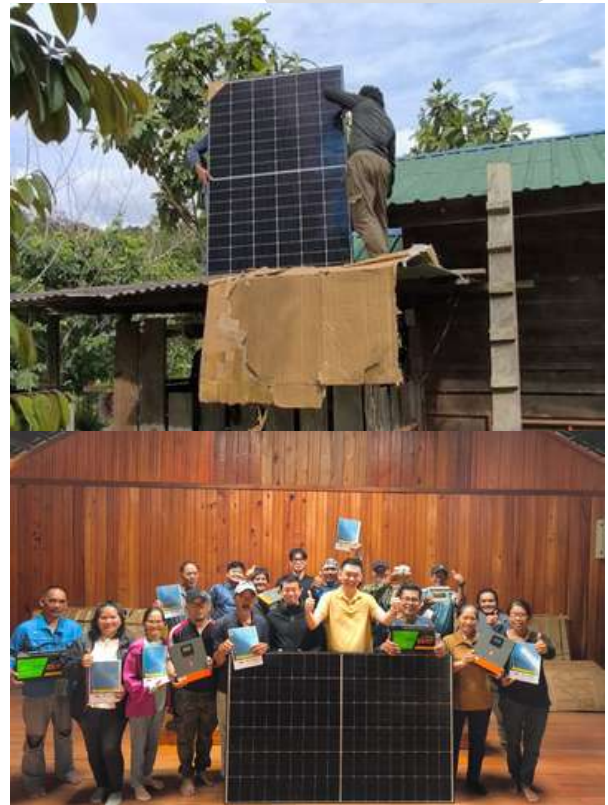
AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Community Energy Efficiency Outreach

Solar Car Workshop on Renewable Energy

Turning classroom learning into hands-on innovation, the [UM Makers Club](#) organised a solar car workshop on 23 May 2025 at SJK(C) Yu Hua to introduce students to renewable energy and energy efficiency. Supported by Cytron Technologies, the workshop introduced participants to clean energy sources and the importance of reducing reliance on non-renewable energy. Students built solar-powered cars using solar panels and recyclable materials, ending with a friendly race that encouraged creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving while promoting interest in sustainable technology.



Sustainable Energy Outreach in Sarawak

In 2025, Dr Tan Chia Kwang continued supporting rural electrification initiatives for remote longhouse communities in Sarawak through his expertise in sustainable energy systems and micro-hydro technology. As part of community-focused energy projects, he contributed technical training, field research, and knowledge-sharing activities aimed at improving reliable electricity access and promoting sustainable living in off-grid rural areas.

Industrial Energy Efficiency Services

UM-Schneider Electric Collaboration

Strengthening energy efficiency in industry, a collaboration between Universiti Malaya and Schneider Electric Malaysia was established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance sustainable technology, applied research, and capacity building in energy management through initiatives such as the [Schneider Global Student Experience, industrial training, and joint research](#) on real-world energy challenges, supporting industry in adopting energy-efficient solutions while developing future talent for a low-carbon economy.



UMPEDAC-Sungrow Collaboration on Clean Energy

A collaboration with Sungrow, a solar photovoltaic (PV) inverter manufacturer, supports energy efficiency and renewable energy research at the UM Power Energy Dedicated Advanced Centre (UMPEDAC). A [sponsored inverter](#) was provided to support ongoing research under the UM Living Labs Towards Just Net Zero initiative, focusing on repurposed electric vehicle batteries for demand-side energy management and assessing environmental and economic benefits. This collaboration strengthens industry engagement in clean energy innovation and energy efficiency solutions.



Low Carbon Innovation

UM-Deep Tech Startup Accelerator

UM Deep Tech (UMDT), the flagship startup accelerator under UM Centre of Innovation and Enterprise (UMCIE), supports the growth of university-based start-ups that contribute to a low-carbon economy. Through structured mentorship, industry engagement, and commercialisation pathways, UMDT enables research-driven innovations to transition into market-ready ventures.

At the [UMDT Demo Day](#), [10 start-ups](#) from its third cohort showcased transformative solutions, including innovations in clean energy and resource efficiency. Among them, [LiquePro Technology](#) addresses the global plastic waste challenge by converting mixed plastic waste into high-value liquid fuels such as gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel within a short processing time, without requiring sorting or cleaning. This solution promotes a circular approach to waste while introducing alternative energy sources.



Another start-up, [UMTechVis](#), developed an automated solar panel cleaning system that ensures panels remain free from dust and debris, improving efficiency and optimising renewable energy output. This innovation supports the performance and reliability of solar energy systems, contributing to cleaner energy generation.

Through platforms such as UMDT, UM provides direct support to start-ups in scaling low-carbon technologies, demonstrating a strong institutional commitment to advancing sustainable innovation and accelerating the transition towards a low-carbon and circular economy.

SDG 8

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Enhancing Staff Awareness on Welfare Benefits

Throughout the year, the Centre for Counseling & Disability Empowerment (CDE) UM conducts [staff welfare briefings](#) across various faculties and departments to enhance awareness of available welfare support and benefits. One such session was held at the Faculty of Pharmacy and attended by both academic and non-academic staff. The briefing highlighted key welfare schemes, including PERKESO contributions, ex-gratia payments, funeral assistance, Zamalah, and other staff benefits, while encouraging greater participation in welfare programmes. This initiative reflects UM's commitment to promoting staff well-being, decent work conditions, and social protection for its workforce.



Building a Supportive Workplace through AKRAB

Rakan Pembimbing Perkhidmatan Awam (AKRAB) is a peer support programme implemented across the Malaysian public service to promote employee well-being through guidance, psychosocial support, motivation, and a supportive workplace culture. At Universiti Malaya (UM), [AKRAB](#) serves as an [internal support network](#) that complements the university's staff welfare initiatives. On 24–25 September 2025, AKRAB UM organised a Strategic Planning Workshop at the Academy of Malay Studies, providing members with an opportunity to strengthen the organisation's direction, refine strategic priorities, and enhance its role in supporting staff well-being. The workshop reinforced AKRAB's capacity to contribute to a healthy and supportive work environment while advancing UM's commitment to employee welfare and organisational excellence.



Staff Reflection: ‘Serve & Be Counted’

The [Staff Reflection session](#) with Registrar Prof. Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Raman highlighted the importance of career development, competency enhancement, and the need for Management and Professional staff to remain relevant within the UM ecosystem. Discussions covered promotion prospects, workplace flexibility, continuous professional growth, and the role of senior officers in strengthening the university. Emphasis was also placed on visibility, leadership, and influence to ensure meaningful contributions and reinforce their value as key assets to UM.



ACUM 2024 Awards Ceremony

The [Anugerah Cemerlang UM](#) (ACUM) 2024 was successfully held on 20 May 2025 at Dewan Tunku Canselor, UM. As the university's highest recognition event, the ceremony celebrated members of the UM community who demonstrated outstanding achievements and excellence in their respective fields. The event was officiated by His Royal Highness the Sultan of Perak, Chancellor of UM.

The ceremony highlighted UM's commitment to recognizing excellence and fostering a culture of high performance. The achievements of the award recipients serve as an inspiration to the wider university community and reflect the dedication and contributions of individuals towards advancing the university's mission and reputation.



SDG 9

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



UM UG i-Fest 2025

The [UM Undergraduate Ideas Festival](#) (UM UG i-Fest) 2025 marked the inaugural edition of Malaysia's first-ever undergraduate ideas festival. The event provided a platform for undergraduate students to present their research projects and innovative ideas across the fields of Social Sciences, Science and Technology, and Health Sciences. Through research presentations and exhibition booths, students had the opportunity to share their work with peers, academics, industry representatives, and visitors while gaining exposure to diverse perspectives and areas of study.

Bringing together more than 2,600 undergraduate projects, the festival showcased the breadth of research and innovation undertaken by students at UM. The event encouraged the exchange of knowledge and ideas through presentations, discussions, and engagement with various stakeholders, while supporting students in developing their communication, critical-thinking, and presentation skills.



UMRIIS 2025 Showcases Innovation, Research Excellence, and Industry Collaboration

Dewan Tunku Canselor, Universiti Malaya, opened its doors to host the [Universiti Malaya Research, Innovation, and Industry Summit 2025](#) (UMRIIS 2025) from 22–23 October 2025, celebrating the university’s commitment to innovation, research excellence, and meaningful collaboration. Themed “Inspiring Research, Advancing Collaboration, Transforming Impact,” the summit brought together over 2,000 participants from academia, industry, government, and NGOs, featuring more than 1,000 transdisciplinary research posters and presentations. The opening ceremony, officiated by Professor Ir. Dr. Kaharudin Dimiyati, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), highlighted the summit as a platform where ideas meet opportunity and vision meets action, emphasising that Universiti Malaya strives to transform research into real-world solutions that benefit society, industry, and the nation.

Key attractions included keynote sessions on semiconductors and energy, fireside chats with industry and research leaders, a Business Matching Day on Health & MedTech, and the UM Deep Tech Innovation Competition Final and Awards Ceremony. Datuk Ts. Dr. Mohd Nor Azman bin Hassan, Deputy Secretary General (Management and Development), Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), celebrated outstanding student innovators, who received cash prizes, mentorship, and post-competition support to bring their ideas closer to market readiness. UMRIIS 2025 exemplifies Universiti Malaya’s commitment to advancing research relevance, driving innovation, fostering collaboration, and cultivating world-class innovators capable of addressing societal and industrial challenges while producing graduates who meet global industry standards.



KIK 2025 Fosters a Culture of Innovation and Creativity at UM

The [Universiti Malaya Kumpulan Inovatif dan Kreatif \(KIK\) Convention 2025](#) brought together over 100 innovative projects from various Centres of Responsibility (PTj) across UM and the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC). From these, 30 outstanding projects were selected to advance to the next phase, marking a significant step in strengthening a culture of continuous innovation and improvement among UM staff.

Aligned with UM's P.O.I.S.E. values (Passion, Oneness, Integrity, Sincerity & Empathy), the KIK initiative serves as a catalyst for generating creative ideas, enhancing service quality, and creating a positive impact for the UM community and wider society. The convention celebrated the achievements of all winners and grant recipients, reinforcing Universiti Malaya's commitment to nurturing innovation, fostering collaborative problem-solving, and supporting solutions that deliver meaningful societal and institutional benefits.



Strengthening Responsible AI Governance in Academic Innovation

UM has taken a significant step in strengthening its academic and innovation ecosystem with the completion of the [Universiti Malaya Academic Policy for Artificial Intelligence](#). The policy provides a clear institutional framework to guide the responsible and ethical use of AI in academic activities, supporting innovation while safeguarding academic integrity. A soft launch of the policy was held during the Senate Meeting on 20 November 2025, officiated by the Vice-Chancellor of UM and witnessed by University Management and members of the Senate. To be read together with the Universiti Malaya Guidelines for the Use of Ethical Artificial Intelligence (updated 2025), the policy reinforces UM's commitment to responsible innovation, robust digital governance, and the development of a progressive, integrity-driven teaching and learning environment. This initiative reflects UM's role in building sustainable academic infrastructure that supports technological advancement aligned with national and global innovation priorities.

SDG 10

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Disability Support and Inclusion

UM-InOKU Guidelines for an Inclusive Campus

The [UM-InOKU Guidelines for an Inclusive Campus](#) introduced by UM represent a major step towards strengthening inclusivity and accessibility for persons with disabilities within higher education institutions. Officially launched in March 2025, the guidelines were developed as a comprehensive framework covering policy and governance, teaching and learning, campus accessibility, and support systems for students and staff with disabilities. The initiative aligns with the Persons with Disabilities Act 2008, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), and Malaysia's inclusive education agenda.

The UM-InOKU Guidelines are also set to become an important reference for public universities in Malaysia in managing the needs and welfare of persons with disabilities on campus. The framework emphasizes equal access to education, accessible infrastructure, inclusive teaching practices, mobility assistance, peer support, and disability-friendly accommodation. In addition, the initiative has attracted regional attention through the ASEAN University Network (AUN), where UM proposed [the guidelines as a model for developing inclusive campuses across ASEAN universities](#).

Launched
in 2025



Universiti Malaysia
Inclusive Campus
Guidelines for Persons
with Disabilities



UM Special Committee on Neurodiversity

The Special Committee on Neurodiversity, chaired by the Registrar, YBrs. Prof. Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Raman, reflects a meaningful step towards strengthening inclusive governance within UM. The committee held its first meeting on 18 December 2025, serving as [a platform to advance discussions and initiatives related to neurodiversity](#), with a focus on developing more inclusive policies, support systems, and campus practices that recognise and accommodate diverse cognitive and learning needs. It underscores the university's commitment to fostering a supportive environment where both students and staff are valued and enabled to participate fully in academic and workplace settings.



Developing Inclusive Employment Guidelines for Neurodiverse Communities

A [public consultation forum](#) was held in March 2025 to gather feedback for the development of a Guideline for the Employment of Neurodiverse Individuals, an initiative led by UM to advance inclusive employment practices in Malaysia. The session brought together community representatives and stakeholders to contribute perspectives and recommendations that would help shape a comprehensive and practical framework for [supporting neurodiverse individuals in the workplace](#).

The guideline is intended to serve as a reference for creating fair, accessible, and supportive employment opportunities for neurodiverse individuals, including persons with autism, ADHD, dyslexia, Tourette syndrome, and other neurodevelopmental conditions. As a pioneering initiative by UM, it aims to promote equitable recruitment, workplace accommodations, and sustainable career development pathways while encouraging greater workforce participation and inclusion for neurodiverse communities.

Inclusive Support and Mentoring Programmes

Persatuan Mahasiswa Istimewa Universiti Malaya (PERMIUM)

In 2025, [Persatuan Mahasiswa Istimewa Universiti Malaya](#) (PERMIUM) continued to champion peer support and inclusion for students with disabilities on campus. As a recognised student society, PERMIUM provided a platform for members to connect, share experiences, and build networks that strengthen belonging and mutual encouragement. Throughout the year, club activities focused on raising awareness of disability issues, fostering understanding among non-disabled students, and creating opportunities for social engagement and empowerment. PERMIUM's efforts helped cultivate a supportive community where underrepresented students feel valued and confident to participate actively in university life.

- [Chillaxday with Special Students](#) – 20 April 2025: Provided UM students an opportunity to interact with visually impaired students and learn about their campus experience.
- [PERMIUM Appreciation Night 2025](#) – 1 June 2025: Celebrated members' achievements and strengthened community spirit within the club.
- [Hari Interaksi PERMIUM 25/26](#) – 8 November 2025: Created a relaxed and inclusive space for students to engage with and appreciate neurodiverse students through interactive activities, games, and community bonding, while strengthening campus relationships.
- [Cakna Suara Kita](#) – Student Advocacy Forum – 13 December 2025: Highlighted challenges faced by the OKU community and promoted advocacy for inclusive education and employment.



AUN-DDPnet Scholars Monthly Support Programme

AUN-DDPnet (ASEAN University Network – Disability and Public Policy Network) Scholars are students with disabilities who receive support through a regional initiative that promotes inclusive higher education, academic success, and equitable opportunities across ASEAN universities. To ensure scholars are able to thrive academically and personally throughout their studies, the [AUN-DDPnet Scholars Monthly Support Programme](#) provides continuous guidance, monitoring, and targeted assistance tailored to their needs.

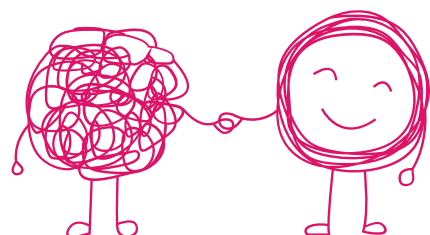
Through regular monthly engagements, the programme supports scholars' academic and research progress while offering mentoring, motivation, and specialised training, particularly for final-year students. It also places strong emphasis on mental wellbeing and accessibility by addressing individual requirements and strengthening collaboration among Deputy Deans, academic supervisors, and Disability Engagement Units. By fostering a supportive and inclusive learning environment, the initiative helps scholars successfully complete their studies while enhancing their confidence, resilience, and overall university experience.



Satu Hari, Satu Bahasa Isyarat

The [Satu Hari, Satu Bahasa Isyarat](#) initiative by the Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CCDE) UM introduces simple Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia (BIM) signs to the campus community. Through the Satu Isyarat, Sejuta Makna project, students and staff are encouraged to learn basic signs that help improve communication with the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing community. This small but meaningful effort promotes awareness, empathy, and better understanding across campus.

By sharing these short educational videos in conjunction with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, CCDE helps build a more inclusive environment where everyone feels welcomed and supported. The initiative also strengthens everyday interactions, making UM a place that values connection and accessibility for all.



Disability Awareness and Empathy Training for Dentistry Students

A session on [Disability Awareness and Empathy](#) was conducted with students from the Faculty of Dentistry, led by En. Firdaus Abu Hassan from the Centre for Counselling & Disability Empowerment (CDE). The training aimed to raise awareness about the needs of students with disabilities and promote understanding among peers. By encouraging empathy and inclusive practices, the session helped cultivate a supportive campus environment where all students can thrive together.



Meet & Greet with Students with Disabilities

A Meet & Greet session was held with 35 students with disabilities, creating a [safe and meaningful space for open dialogue with university management](#). The session allowed students to share their experiences, needs, and aspirations, fostering understanding, trust, and a stronger sense of inclusion within the UM campus community.



Celebrating the Launch of “Journey of Glory” by AUN- DPPnet

The [ASEAN University Network-Disability and Public Policy Network](#) (AUN-DPPnet) proudly launched its commemorative book, *Journey of Glory*. The publication captures the network’s evolution from its early beginnings into a respected regional platform advocating for inclusivity, equal access to education and enhanced opportunities for persons with disabilities. Featuring notable milestones, impactful initiatives and the inspiring journeys of scholars who have transformed challenges into achievements, the book highlights the depth and reach of AUN-DPPnet’s mission.

Beyond documentation, [Journey of Glory](#) reflects the network’s sustained commitment to empowering individuals from underrepresented groups through scholarship programmes, research collaborations and capacity-building efforts. These initiatives provide essential guidance, support and opportunities for students and emerging leaders with disabilities across ASEAN. By uplifting voices and enabling progress, AUN-DPPnet continues to cultivate a community of changemakers who contribute meaningfully to a more inclusive and equitable region.



Disability support services

PPDK P.I.N.T.A.R UM: Strengthening Disability Support Services

The Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CDE), opened applications for contract staff to support the PPDK P.I.N.T.A.R programme. This initiative aims to strengthen the delivery of community-based rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities by engaging dedicated individuals to support programme implementation and daily operations.

By expanding its support team, UM reinforces its commitment to providing continuous and effective services for the PWD community. The recruitment reflects ongoing efforts to enhance care, empowerment, and inclusion through structured support programmes that benefit individuals with disabilities and their families.



International Day of Persons with Disabilities Fun Run

The Charity Fun Run held on 16 November 2025 in conjunction with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPWD) marked a meaningful expression of UM's commitment to promoting inclusivity and disability awareness. Organised by the UM Medical Centre (UMMC), the event drew strong participation from the UM community, UMMC personnel and surrounding neighbourhoods, reflecting a shared dedication to celebrating diverse abilities and fostering a more understanding society. Beyond a recreational activity, the run served as a platform to strengthen public awareness, highlight the importance of equal participation, and encourage a more empathetic and supportive campus culture.

Pengambilan Terbuka PETUGAS PPDK P.I.N.T.A.R

Pusat Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti (PPDK) P.I.N.T.A.R Universiti Malaysia menerima calon-calon yang berminat dan berkelayakan untuk mengisi kekosongan pengambilan petugas di PPDK P.I.N.T.A.R UM.

Pada kesempatan inilah kami mengundang saudara/saudara perempuan

KELAYAKAN:

- Warganegara : Malaysia
- Kesihatan : Sihat tubuh badan
- Jantina : Perempuan
- Umur : 21 tahun ke atas
- Kelulusan : SPM atau setaraf dengannya
- Taraf Jawatan : Petugas kontrak
- Saguhati Petugas : RM 1,200.00/bulan
- Waktu Bertugas : 5 kali seminggu/ 8.00 pagi - 1.00 tengahari
- Kriteria Tambahan : i) Berminat dan komited untuk bekerja dengan OKU
ii) Penyayang dan mempunyai tahap kesabaran yang tinggi

MANFAAT:

- Pelajaran dan kuasai kemahiran baharu
- Program Khidmat Komuniti
- Cipta Impak Bermakna

BERMINAT?

Hantar Resume anda **DI SINI** @

Pusat Kaunseling & Pemerkasaan OKU
Portofolio Pendaftar
Universiti Malaysia

Emel Rasmi: ppdk@um.edu.my
No. Untuk Druibung: 03-79675322@3324

Celebrating Inclusivity at UM: Inclusivity Carnival 2025

The [Inclusivity Carnival 2025](#), held on 26 April at Dewan Tunku Canselor showcased UM's dedication to promoting an inclusive and accessible campus environment. Participants enjoyed engaging in Bocce and Tandem Cycling activities alongside individuals with special needs from Special Olympics Malaysia (Putrajaya), the Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB), and UM's Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CCDE). Complemented by pre-event training sessions, dental screenings, and educational booths, the carnival provided a holistic experience that emphasised fun, learning, and meaningful interaction.



Projek Syawal Istimewa: Cahaya Kasih UM 2025

Projek Syawal Istimewa: Cahaya Kasih UM 2025 reflects UM's commitment to supporting persons with disabilities through [inclusive welfare initiatives](#). In conjunction with Hari Raya Aidilfitri, the project brought joy to children of staff from the OKU community by providing new festive clothing, ensuring they could celebrate Syawal with dignity and happiness.

Adaptive Diving: Disability Support Through Therapeutic Recreation

UM Medical Centre (UMMC) specialists participated in the [Adaptive Diving: Dive With a Purpose programme](#), organised by Diveheart Malaysia in collaboration with Hospital Rehabilitasi Cheras at Mimpi Perhentian Resort (6–8 October 2025). The initiative provided children with disabilities the opportunity to experience guided open-water diving following months of structured training. In a zero-gravity underwater environment, participants were able to move more freely, supporting physical rehabilitation while strengthening emotional confidence and resilience.

The involvement of UMMC medical experts ensured safe implementation and reinforced UM's commitment to inclusive support services that enhance the well-being, dignity, and empowerment of persons with disabilities.



SDG 11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



UM Arts and Heritage Performances 2025

Festival Seni Universiti Malaya

Festival Seni Universiti Malaya (FESENI) 2025 served as a major university-wide arts platform, held from 15–31 May 2025 and involving 13 residential colleges including the Unit Luar Kampus (ULK). The festival featured 15 categories of performances—[pop band](#), [acoustic music](#), [dikir barat](#), [boria](#), [nasyid](#), [creative dance](#), [traditional national dance](#), [Malay-language singing](#), [English-language singing](#), [traditional national singing](#), [poetry manifestation](#), [choir](#), [Indian dance](#), [Chinese dance](#), and [kompang selawat](#)—each comprising multiple performances that contributed to overall scoring, with the top five placements in each category earning points toward the final standings. Winning acts from each category were later showcased again during the closing event, reflecting the high level of talent and creativity across disciplines. Through its diverse and extensive programme of performances, FESENI highlighted the artistic excellence, cultural richness, and collaborative spirit of the university community while strengthening its role as a key platform for student-led arts and heritage engagement.



Karnival Teater Universiti Malaya

Karnival Teater Universiti Malaya (KARVITER) 2025, in its 13th edition in 2025, was held from 17–30 April 2025 as a flagship performing arts programme showcasing the theatrical talents of students across the university. Involving 12 residential colleges, the festival featured a series of theatre productions over two weeks, each presenting unique themes and high production quality in acting, directing, stage design, lighting, and sound, aligned with industry standards. Open to both undergraduate and foundation students, KARVITER provided an inclusive platform for emerging talents to engage in theatre-making while fostering creativity, collaboration, and artistic expression, reinforcing UM's role in promoting student-led performing arts.



Among the 12 theatre performances, the titles and synopses presented during KARVITER 2025 are:



Kurung

A psychological thriller of love, power, and revenge unfolds as friendship and obsession spiral into violence and manipulation.



Koloni

In a dystopian future, residents of a capsule settlement resist corporate control as time travel reshapes their struggle for survival.



Rumah Lama Kampong Bharu

A family conflict over ancestral land in Kampong Bharu escalates into a struggle between heritage, memory, and urban development.



Biar Ku Dukung

A family struggles with care, resentment, and responsibility as a mother's declining health exposes tensions among her children.



Hanturisme

A family of ghosts struggles when humans no longer fear them, leading to comedic attempts to regain their power and relevance.



Le Jeu: La Julia

A teenage love triangle in the late 1990s unfolds as friendship, rivalry, and poetry intertwine to explore love and conflict.



Iskul Mapan Mapan

An alternative rural school for Bajau Laut children struggles against poverty, statelessness, and education in Sabah.



Belahan Samudera

Two kingdoms on the brink of war are drawn into conflict, where a young queen fights to restore peace amid betrayal and struggles.



Enjit-Enjit Semut

A group of troubled teenagers face emotional struggles when a trusted teacher's hidden secret begins to unravel their lives.



Pulang

A man returns home to settle a family inheritance dispute, but hidden tensions lead to an unexpected loss.



Diaspora Bangsat

A murder confession unravels into conflicting truths as a detective uncovers darker secrets behind the crime.



Limbo

A group of survivors in a forest faces hunger and rising tension as hidden truths challenge their beliefs and survival.

Public Performing Arts Showcases by the Faculty of Creative Arts

The [Faculty of Creative Arts](#) organised a series of public performances and showcases in 2025 that highlighted the integration of traditional, contemporary, and experimental artistic expressions across dance, theatre, and music.



Temasya Tari Melayu

The public dance showcase organised by the Dance Department featured 14 Malay dance performances reimagining classical and folk traditions for contemporary audiences, accompanied by live music and traditional ensembles.



Teater Singgah

Staged on 20–21 June 2025 at Panggung Eksperimen, UM, the Malay-language production adapted from Martin Walser's work was presented by Kolektif Drama Teater dan Film UM as part of the Bachelor of Drama final year project.



Last Ride to Tomorrow

A public theatre production staged on 17–18 June 2025 at the Experimental Theatre, featuring Winn. wee and Tharkeshwar Sai, exploring themes of life, death, belief, and doubt through an intimate one-room narrative.



KESUMA & UMa Dance Showcase

The showcase featured KESUMA, highlighting Malay classical and folk dances, and UMa, presenting contemporary works by students and alumni, blending traditional and contemporary Southeast Asian artistic expressions.



Music Showcase 2025

Presented as a live music journey spanning Baroque to contemporary soundscapes, the performance explored themes of time through diverse musical expressions and evolving artistic styles.



Perempuan-Perempuan Kampong Bharu

A modern theatre production directed by Dr Marlenny Deenerwan and staged by Drama Department students, exploring contemporary social and urban issues in Kampong Bharu through a narrative set during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Tribute to Dalang Dollah Baju Merah

Celebrating the legacy of a revered master of shadow puppetry, “A Tribute to Dalang Dollah Baju Merah” brought audiences into the rich world of [Wayang Kulit](#) through storytelling and performance. Held in collaboration with PUSAKA and the Museum of Asian Art, the programme featured a conversation on the life and contributions of Dalang Dollah, followed by a special performance by Kumpulan Wayang Kulit Sri Warisan PUSAKA, who continue his artistic lineage.



Si Jundai

The traditional performance [Si Jundai: Sobab Mulut Badan Binaso](#) was staged at the Auditorium, Kompleks Perdanasiswa, bringing to life the story of Intan Sari Manih and her journey through love, misfortune, and magic. Performed by Artis Budaya JKKN WPKL in collaboration with Kumpulan Randai Palimo, Universiti Malaya, and directed by Dr. Mohd Effindi Samsuddin, the production showcased the rich storytelling, music, and theatrical traditions of Malay culture.

Cultural Heritage Preservation Projects

Taiping's Local Heritage Through Community Stories

Researchers Dr. Yong Adilah Shamsul Harumain (Faculty of Built Environment) and Dr. Asmiza Abdul Sani (Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology) lead an initiative under the [Hentian Komuniti](#) platform to document and preserve [Taiping's cultural heritage](#). The project captures oral histories, community narratives, and everyday cultural knowledge from local residents, especially elders and heritage advocates. These include storytelling, place-based memories, and lived experiences linked to Taiping's historic environment. The collected stories are shared through a mobile application, allowing users to explore and access local heritage digitally. This ensures that intangible cultural heritage is preserved, shared, and passed on to future generations while strengthening community engagement and intergenerational connection.



Traditional Timber Joinery

Traditional Malay timber joinery, or [tanggam](#), is an important form of intangible cultural heritage that reflects generations of craftsmanship, environmental knowledge, and cultural identity. Used in Malay architecture, it enables wooden structures to be assembled without metal fasteners, supporting flexibility, durability, and sustainable material use. However, this heritage is declining due to fewer skilled carpenters and the rise of modern construction methods. A research project led by Sr Dr Nurshuhada Zainon documents *tanggam* alongside Japan's *kigumi* joinery through systematic recording and comparative study. The project helps preserve traditional construction knowledge, including techniques, craftsmanship principles, and cultural meanings, while supporting efforts to sustain these skills for future generations.



Southeast Asian Wayang Kulit

The exhibition “[A Life in Shadows: The Story of Wayang Kulit](#),” held from 13 February to 30 April 2025 at the Museum of Asian Art, showcased puppets from Thailand, Central Java, and beyond, highlighting this UNESCO-recognised heritage. The initiative strengthened UM’s efforts to preserve and promote regional cultural traditions while supporting their transmission to future generations.

China–Malaysia Batik Traditions

The “Threads of Heritage: China–Malaysia Batik Dialogue & Workshop,” organised by the Kong Zi Institute, UM in December 2025, brought together experts, artists, students, and the public to share traditional craft knowledge. Featuring [batik and Chinese textile techniques](#) through talks and hands-on sessions, the programme fostered appreciation of intangible cultural heritage while supporting its continuity across generations.



Sanskrit and Shared Heritage

On 10 April 2025, UM, in partnership with the High Commission of India, the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre, and the Malaysia-India Heritage Society, hosted the seminar “Language & Shared Heritage: Role of Sanskrit in India–Malaysia Historical Connect”. The event explored [the influence of Sanskrit on Southeast Asia](#), including Bahasa Melayu, highlighting its role in strengthening historical and cultural ties. A related coffee table book was also launched and reinforcing efforts to document and preserve shared heritage.



Bajau Music and Dance Traditions

Research led by Prof. Dr. Hanafi Hussin documents the [Bajau community’s music and dance traditions](#) in Semporna, Sabah through interviews, recordings, and local engagement. It highlights the *igal-igal* dance and instruments like the *gendang* and *kulintangan*, while fostering intergenerational exchange to sustain Bajau heritage.





Nuansa Ukiran Kayu Melayu

In October 2025, Akademi Pengajian Melayu, UM, with Persatuan Penggiat Seni Ukir Kayu Malaysia (PENGUKIR), organised the exhibition “Nuansa Ukiran Kayu Melayu 2.0: Legasi Adiguru” at Muzium Etnografi Melayu, showcasing 40 [woodcarving works](#) by eight Malaysian artisans. A related forum highlighted their techniques and contributions, supporting the preservation and promotion of national and regional cultural heritage for future generations.



Transliterasi *Kitab Tib* Workshop

UM participated in the Bengkel Transliterasi *Kitab Tib* Siri I 2025 organised by Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), contributing to the transliteration of MSS 3022, a [19th-century Malay medical manuscript](#) from Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia. The workshop strengthened skills in manuscript interpretation and documentation, supporting the preservation of traditional medicinal and ethnobotanical knowledge as part of Malaysia’s national intangible cultural heritage.

Documenting Iban Pua Sungkit Heritage

UM’s Faculty of Creative Arts conducted a field research project titled “Mapping Pua Sungkit Patterns of the Iban Community in Batang Ai: Efforts to Archive Intangible Cultural Heritage” at Rumah Puso, Karangan Mong, documenting Pua Sungkit as part of Malaysia’s national cultural heritage. Led by Dr. Gregory Kiyai from the Visual Arts Programme, the study recorded intricate weaving techniques, patterns, and cultural knowledge, ensuring the preservation of these intangible traditions for future generations. Supported under UM’s Special Research Assistance (BKP) and Early Career Research Grant (ECRG) 2025, the project also contributes to policy development in textile arts and cultural heritage, aligning with the National Cultural Policy (DAKEN) and the Sustainable Development Goals, while strengthening community engagement, creativity, and research excellence.



Bugis and Islam in the Malay World – Preserving National and Diaspora Cultural Heritage

Bugis and Islam in the Malay World, authored and edited by Prof. Dr. Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hattah Fattah (2025), is a collaboration between Universiti Malaya and Universitas Muslim Indonesia (UMI), providing a multidisciplinary exploration of the history, culture, and contributions of the Bugis people in the Malay world, with particular focus on Malaysia and Indonesia. The book documents the historical migration of the Bugis to Malaya, their political and religious influence, and the intellectual legacy of Bugis scholars and ulama, including their role in the Riau-Lingga Sultanate and the governance of Sultan Alauddin Suleiman Shah in Selangor.

By recording these historical narratives and cultural practices, the book contributes to Malaysia's national cultural heritage, preserving knowledge of the Bugis community's enduring impact on the country's social, political, and religious development. At the same time, it captures the experiences and traditions of a displaced community, documenting how the Bugis diaspora adapted to and shaped the Malay world, thereby safeguarding intangible cultural heritage that spans borders and generations.

This publication exemplifies efforts to preserve both national heritage and the heritage of displaced communities, ensuring the Bugis people's intellectual, cultural, and historical contributions remain accessible to scholars, students, and the wider public



Celebrating Miniature Malaysian Heritage

The Miniatur Citra Seni Budaya dan Warisan Exhibition, organised in collaboration between the World Culture Organisation (WCO) and Akademi Pengajian Melayu, UM, served as a meaningful platform to document and preserve Malaysia's rich cultural heritage. Held in conjunction with Festival PPUM di Hati and the national month celebrations, the exhibition showcased finely [crafted miniatures](#) of traditional architecture, costumes, and cultural artefacts, offering visitors an engaging way to appreciate the stories, symbolism, and craftsmanship embedded in local heritage. Through this collaborative effort, UM continued to support the safeguarding of cultural knowledge and traditions for wider public understanding and future generations.



SDG 12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Waste Management Education Outreach

Food Awareness for Young Learners

Students from the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Education, UM, collaborated on a SULAM project at Tadika Al-Husna, Petaling Jaya, to introduce young children to [mindful eating and responsible food habits](#). Through interactive games, storytelling, songs and hands-on activities, the programme helped children understand the value of food, basic nutrition, portion control and simple ways to reduce food waste. A total of 45 kindergarteners took part in short talks and activity stations designed to deliver these messages in a fun and age-appropriate manner.

The project combined educational and legal perspectives to address gaps in early awareness on nutrition and food wastage. With guidance from both faculties, the students developed all teaching materials in-house and engaged parents by distributing simple pamphlets on healthy eating and food waste awareness. This interdisciplinary collaboration demonstrated how student-led initiatives can translate academic knowledge into meaningful community engagement while nurturing positive habits from an early age.



UM Supports Community in Recycling Used Cooking Oil

A team of lecturers, postgraduate students and support staff from the Faculty of Science, UM, carried out a community outreach programme under the CAKnA (Citra Akademik untuk Komuniti dan Alam) initiative to educate rural residents on recycling used cooking oil into environmentally friendly handmade soap with commercial potential. Through interactive workshops and live demonstrations, participants learned proper oil filtration techniques, safety procedures, and basic soap-making processes using safe and accessible materials. The programme also included awareness sessions on choosing suitable cooking oil, assessing oil quality, and adopting healthier and more responsible cooking practices. Involving UM students as facilitators and demonstrators further strengthened knowledge transfer while enhancing students' real-world learning experiences and community engagement through practical, science-based solutions.



Transforming Durian Waste into Sustainable Packaging

Waste2Wonder, a SULAM student project themed “Inspiring Action through Waste Innovation,” was conducted at SK Sri Kelana in May 2025 to promote sustainability awareness among school students. Through an engaging Waste Innovation Talk, participants learned how waste materials, particularly durian husks, can be transformed into eco-friendly packaging solutions. Interactive quizzes and discussions further encouraged students to explore innovative approaches to waste reduction and environmental conservation. The programme also featured a hands-on DIY Workshop where students experienced the process of creating sustainable packaging from durian waste.

“Bag Your Meds” Promotes Reusable Alternatives at UMMC Pharmacy

The Department of Pharmacy, UMMC, has strengthened its long-standing initiative to reduce single-use plastics through the “Bag Your Meds” project. Since 2009, the department has discontinued the provision of plastic bags for medication collection. In January 2025, the Green Initiative Team introduced a dedicated rack supplying donated paper and reusable cloth bags for patients collecting their medicines.

Constructed from recycled materials such as wooden pallets and used medicine bottles, the rack is placed at the outpatient pharmacy waiting area to encourage responsible consumption practices. Patients and visitors are also invited to donate clean, reusable paper or cloth bags to support the initiative. This effort reduces plastic waste, promotes reuse, and fosters a culture of shared responsibility in minimising resource consumption within the healthcare setting.



SDG 13

CLIMATE ACTION



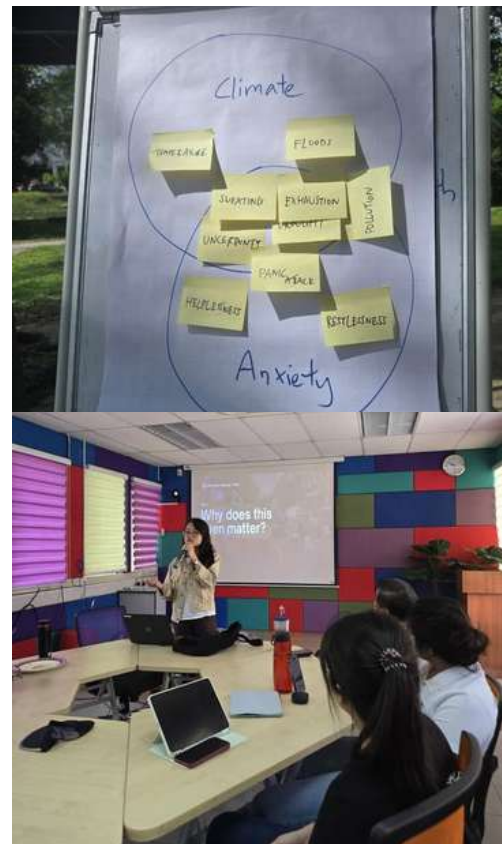
Climate Change Education Outreach

Superhero Iklim 2025

Superhero Iklim 2025 is a four-week climate education campaign that transforms awareness into action through hands-on learning and group challenges. The programme builds participants' understanding of climate change while encouraging practical, sustainable habits. Supporting workshops were organised in collaboration with the NGO Klima Action Malaysia (KAMY) and the Sunway Centre for Planetary Health.

Each week focuses on themes such as reducing energy use, improving recycling, and lowering carbon and water footprints. Guided activities help participants connect these actions to daily life, reinforcing how small changes can collectively support climate mitigation and more responsible lifestyles.

A key feature is its gamified approach using the JouleBug app, where participants track actions, complete challenges, and earn points. Workshops also cover climate adaptation, upcycling, composting, and climate therapy to help participants manage eco-anxiety.





Mangrove Climate Action

The Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES) conducted the [Climate Change Mitigation Programme: Nature-Based Solutions for Greenhouse Gas Monitoring](#) at Taman Alam Kuala Selangor. The programme focused on conserving mangrove forests through replanting activities, providing participants with hands-on experience in ecosystem-based climate mitigation. Collaborating with international partners from The Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Germany, UM staff, postgraduate students, and sea scout volunteers, the event enhanced local understanding of climate change impacts, mitigation strategies, and the role of mangroves in carbon sequestration.

UMPOLAR25

[UMPOLAR25: Frozen Horizons – Tropical Linkages and Climate Action](#), held from 24–26 September 2025, marked 25 years of Antarctic research through public talks, an art and science exhibition, and an international workshop on plastic pollution. The programme connected polar research with tropical climate challenges, strengthening understanding of climate change impacts and mitigation while engaging researchers, students, and the public in sustainability and climate action dialogue.





SECA Phase 2: Youth Climate Action Education in Sabah

The Student Empowerment in Climate Action in Sabah (SECA) Phase 2 is a UM research initiative involving researchers from various faculties, implemented in collaboration with education and community stakeholders. The programme ran from October 2024 to August 2025, focusing on strengthening youth climate awareness and action through experiential learning activities involving schools from Kudat, Kota Marudu, and Pitas.

The Phase 2 closing ceremony was held on 14 August 2025 at SMK Tandek, Kota Marudu, bringing together students from 13 schools across these districts to showcase their climate action initiatives through presentations and performances, including video presentations, pantomime, songs, and choral speaking. The event was officiated by Dr. Mohd. Asran bin Hj. Amisah, representing the Sabah State Education Department, reflecting multi-stakeholder engagement in youth-driven climate education and climate action.

Climate-Resilient Volunteer Training

The [My Rescue Team UM](#) Training Programme, established by the Centre for Counselling and Disability Empowerment (CDE), aims to provide participants with both theoretical and practical emergency response training. The programme strengthens individual and team capabilities, equipping volunteers with the confidence and skills to respond effectively during post-disaster situations such as floods, landslides, and other emergencies. While the training covers general emergency preparedness, it is particularly relevant in the context of climate-induced disasters, which are becoming increasingly frequent due to climate change.



Climate Risk Support to Local Government

UM-DBKL Flood Risk Collaboration

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2025 between Universiti Malaya and Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) established a collaboration to support urban flood risk management and climate resilience in Kuala Lumpur. The partnership focuses on strengthening coordinated efforts in monitoring and maintaining critical water management infrastructure within the city. As part of this collaboration, activities are centred on the university's retention pond, where joint efforts include inspections, clearing of shrubs, removal of sediment and debris, and ongoing maintenance works. These interventions improve the pond's capacity for stormwater retention, helping to reduce flood risk in surrounding areas and supporting more effective local flood management and climate adaptation efforts.



Flood Early Warning System Collaboration

The university has collaborated with the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) since 2022 in the installation and operation of a flood early warning system at Sungai Pantai, which includes flood sirens and a web-based camera system for real-time river level monitoring. This system supports early warning efforts by enabling timely alerts and improved flood risk monitoring for surrounding communities. In November 2025, DID also conducted a briefing session with university students and auxiliary police to enhance understanding of flood monitoring operations and emergency response procedures, strengthening institutional capacity in climate-related disaster risk management.

Climate Adaptation NGO Partnership



WWF-UM River Conservation Workshop

A Socialisation Workshop on Kerayong River Litter Hotspot Findings was jointly organised by WWF-Malaysia and Universiti Malaya on 30 June and 1 July 2025, bringing together stakeholders from government agencies, local authorities, academia, and community-based organisations. The workshop shared findings from [a litter hotspot scoping study in the Kerayong River Sub-Basin](#) and focused on developing sustainable solutions for urban river management. Participants engaged in presentations, stakeholder dialogues, water quality monitoring, and waste audits, gaining practical insights into environmental impacts and river ecosystem protection. The programme strengthened environmental education and fostered multi-stakeholder collaboration to support community-driven actions for improving river resilience and climate adaptation.

Mangrove Replanting in Kota Marudu

Under the Student Empowerment in Climate Action in Sabah (SECA) Phase 2 research project by UM researchers, mangrove replanting was conducted on 29 April 2025 at Kampung Asin-Asin, Kota Marudu. Secondary school students took part in hands-on mangrove replanting activities aimed at increasing awareness and practical understanding of mangrove conservation and climate adaptation. The seedlings used were sponsored by the Sabah Wetland Conservation Society (SWCS), a non-governmental organisation (NGO), supporting community-based ecosystem restoration and environmental education efforts.



SDG 14

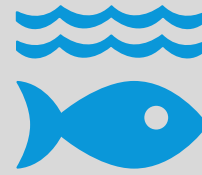
LIFE BELOW WATER

Freshwater Ecosystem Education Programme



SDG Water Conservation Exchange

From 4–6 July 2025, an Australia–Malaysia Global SDG Exchange programme engaged students in [freshwater ecosystem conservation](#) through classroom learning, fieldwork, and community activities. Participants took part in citizen science at Tasik Varsiti, river cleanup and mangrove replanting at Sungai Selangor, and a site visit to the Pantai 2 Regional Sewage Treatment Plant to learn about sustainable water management practices such as biogas use and water reuse.



Freshwater Stewardship Cleanup

A [river and green-space cleanup](#) was held on 30 April 2025 around Universiti Malaya, including in-river waste collection to support the campus freshwater ecosystem. Organised by the Universiti Malaya Community Engagement Centre (UMCares) and UMCares Club with support from UMSDC and Water Warriors UM, the programme involved 45 local and international participants from Indonesia and the Philippines.

Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Programme

Citizen science training on [freshwater ecosystem monitoring](#) was conducted on different dates involving AIESEC in UM, UM STEM Education students, and ASEAN mobility students. Participants were trained in water quality assessment using low-cost monitoring kits and macroinvertebrate biological indicators, gaining hands-on experience in freshwater ecosystem monitoring and water conservation awareness.



Sustainable Fisheries & Overfishing Outreach Programme

Tasik Varsiti Fish Conservation & Outreach

Fish stocking and inventory study

activities at Tasik Varsiti in November 2025 were conducted in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur / Putrajaya as part of an ongoing partnership to support sustainable inland fisheries management. A 24-hour fish inventory study carried out from 13–14 November 2025 documented fish populations and species distribution in the lake, building on earlier efforts including the 2024 fish release and initial inventory studies, to strengthen long-term ecological understanding and lake stewardship.

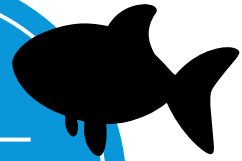
The November 2025 survey recorded a mix of native and non-native species, while earlier in the month the collaboration also included the release of 5,100 native Puyu fish at Tasik Varsiti to enhance native species populations. These combined activities also functioned as community outreach platforms, where engagement with participants and visitors promoted awareness on native biodiversity conservation, ecosystem balance, and responsible fisheries practices, strengthening public understanding of freshwater ecosystem management.

Native fish observed

- Lampam sungai (*Barbonymus schwanefeldii*)
- Ketutu (*Oxeyeotris marmorata*)
- Kelah (*Tor tambra*)
- Kerai kunyit (*Hypsibarbus wetmorei*)
- Baung (*Hemibagrus capitulum*)
- Terbul (*Osteochilus vittatus*)

Released
in 2025

5,100 native fish into
Tasik Varsiti for
freshwater
ecosystem
conservation



Sekolah Sahabat Perikanan Programme

Blending classroom learning with real-world coastal experiences, [Sekolah Sahabat Perikanan: Kembara Ekologi Biru](#) was organised by the EcoBio Society in collaboration with the Selangor State Department of Fisheries on 3–4 September 2025. The programme brought together university students and secondary school participants from Sekolah Menengah Sains Kuala Selangor (KUSESS) and Sekolah Berasrama Penuh Integrasi Sabak Bernam (INTESABER) to strengthen awareness of sustainable fisheries and responsible marine resource management through expert-led sessions and community engagement.

Participants took part in lectures by UM researchers and fisheries officers, followed by hands-on activities such as net mending, fish preservation demonstrations, innovative pitching, and field exposure at Bagan Sungai Kajang Jetty. The programme also included discussions on overfishing, introducing students to issues related to unsustainable fishing practices and the impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing on marine resources. Through dialogue with fisheries specialists and local fishing communities, participants gained a deeper understanding of sustainable harvesting practices and the importance of protecting marine ecosystems for long-term ocean health.



Seagrass Eco Tourism Experience

Bringing together researchers, agencies, and local communities, the Seagrass Eco Tourism Experience in the Mersing region was organised through a collaboration between Yayasan JCorp, Universiti Malaya, with support from the Mersing District Office and Tourism Johor. The programme aimed to [promote seagrass ecosystem conservation](#), raise awareness on sustainable marine resource management, and highlight eco-tourism as a pathway for local socio-economic development, with participation from government agencies, fisheries authorities, local leaders, and community members.

Activities included a Seagrass Nature Walk from Tanjung Genting to Pulau Setindan, alongside scientific briefings, a conservation documentary, and technical sharing sessions led by researchers. Through hands-on exposure and community engagement, the initiative strengthened understanding of seagrass ecosystems and encouraged active participation in sustainable fisheries, marine conservation, and responsible coastal resource management.

Marine Conservation Outreach Programme



ASTREC Marine Conservation Programme

Bringing together students, local communities, and environmental partners, [ASTREC Community Splash](#) was organised at Pulau Perhentian, Terengganu by ASTREC (ASTAR Recreational and Educational Club), in collaboration with Fuze Ecoteer. The programme involved 42 students in marine conservation outreach activities, including school sessions at Sekolah Kebangsaan Pulau Perhentian, community engagement in Kampung Pasir Hantu, and snorkelling-based experiential learning to observe coral reef and turtle habitats. The initiative strengthened awareness of marine ecosystem protection and encouraged responsible interaction with ocean environments.



Antarctic to Ocean Plastic Pollution Forum

As part of UMPOLAR25, the workshop “[Plastic Pollution from Pole to Pole: Scientific Insights and Global Mitigation Strategies](#)” brought together 15 local and international experts, researchers, and policymakers to discuss the latest scientific findings on microplastic pollution and explore effective mitigation strategies. Co-organized by the National Antarctic Research Centre (NARC), Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES), Nanotechnology & Catalysis Research Centre (NANOCAT), and Air Selangor Sdn Bhd, the workshop highlighted green solutions, legal frameworks, and science communication efforts aimed at reducing plastic pollution and supporting the conservation and sustainable use of marine and aquatic ecosystems.

Coral Conservation Panel & Outreach

Researchers from [Project PULIH \(Protecting Underwater Life Through Integrated Rehabilitation\)](#), Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES), participated in a panel discussion titled “*Corals: So What? Is Saving Corals Enough in Saving the Oceans?*” at the Malaysian International Dive Expo (MIDE 2025) on 15 June 2025. Project PULIH was also invited to set up a booth in the RHB Pavilion from 13–15 June 2025, providing interactive displays and educational materials to engage visitors on coral, seagrass, and mangrove conservation. Through expert dialogue and public outreach, the initiative promoted awareness of marine ecosystem protection and sustainable use of ocean resources.

Ecosystem Biodiversity Conservation Programme

Mersing Seagrass & Coral Reef Conservation Programme

Yayasan JCorp, in collaboration with UM and local stakeholders, organised the [Seagrass Exploration Programme](#) in Mersing, involving 50 participants including representatives from the Mersing District Office, JCorp volunteers, company staff, researchers, and local tourism operators. The programme focused on direct conservation and protection of marine habitats, particularly seagrass areas, as part of ongoing efforts linked to earlier coral reef rehabilitation work initiated in 2023. Activities included environmental briefings, field visits, and community engagement sessions to strengthen understanding of marine ecosystem conservation.

The rehabilitation efforts have contributed to improved habitats supporting more than ten marine species, including Bluefaced Angelfish, Regal Angelfish, and False Clown Anemonefish, enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem resilience in the Mersing coastal region. The initiative demonstrates direct conservation action supported by scientific input and community participation, while also aligning with sustainable eco-tourism development in the area.



Pulau Setindan Seagrass Mapping Programme

A [seagrass mapping study](#) was conducted around Pulau Setindan, Mersing, Johor to identify seagrass species and assess their role in supporting coastal biodiversity conservation. The programme involved multiple stakeholders, including local communities, district authorities, Reef Check Malaysia, and other organisations, ensuring collaborative and participatory implementation.

The study provides important baseline data for ongoing conservation efforts, supporting the protection and sustainable management of seagrass habitats. It contributes to biodiversity preservation in Mersing's coastal waters and strengthens long-term ecosystem resilience through science-based conservation planning.



Marine Ecosystem Damage Prevention Initiative



AquaPhage

AquaPhage, developed by Dr. Tang Swee Seong and his team from the Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, is a sustainable innovation designed to [tackle bacterial infections in aquaculture without the use of antibiotics](#). The technology encapsulates a cocktail of bacteriophages—natural viruses that target harmful bacteria—within biodegradable alginate microcapsules derived from brown algae. These capsules can be easily delivered through fish feed, providing an effective, environmentally safe solution for aquaculture operations. By replacing antibiotics with phage therapy, AquaPhage helps combat antimicrobial resistance, promotes healthier aquatic livestock, and reduces chemical residues in aquatic environments, supporting safer and more sustainable aquaculture practices.

Marine Ecosystem Monitoring

On 20 October 2025, a delegation from the First Institute of Oceanography (FIO), China, visited the Bachok Marine Research Station (BMRS) to support the maintenance and enhancement of the [Automated Weather Station \(AWS\) system](#). This system plays a key role in monitoring environmental conditions that affect marine ecosystems. The visit included upgrading sensors and calibrating equipment, enabling more accurate data collection to inform sustainable marine practices and minimise ecosystem damage. By maintaining and improving these technologies, UM and its partners directly contribute to the development of tools that support aquatic ecosystem protection and sustainable utilisation of marine resources.



Advancing Research on Harmful Algal Blooms

The Fisheries Research Institute (FRI), Batu Maung, Penang, visited the Bachok Marine Research Station (BMRS) to discuss ongoing [studies on Harmful Algal Blooms \(HAB\) in Malaysia](#). The visit included in-depth discussions on monitoring, mitigation strategies, and potential research collaborations aimed at preventing ecosystem damage. This engagement strengthens efforts to develop and apply scientific knowledge and technologies for the protection and sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems.



Malaysia-China Collaboration on Harmful Algal Bloom Mitigation

Malaysian researchers, led by Prof. Dr. Lim Po Teen from the Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences, Universiti Malaya, are collaborating with the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS) to test a [modified-clay technology designed to mitigate harmful algal blooms \(HABs\)](#) along Malaysia's northeast coast. This environmentally friendly technology binds and settles algae, effectively reducing its harmful impacts on aquaculture operations, fish health, and local aquatic ecosystems. The initiative is part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UM and IOCAS, strengthening bilateral collaboration in marine research and technology development.



Biopolymer-Based Therapeutics

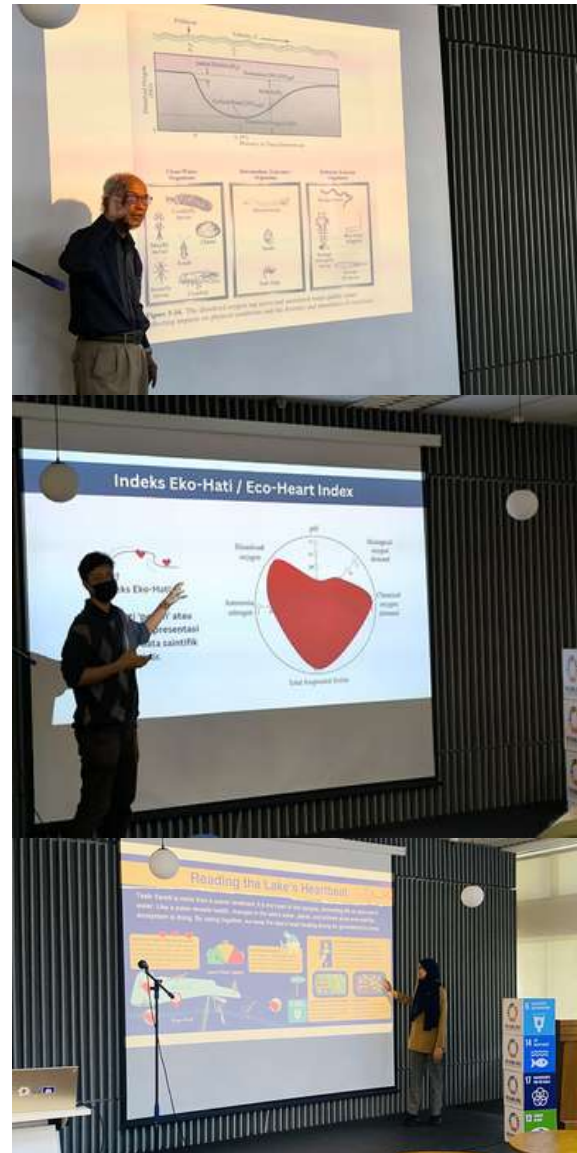
Researchers from the Faculty of Engineering are exploring the use of [biopolymers as a sustainable method to deliver biotherapeutic agents](#)—such as bacteriophages, vaccines, and antibodies—into freshwater fish like tilapia, patin, and keli. These natural polymers, derived from sources like seaweed and cassava, encapsulate the therapeutic agents, protecting them from environmental factors such as sunlight, temperature, and pH changes, and enabling controlled, targeted release directly to affected tissues.

This technology reduces reliance on antibiotics, helping to prevent antimicrobial resistance and minimizing chemical residues in water, while promoting healthier fish and more environmentally responsible aquaculture practices. By combining innovative science with ecosystem protection, biopolymer-based therapeutics offer a practical, eco-friendly solution for sustainable aquaculture and the long-term health of aquatic ecosystems.

Shared Aquatic Ecosystem Collaboration

Tasik Varsiti Conservation Dialogue

Tasik Varsiti, a cherished lake in Universiti Malaya, served as the focus of a conservation briefing, feedback, and communication strategies session organised by the UM Sustainable Development Centre to share [best practices in lake conservation](#), provide updates on water quality, and strengthen community engagement in sustainable lake management. The session featured insights from Dr Abdul Halim Sulaiman, a limnology specialist, who highlighted the ecological importance of lakes in Malaysia, the threats they face, and strategies for sustainable management. Current water quality findings were also presented, alongside discussions on the future direction of the lake and improvements to interpretive materials for visitors. The session brought together representatives from multiple university departments, as well as the Urban Biodiversity Initiative as an external collaborator.



SDG 15

LIFE ON LAND

Sustainable Use of Land

Soil Doctor Programme

The [Universiti Malaya Soil Doctor Programme \(UMSDP\)](#), a pioneering initiative in Malaysia adapted from the Food and Agriculture (FAO) Soil Doctors Programme, promotes sustainable soil management through education and community outreach. Conducted in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Malaysia, the programme trains youth and farmers to perform practical soil tests, identify and address soil issues, and enhance crop productivity. Students trained as “[Soil Doctors](#)” act as knowledge-sharing agents to peers and local communities, raising awareness about soil health, food security, and climate adaptation.

UMSDP combines theoretical knowledge, hands-on field training, and Educational Soil Kits to help participants understand the link between soil, food production, and the environment. By empowering local farmers and youth, the programme strengthens practical capacity for sustainable agriculture while fostering early awareness among future leaders, researchers, and policy-makers about the importance of soil in ecosystem stability and national food security. In 2025, the initiative was highlighted during the World Soil Day celebrations in Klang, Selangor, demonstrating UM’s commitment to expanding educational outreach on sustainable land management and supporting agricultural ecosystems beyond the university campus



Biodiversity Conservation & Ecosystem Protection

Managing Human-Wildlife Conflict for Campus Biodiversity

A structured discussion held at Universiti Malaya with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) addressed increasing [human-wildlife interactions involving macaques and other species](#) within the campus ecosystem. The session highlighted UM's green campus environment, including Rimba Ilmu, as an important urban habitat supporting diverse flora and fauna. However, rising disturbances linked to human activities—particularly improper waste disposal and feeding of wildlife—were identified as key pressures affecting ecological balance and biodiversity.

Key strategies focused on maintaining ecosystem stability and reducing human-induced disruption to wildlife populations within Universiti Malaya. These included improving waste management systems to limit wildlife access to food waste, discouraging feeding practices through targeted awareness initiatives, and promoting responsible behaviour to preserve natural feeding patterns. The discussion also emphasised broader ecological relationships, including predator-prey dynamics involving macaques, snakes, and lizards, underscoring the importance of sustaining balanced populations within the campus ecosystem. Wildlife monitoring and relocation measures were recognised as supporting actions to maintain long-term biodiversity and ecosystem health at UM.



Ecosystem Education Programmes

Pewaris: Fungal Biodiversity Awareness

Supported by ThinkCity and Yayasan Hasanah, the Institute of Ocean & Earth Sciences (IOES) leads a community-based programme in Lenggong Valley to [raise awareness of fungal biodiversity](#). The initiative brings together partners including the [Fungi Guardian Club](#) (UM), Majlis Lenggong, Lenggong Geopark, Lenggong360, University of Idaho, and Grusson. A key outcome is the documentation of fungal species into a publication supporting the UNESCO Global Geopark efforts in Lenggong. The first phase featured a fungal foray and a community session on 9 August 2025 at Rumah Warisan Wakaf Komuniti Che Teh Fatimah, where children joined interactive activities linking fungi, biodiversity, and climate change.

Participants gained hands-on exposure to ecosystem science while learning to appreciate natural and cultural heritage. The programme fosters collaboration between researchers and the local community, promoting environmental awareness and supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in Lenggong.



Biodiversity Talk 2025

The Biodiversity Talk 2025, organised by the [Universiti Malaya Ecology Biodiversity Society](#) (EcoBio UM) in collaboration with the Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF), brought together professionals, academics, and students at the Faculty of Science, to share insights on ecosystem restoration and sustainable development. Featuring sessions on [Ecosystem Restoration for Forest and Biodiversity Recovery and Biodiversity and the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), the programme highlighted the importance of collective responsibility in biodiversity conservation.



Varsiti Biodiversity Odyssey Educational Programme

Organised by the UM student group [Eco Varsity](#), the Varsiti Biodiversity Odyssey introduced participants to the [rich ecosystems around Tasik Varsiti](#) through a series of guided learning activities. The programme featured a biodiversity talk and guided walk led by the Urban Biodiversity Initiative (UBI), where participants explored key habitats such as wetland and identified native plants, birds, and insects. A hands-on mini biodiversity survey using iNaturalist enabled participants to document species and gain practical understanding of ecosystem balance.



Eco Guide 2025

The Eco-Guide program, organised by students of Kolej Kediaman Tun Syed Zahiruddin (KK9), with participation from international students, was held on 6 February 2025 at Rimba Ilmu. Through guided tours, hands-on research, and practical training on plant and animal biodiversity, participants explored ecosystems and learned about conservation and sustainable practices. The program also included a [Training of Trainers \(TOT\)](#) session to prepare student guides, ensuring accurate knowledge transfer. By blending education with immersive experiences, Eco-Guide enhanced environmental awareness and fostered ecological responsibility.



Biodiversity Education Programme at Kertih

FRIM's [Program Sains Masyarakat](#) Siri 2.0 were held from 8–10 July 2025 at the ecoCare Environmental Education Centre in Kertih, bringing together FRIM, JPNT, ecoCare Kertih, Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), and UM. The programme engaged 40 Form Four students and teachers in hands-on biodiversity learning through activities such as birdwatching, water quality testing, iNaturalist documentation, and introductions to avifauna and biodiversity systems, as part of an RMK-12 initiative to strengthen biodiversity education outreach in Terengganu. UM contributed through community science and monitoring activities, alongside eco-printing and group tasks. A total of 54 bird species were recorded, strengthening ecological awareness and collaboration in biodiversity education.



Langkah Hijau: Mangrove Conservation Education

As part of Projek ASTARCare, 40 UM students participated in Langkah Hijau 24/25 at Taman Kelip-Kelip Kampung Kuantan, learning about the importance of [mangrove ecosystems and their role in supporting biodiversity](#), including fireflies (*Pteroptyx tener*). The programme combined practical activities, such as planting 111 *Sonneratia caseolaris* seedlings, with guidance on sustainable planting techniques and ecosystem functions. Through this hands-on experience, students gained awareness of the delicate balance between human activity and natural habitats, while reflecting on individual responsibility in conservation.



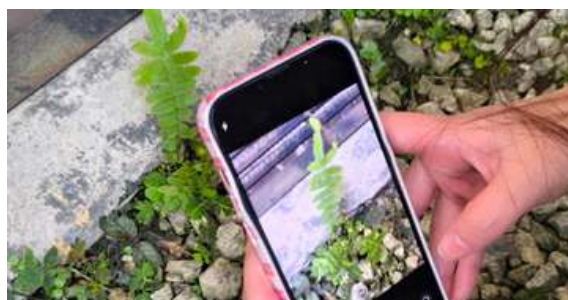
InsectART 2025

The InsectART program, led by students from the Institute of Biological Sciences and collaborators, engaged 102 secondary school students from Johor, Negeri Sembilan, and Selangor in hands-on activities [exploring insect biodiversity at Suaka Burung Panti](#). Over three days, participants learned field sampling techniques, insect preservation, and created STEM-inspired art, fostering both scientific understanding and environmental awareness. By combining hands-on activities with creative learning, the programme fostered appreciation of ecosystems and biodiversity while encouraging ecological responsibility among young learners.



Klang Valley City Nature Challenge

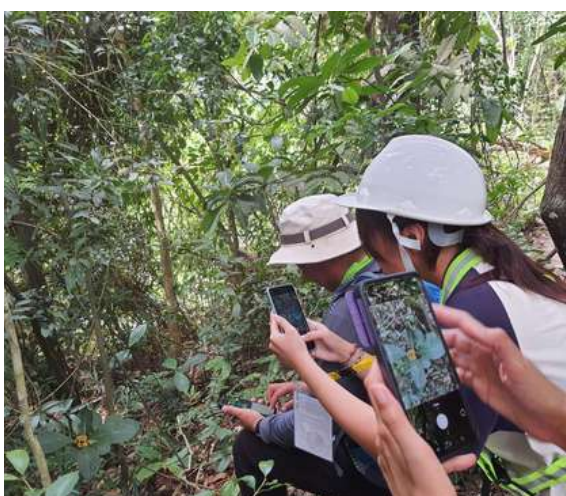
Bringing communities together to explore urban nature, UM, with Sekitar Kita and partners, co-organised the Klang Valley City Nature Challenge 2025—a [community bioblitz](#) held in April as part of the global City Nature Challenge. Residents and nature enthusiasts across the Klang Valley documented urban flora and fauna using iNaturalist, recording over 2,000 observations of more than 800 species in four days, with nearly 100 observers and 125 identifiers involved. Preparatory sessions on using the platform and understanding local ecosystems helped build community skills in biodiversity observation and responsible engagement with urban environments.



Borneo Citizen Science in Action

Borneo's rich rainforests and river systems come alive through [Borneo Adventures: Citizen Science in Action](#), a collaborative programme designed to bring science closer to communities while nurturing a shared responsibility for environmental stewardship. By engaging librarians, researchers, students, and the wider public, the initiative transforms scientific learning into an inclusive, hands-on experience. Through interactive sessions and field-based activities, participants are introduced to the value of citizen science in understanding and protecting biodiversity, as well as monitoring water quality—two areas vital to the ecological health of Sabah and Sarawak. In doing so, the programme also supports Malaysia's broader push to strengthen STEM education by making science accessible, practical, and relevant to everyday life.

At the heart of the programme is the [Borneo Nature Challenge](#), a dynamic initiative that encourages communities across Sabah and Sarawak to document local flora and fauna using iNaturalist. Running from 13 January to 13 February 2025, the challenge fosters a spirit of friendly competition as cities strive to record the highest number of wildlife observations and species. Beyond competition, it cultivates curiosity, sharpens observation skills, and contributes valuable data for conservation efforts.



This programme is jointly organised by the Standing Committee on Library Services to Special Groups under the Librarians Association of Malaysia, in partnership with Sekitar Kita and the U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur. It is further supported through collaborations with American Corners Malaysia, Universiti Malaya Sustainable Development Centre (UMSDC), Public Library Sarawak, Public Library Sabah, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Universiti Teknologi MARA (Pahang Branch Library), and the Librarians Association of Malaysia Sabah and Sarawak groups. Together, these partners create a platform where knowledge, community action, and environmental awareness come together, demonstrating how collective effort can support conservation outcomes in Borneo.

Community Collaboration for Land Ecosystems

Plant A Tree Campaign

The Plant A Tree Campaign was launched in October 2025 at the Faculty of Medicine in conjunction with UM's 120 years of excellence celebration. Faculty members and students planted native trees, including *Shorea roxburghii* and *Syzygium polyanthum*, across campus, with each tree symbolising a commitment to nurture the environment, strengthen biodiversity, and support a healthier planet.

The initiative is part of the "[Planting Trees for Planetary Health Equity](#)" movement under the APRU Global Health Conference 2025 and aligns with UM's efforts to enhance campus ecosystems. Through tree planting, the UM community contributed to biodiversity conservation and strengthened environmental stewardship, reflecting shared responsibility for maintaining campus land ecosystems.



UM Green Community Conservation Day

The [UM Green Community](#) (UMGC) carried out a sustainability activity at the Elmina Rainforest Knowledge Centre, where student volunteers participated in hands-on work such as weeding and rubbish collection to support the [maintenance and conservation of the rainforest ecosystem](#). Alongside these activities, participants also engaged in discussions on environmental stewardship, strengthening their understanding of Malaysia's rainforest ecosystems and their importance. This collaboration between UM volunteers and the centre reflects active engagement in shared land ecosystem management, supporting the long-term health of the forest while promoting environmental responsibility.



SDG 16

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Supporting Government with Expert Input

Strategic Legal Partnership with Attorney General's Chambers

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC), witnessed by Tan Sri Mohd Dusuki Mokhtar, marks a key milestone in strengthening [Malaysia's legal ecosystem](#). The first-of-its-kind collaboration establishes a framework for joint initiatives in research, capacity building, professional training, and policy development, reflecting a shared commitment to the rule of law, justice, and the Federal Constitution.

Through this partnership, expert advice and academic support are provided to the AGC, leveraging research and institutional expertise to enhance national governance. The MoU also aims to nurture future legal professionals grounded in integrity and fairness, while strengthening Malaysia's legal and policy framework through sustained government-academic collaboration.



ASEAN Roundtable on Inclusive Policy for Persons with Disabilities

From 20 to 22 September 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) was represented by Puan Nor Nismawati Mokhtar, Chief Psychology Officer of CDE, at the ASEAN Roundtable on Persons with Disabilities, organised by Universiti Utara Malaysia in collaboration with ILC PERMAI UUM. The session brought together public universities, government agencies, and NGOs to discuss [strategies for more inclusive policies at the regional level](#).

During the roundtable, UM shared expert insights, contributed recommendations, and helped shape proposals to guide the development of inclusive disability policies across ASEAN. This engagement highlights UM's role in providing expertise to inform policy-making, fostering regional collaboration, and supporting governance initiatives that promote equality and inclusivity.

Expanding Social Protection for Migrant Workers

Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC) co-organised a roundtable discussion with SUHAKAM, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, on 14 January 2025 to deliberate the [extension of Employees Provident Fund \(EPF\) coverage to migrant workers](#). This policy initiative, aligned with international labour standards, aims to enhance social protection for all workers in Malaysia.

The roundtable brought together 45 participants from government, business, and academia to examine the implications of the policy, identify potential challenges, and explore strategies to maximise positive societal outcomes. Through this engagement, UM provided expert insights and evidence-based input to a statutory government agency, contributing to informed policy discussions on social security and workers' rights.



Evidence-Based Input for National Living Cost Guidelines

A collaboration with the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) continues to support [the development of the Belanjawanku Guide](#), a reference tool estimating the minimum monthly expenses required for a decent standard of living. The guide provides evidence-based input for policy development, including revisions to the Basic Savings amount and the RIA Framework, strengthening household financial security through data-driven insights. This initiative is supported through research expertise from Universiti Malaya's Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), ensuring policy relevance and methodological rigour.

As part of preparations for the Belanjawanku 2026/2027 edition, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was conducted in Georgetown, Penang, gathering household expenditure data from over 50 participants across diverse household types. Covering essential needs such as food, housing, and transport, the exercise provided critical insights to ensure the guide reflects real living costs in Malaysia, supporting more informed social and economic policy planning.

Strengthening Urban Governance Through the Mayor Talk Series

On 9 January 2025, the [Mayor Talk Series](#) organised by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Faculty of Built Environment, UM, strengthened collaboration between the university and local authorities. The inaugural session featured the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, who shared insights on sustainable urban governance and future city planning, with emphasis on inclusive and resilient approaches in addressing climate change, rapid urbanisation, and social inequality.

The session gathered policymakers, practitioners, and academics for knowledge exchange on urban development strategies. The discussion on Kuala Lumpur's vision to become a liveable, inclusive, and loveable city by 2040, aligned with the Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2040, reinforced long-term planning perspectives. The series reflects UM's commitment to partnerships and knowledge sharing in support of sustainable urban development in Malaysia.



UM Psychologists Advise on National Cyberbullying Guidelines

From 26 to 28 May 2025, UM psychologists were appointed as [panel members](#) to develop the national Guidelines on Handling Cyberbullying by the Ministry of Higher Education (KPT). The panel, including Pn. Lizawati Abd Sane, Pn. Vijayah Malar Palanisamy, Pn. Maznah Azis, and En. Amar Firdaus Ibrahim, provided expert input to ensure the guidelines are evidence-based, practical, and responsive to the needs of students and staff.

This engagement highlights UM's role as a strategic partner in shaping national policy to enhance psychosocial well-being and digital safety in higher education. By contributing their expertise, UM supports the ministry's efforts to promote a safer online learning environment and reinforces its position as a trusted advisor in advancing inclusive and effective governance within the university ecosystem.

Karisma Pemikir Madani Programme

The Program Karisma Pemikir Madani Kepimpinan Tertinggi UM provided a comprehensive platform for UM's top leadership to enhance their strategic, governance, and policy-related skills. The programme commenced on 9 January 2025 with the official launch by YAB Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid bin Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister.

The programme featured multiple sessions designed to build knowledge, strategic thinking, and leadership capacity. Session 1, [Penetapan Minda](#), delivered by YBr. Encik Zahed bin Saidin, Director of the National Leadership Division, AKM, introduced transformational leadership concepts, emphasising how mindset, vision, and strategy can drive institutional and national success. Session 2 featured YB Tan Sri Dato' (Dr.) Johari bin Abdul, Speaker of the Dewan Rakyat, who discussed [the concept of Malaysia Madani, political stability](#), and the role of universities in developing informed and competitive societies. Session 3, led by YBhg. Dato' Dr. Haji Roslan bin Hussin, Director-General of AKM, explored [patriotism, nation-building, and the transformative role of academic leaders](#) in fostering an inclusive and progressive future. Session 4, with YBhg. Tan Sri Abdul Wahid bin Omar, Chairman of Bursa Malaysia, highlighted [the connection between university leadership and industry](#), addressing innovation, graduate employability, and the university's contribution to the economic ecosystem.



Subsequent sessions included Session 5, where Laksamana (Bersara) Tan Sri Dato' Seri Panglima Dr. Ahmad Kamarulzaman bin Hj Ahmad Badaruddin emphasised [adaptive leadership in the face of disruptive technology](#), and Session 6, which reviewed the [Vice-Chancellor's New Year message and strategies to strengthen research, academic excellence, and campus welfare](#). The programme concluded with Session 7 featuring Dato' Seri Diraja Dr. Zambry Abd Kadir, inspiring participants to be critical, forward-thinking leaders, and providing opportunities for dialogue on current higher education policies and national agendas.

Through these structured sessions, interactive discussions, and expert insights, the programme provided UM leaders with critical knowledge, practical strategies, and inspiration to strengthen governance, institutional decision-making, and leadership capacity across the university.

Enhancing ASEAN Social Protection: SWRC Leads Capacity-Building Training for Policymakers

On 19 June 2025, the Social Wellbeing Research Centre (SWRC), in collaboration with UNICEF, successfully hosted the [Capacity-Building Training on Social Protection Policy and Implementation in ASEAN](#). The programme brought together policymakers, practitioners, and experts to explore key challenges in social protection, focusing on inclusive and sustainable frameworks for the region. The initiative aligned closely with the vision of the ASEAN Social Security Association (ASSA), which promotes robust social security systems through knowledge-sharing and regional collaboration.

The training addressed crucial areas such as building integrated social protection systems, extending coverage to informal and vulnerable groups, ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability, and adopting international best practices including ILO conventions. UNICEF highlighted child-focused social protection and the impact of ageing societies, reinforcing the importance of holistic policy approaches. Sessions led by SWRC experts fostered dialogue and practical understanding of policy design, financing, and implementation strategies, equipping participants with insights to strengthen social protection frameworks across ASEAN.

The programme concluded with a roundtable discussion emphasising continued regional collaboration, knowledge exchange, and strategic planning to enhance social wellbeing for all. By providing a platform for learning and engagement, the training strengthened the capacity of policymakers and stakeholders to design and implement policies that are inclusive, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of diverse populations in the ASEAN region.



Government Research Collaboration

Academic Expertise Supporting the National Halal Policy 2025–2035

Universiti Malaya Halal Research Centre (UMHRC) was entrusted by the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) to provide [expert advisory support for the development of the National Halal Policy 2025–2035](#). Led by a multidisciplinary academic team, the engagement involved policy research, strategic analysis and evidence-based recommendations to support national policy formulation.

Working closely with JAKIM and relevant stakeholders, UMHRC contributed specialised academic expertise to strengthen Malaysia's halal governance framework, enhance regulatory effectiveness, and support the long-term sustainability and global competitiveness of the national halal ecosystem.



Engagement in Policy Review on Intellectual Property and Innovation Commercialisation

On 18 June 2025, the [Universiti Malaya Centre of Innovation and Enterprise \(UMCIE\)](#) participated in a policy engagement session organised by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) as part of the review of the National Intellectual Property and Innovation Commercialisation Policy (2021–2025). The session convened representatives from government, industry and academia to discuss policy directions and challenges in strengthening Malaysia's innovation ecosystem. Through this engagement, Universiti Malaya contributed institutional perspectives and expertise in innovation and commercialisation to ongoing policy discussions. The participation reflects the University's involvement in government-led policy review processes relating to science, technology and innovation development.



Neutral Platform for Dialogue

ICONCIDI'25: Fostering Intercivilisational Dialogue for Inclusive Governance

On 15 April 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) hosted the [International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue 2025 \(ICONCIDI'25\)](#) to commemorate 30 years of the Civilisational Dialogue initiative. Themed “Intercivilisational Dialogue for Inclusivity and Sustainability,” the conference provided a neutral and constructive platform for government leaders, academics, and civil society to engage on critical issues affecting Malaysia and the ASEAN region. The event featured a special address and closing by YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia, who emphasised the importance of building a civilisational society anchored on human values, justice, and moderation.

The conference brought together prominent scholars, including Prof. Emeritus Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar and Prof. Dr. Daniel Bell, to discuss the role of dialogue in fostering societal harmony, ethical governance, and inclusive development. Ministers and senior officials from the Ministry of Higher Education also participated, reinforcing the collaboration between academia and policy stakeholders. By creating a safe and apolitical space for open discussion on extremism, racial harmony, and responsible leadership, ICONCIDI'25 highlighted UM's commitment to promoting dialogue that strengthens participatory decision-making and contributes to a more inclusive and resilient society.



ICPPL 2025: Shaping the Future of Public Policy and Leadership

The [International Conference on Public Policy and Leadership \(ICPPL 2025\)](#), held from 3–5 November 2025 at UM, convened policymakers, scholars, and industry experts to discuss emerging global megatrends and their implications for governance and sustainable development. The event featured keynote presentations, high-level panel discussions, and interactive sessions that encouraged the exchange of evidence-based insights and practical approaches to pressing policy challenges.

Through these discussions, participants explored innovative strategies in public policy, leadership, and sustainability, providing a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration. The conference outcomes contribute directly to informed policymaking, supporting initiatives that are grounded in research and expert perspectives across government and societal sectors.



SDG 17

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



SDG Policy Collaboration

Strategic Collaboration with APPGM-SDG to Advance SDG Implementation

A strategic collaboration with the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on SDGs (APPGM-SDG) was established to accelerate [SDG empowerment and implementation across Malaysia](#). The partnership includes joint policy research, in-depth issue mapping and field research analysis, district-level SDG Task Forces, and technical support for evaluating community and food security initiatives. It also focuses on transforming community learning centres into living labs and implementing empowerment and poverty alleviation programmes for marginalised communities in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. Through this collaboration, UM contributes to policy advocacy in Parliament, SDG-related strategies, and scholarly publications.



Advancing National Prostate Cancer Screening Policy Through Evidence-Based Engagement

The Faculty of Medicine reached a key milestone by presenting a Policy Brief on Improving Prostate Cancer Screening to the Honourable Minister of Health, Malaysia. Developed under the Urological Cancer Trust Fund, the brief recommends a targeted, evidence-based national screening programme to prioritise early detection and reduce the burden of late-stage prostate cancer. This initiative shows UM's active role in shaping national health policy through research and expert advice. By working directly with government authorities, UM helped identify critical healthcare challenges and propose practical strategies to improve public health outcomes..

Cross-Sector SDG Dialogue

Workplace Safety and Health

The 2025 National Occupational Safety and Health Conference, themed “Leading and Cultivating Workplace Safety and Health in Higher Education Institutions”, was hosted at UM to highlight the importance of [workplace safety and health in supporting organisational sustainability, productivity, and employee well-being](#). The conference emphasised the need to foster a culture of care beyond technical compliance in higher education institutions.

Officiated by the Deputy Minister of Higher Education, YB Datuk Ts. Mustapha Sakmud, the conference brought together agencies including the Social Security Organisation, Department of Occupational Safety and Health, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, Construction Industry Development Board, the Fire and Rescue Department, and the Ministry of Health. The event provided a platform for cross-sector dialogue and knowledge exchange between academia, government, and regulatory bodies to strengthen workplace safety, well-being, and organisational resilience.



UM Giving Carnival: Strengthening Cross-Sector Collaboration for Sustainable Development

The [UM Giving Carnival](#), held on 18 June 2025 at Dewan Tunku Canselor, brought together industry partners, organisations, researchers, and members of the public in support of social impact and sustainable development. The event served as a platform for dialogue and collaboration, highlighting shared priorities such as student welfare, research excellence, innovation, graduate employability, and sustainability.

Through its focus on philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, and impactful investment, the carnival encouraged discussions on how different sectors can collectively contribute to national and global development goals. By connecting academia, industry, and the wider community, the event reflected UM's commitment to fostering cross-sector engagement and collaborative partnerships for sustainable progress.

Forum on Consolidating the Sustainability Agenda Among Higher Education Institutions

The Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Higher Education, All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG), and SDSN Sunway University, organised a forum on 24 February 2025 to promote SDG and ESG implementation across public and private universities. The session gathered around 150 participants, including university leaders, students, SDG committee representatives, and government officials, to exchange ideas and discuss the proposed “[Sustainability Framework for Higher Learning Institutions](#).”

The forum served as a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue, encouraging collaboration between universities, industry, and government. Insights from the discussions will inform a proposed action plan to harmonise sustainability initiatives across higher education institutions in Malaysia. Following the programme, UAC submitted a Sustainability Framework report for Higher Education & National SDG Implementation to the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Economy for further consideration and alignment at the national level.



Fostering Global Dialogue on Planetary Health Equity

The 18th Annual APRU Global Health Conference 2025, themed “[Towards Planetary Health Equity: A Global Call for Shared Solutions](#)”, was held at UM and officially opened by the Honourable Minister of Health, Malaysia. The conference brought together academics, researchers, and policymakers from across the Pacific Rim to exchange insights and explore collaborative solutions for global health equity.

Held in conjunction with International Week 2025, the event provided a platform for cross-sectoral dialogue among participants from government, academia, and international institutions to discuss pressing challenges and innovative approaches. The conference strengthened international collaboration and knowledge exchange in support of sustainable development and equitable health outcomes worldwide.

AUN-QA Conference Strengthens Regional Higher Education Collaboration

The AUN-QA International Conference (AUNQAIC 2025) was held at Dewan Tunku Canselor, marking Malaysia's first time hosting this ASEAN University Network event. The conference, themed "[Fortifying Higher Education: Strategic QA for Resilience and Institutional Immunity in ASEAN](#)", brought together higher education leaders and quality assurance experts from across the region to share insights and strategies on strengthening institutional quality.

The event provided a platform for dialogue between universities, policymakers, and quality assurance professionals. It supported cross-sectoral engagement and knowledge exchange, helping to build stronger regional connections in higher education.



Strengthening Global Dialogue Through High-Level Diplomatic Engagement

His Excellency Andrzej Duda, President of the Republic of Poland, visited UM as part of an official programme in Malaysia and delivered a public lecture titled "[Poland's Position in the EU: Challenges and Choices](#)" at the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI). The lecture offered timely reflections on Europe's policy landscape, particularly in the context of Malaysia's role as ASEAN Chair and Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union, and brought together diplomats, policymakers, academics, and students.

The visit provided a platform for cross-sectoral dialogue on global development issues, enabling meaningful exchange among diverse stakeholders. It strengthened international understanding and cooperation, contributing to broader efforts to advance global partnerships aligned with sustainable development.

NGO Collaboration for SDGs

Malaysian Society of Soil Science

Universiti Malaya works closely with the [Malaysian Society of Soil Science](#) (MSSS), a professional non-governmental organisation focused on advancing soil science, sustainable land management, and environmental stewardship. The MSSS Management Committee 2024/2026 is led by President Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah from Universiti Malaya, alongside members from Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, the Department of Agriculture (DOA), Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), and other institutions. This wide representation strengthens collaboration across academia, government, and industry.

Through [joint programmes](#) such as training courses, community engagement activities, and knowledge-sharing initiatives, the partnership supports student involvement, applied research, and practical learning. These activities provide exposure to sustainable farming practices and improve understanding of soil management among students, researchers, and local communities. Overall, this collaboration strengthens knowledge exchange and supports more sustainable approaches to land use and agriculture.



Law Students and NGOs Unite for Sustainable Food Waste Management

A group of 13 first-year law students from UM collaborated with The Lost Food Project (TLFP) and Persatuan Shenpen Malaysia to implement the community outreach programme “[Sustainable Food Waste Management in Kuala Lumpur](#).” The initiative focused on collecting surplus vegetables from the Selayang Wholesale Market and redistributing them to vulnerable communities at Flat Hock Lock Mansion, including refugees, elderly residents, and low-income families. By engaging in hands-on volunteering and promoting legal literacy on the Food Donors Protection Act 2020, the students combined civic responsibility with practical education on sustainable food practices and climate-conscious consumption.

The programme exemplified the importance of partnerships between student initiatives and established NGOs in fostering environmental education. Beyond immediate food distribution, students analysed food waste data, identified nutrition gaps, and proposed policy improvements to enhance long-term food rescue efforts.

Community Education for SDGs

UMCares@222 Community Education Outreach Programmes

[UMCares@222](#) is an initiative connecting Universiti Malaya with parliamentary constituencies across Malaysia to deliver community-focused solutions through education, research, and public engagement. In collaboration with local communities, schools, and parliamentary service centres, the programme extends learning beyond campus through workshops, training, and knowledge-sharing activities tailored to local needs. It promotes lifelong learning while strengthening community well-being nationwide through the application of academic expertise and student engagement.

Key outreach activities under the [UMCares@Ranau](#) programme include the [Tuninipot Literacy-Creative \(TUNINIPOT\) Module](#), which enhances literacy and creativity among Sabah indigenous children through storytelling, folklore, and creative writing rooted in local culture. The programme encourages experiential learning and helps strengthen both language skills and cultural appreciation.

[UMCares@Sepanggar](#) community engagement activities were conducted in collaboration with the parliamentary service centre, featuring programmes such as bead arrangement competitions, health screenings, child development assessments, and youth activities that promote learning and community participation across different age groups.

Meanwhile, [UMCares@Taiping](#), an initiative under Universiti Malaya's (UM) Pusat Jalinan Masyarakat (UMCares), designated Parlimen Taiping as its first Kampung Angkat (adopted village) in collaboration with the Majlis Perbandaran Taiping (MPT). The programme implemented nine targeted projects, including the Pembangunan Kaki Bukit Larut, One Million Trees Programme, and Financial Empowerment for Rural B40 Entrepreneurs, which provided financial literacy training for women entrepreneurs. It also featured early childhood learning activities introducing preschool children to language development and environmental awareness through creative exploration.



Service Learning Malaysia- University for Society (SULAM)

The Service Learning Malaysia–University for Society (SULAM) initiative at UM integrates academic learning with meaningful community service to enhance students’ educational experience while contributing to society. Through SULAM, students apply knowledge and skills gained in the classroom to address real-world community issues, encouraging civic responsibility, leadership, teamwork, and empathy. The programme also strengthens collaboration between the university and the community by promoting sustainable projects that create positive social impact and holistic student development.

One example is the “[Bengkel C.A.R.E.: Hak Saya, Suara Saya](#)” initiative, where students organised educational and welfare programmes for children living in People’s Housing Programme (PPR) communities. Through interactive learning activities and community support, the project aimed to create a safer and more supportive environment for underprivileged children while fostering empathy, teamwork, and social responsibility among university students.



Another notable initiative, “[Teaching Trip to Pure Life Society](#),” involved students conducting workshops on cyber safety, emotional intelligence, and personal development for children at welfare homes, allowing students to contribute to the community through education and awareness programmes.



In addition, the project “[A Wonderful Journey with Al-Quran](#)” (JiWA) reflected the holistic approach of SULAM by integrating moral and spiritual development into community engagement. In this programme, students worked closely with orphaned children from Pertubuhan Kebajikan Anak Yatim (PERKAYA) through Quranic learning sessions, motivational activities, and character-building programmes aimed at nurturing positive values and self-confidence.

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