SDG 4
QUALITY EDUCATION

4

SDG 4 Content Overview

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01 Public Resources (Lifelong Learning)

IIn 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) is committed to fostering a culture of lifelong learning by extending educational opportunities, knowledge resources and learning experiences beyond conventional academic boundaries. Recognising education as a continuous and inclusive journey, the University provides diverse pathways for individuals and communities to acquire new knowledge, develop skills and engage in meaningful learning throughout their lives. These opportunities encompass flexible learning programmes with recognised completion credentials, free access to educational sources and digital knowledge resources, access to campus facilities and experiential learning environments, as well as online platforms that facilitate the discovery, sharing and exchange of academic and research knowledge. By integrating physical and virtual learning spaces and making educational resources more openly accessible, UM encourages intellectual curiosity, independent learning and interdisciplinary engagement among learners of different ages, backgrounds and interests. Through these efforts, the University strengthens its role as an accessible knowledge institution, promoting educational inclusivity, community empowerment and the wider dissemination of knowledge for personal growth, professional advancement and societal development.

Examples include:

With completion certification or award:

- **Flex@UM** (Page 3)

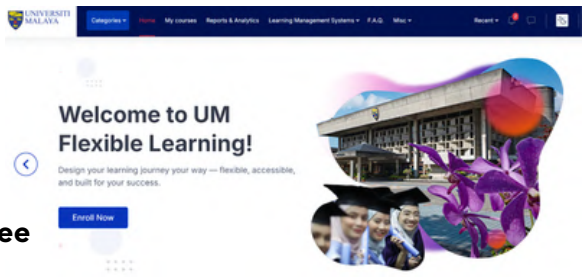
Free public access to campus facilities and equipment:

- **UM Immersive 120** (Page 4)
- **UM Museums** (Page 5)
- **UM GreenBelt** (Page 6)

Free public access to online resources:

- **UM KNOVA** (Page 7)
- **UM E-Journal** (Page 8)
- **UM Zoological Collection** (Page 9)

Flex@UM



Universiti Malaya (UM) strengthens public access to higher education through **Flex@UM and its Open CourseWare (OCW@UM) initiative, providing courses that are publicly offered and accessible free of charge to learners beyond the University community.** Coordinated by the Academic Strategic Planning Department (ASPD), the platform provides free access to educational resources, including lecture materials, learning modules, multimedia content and self-paced courses developed by UM academics.



Covering diverse disciplines and emerging knowledge areas, Flex@UM enables students, educators, working professionals and members of the general public to acquire new knowledge and develop relevant competencies, regardless of geographical location or educational background. No tuition or course fee is required to access these publicly available learning opportunities. Selected courses also provide digital certificates or completion awards upon fulfilling the stipulated learning and assessment requirements. Through these free and openly accessible educational resources and learning pathways, UM promotes lifelong learning, knowledge sharing and independent learning while extending the benefits of university education to the wider public and community.



Flex@UM Courses available in 2025 with certificate and completion badge highlights:



1. **Agriculture: Smart Food Urban Farming**

Promotes sustainable urban agriculture, food production and food security
Related to SDG 2 Zero Hunger



2. **Artificial Intelligence for Healthcare (AI4H)**

Explores AI applications to improve healthcare delivery and innovation.
Related to SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being

3. **Maqasid Al-Shariah and Sustainable Development**

Explores ethical principles and their application to responsible and sustainable development.
Related to SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production



4. **Strategic Leadership in Open Science**

Advances open research practices, knowledge sharing and research innovation.
Related to SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

UM Immersive 120: Connecting Heritage, Innovation and Lifelong Learning



Universiti Malaya (UM) Immersive 120 is an innovative experiential learning centre that brings together the University's rich heritage, academic excellence and societal contributions through interactive storytelling and digital technologies.



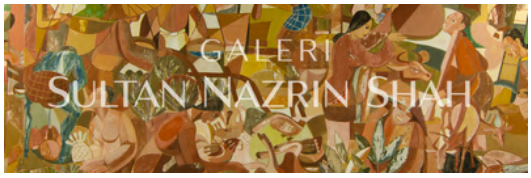
Established in conjunction with Universiti Malaya's 120th anniversary, **UM Immersive 120** was launched on 20 December 2025 as an educational and public engagement state-of-the-art experiential learning centre that offers visitors an engaging journey through the University's historical milestones, scientific discoveries, cultural heritage and sustainability innovations. Featuring immersive installations, multimedia displays and interactive exhibits, the centre transforms institutional knowledge into accessible educational experiences beyond conventional classrooms.



Admission is free and open to the public upon advance reservation, enabling members of the wider community to access UM's educational facilities and resources at no cost. Visitors may explore the exhibits independently or participate in guided tours, providing flexible and inclusive learning opportunities for diverse audiences. Through complimentary public access to its facilities and educational exhibits, UM Immersive 120 promotes lifelong learning, intergenerational knowledge exchange and cultural appreciation, while reinforcing the University's commitment to community enrichment and the democratisation of knowledge.



UM Museums: Preserving Heritage, Inspiring Discovery and Lifelong Learning



Throughout 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) continued to extend learning beyond conventional classrooms through its museums, providing opportunities for the public to explore cultural heritage, scientific knowledge and historical discoveries.

The Sultan Nazrin Shah Gallery (GSNS) at Universiti Malaya promotes artistic heritage, creativity and cultural appreciation through diverse art collections, exhibitions and educational programmes. Open to the public with free admission, the gallery offers guided tours upon advance reservation, fostering inclusive lifelong learning, artistic exploration and community engagement beyond classrooms.
Location: Chancellery UM



The Museum of Asian Art houses nearly 7,000 artefacts spanning 4,000 years of Asian civilisation, showcasing ceramics, textiles, indigenous crafts and artistic traditions.
Location: Faculty of Business & Economics

The Geology Museum introduces visitors to Earth's geological history through collections of rocks, minerals, fossils and geological specimens, fostering scientific curiosity and environmental awareness.
Location: Department of Geology, Faculty of Science



Meanwhile, the Malay Ethnographic Museum, established in 1973, preserves and documents Malay cultural heritage, traditional practices and ethnographic collections, enriching public understanding of local identity and history.
Location: Academy of Malay Studies



Collectively, these museums serve as accessible educational spaces that encourage experiential learning, interdisciplinary exploration and cultural appreciation across generations. **Admission is free and open to the public upon advance reservation** with the respective museum offices, reinforcing UM's commitment to inclusive knowledge sharing and lifelong learning opportunities beyond its academic community.

UM GreenBelt: An Open-Air Living Lab Classroom for Experiential Learning and Community Engagement

Universiti Malaya (UM) GreenBelt – Open Living Lab Classroom transforms the natural landscape surrounding Tasik Varsiti into an accessible outdoor learning environment, connecting education, biodiversity conservation, environmental stewardship and community engagement.

Designed as an open-air classroom, the GreenBelt provides opportunities for experiential learning, ecological observation, environmental awareness and interdisciplinary knowledge exchange beyond conventional teaching spaces.

Open to the public with free admission, visitors may explore the GreenBelt independently without prior reservation or **arrange organised educational visits through the UMPoint facilities booking platform,** subject to applicable arrangements.

Throughout 2025, this space supports formal and informal educational activities, guided learning experiences, sustainability workshops and international academic exchanges, including opportunities for participants to experience campus-based sustainability practices firsthand.

By integrating natural ecosystems with practical learning, UM GreenBelt encourages students, researchers, visiting institutions and surrounding communities to appreciate urban biodiversity, strengthen environmental literacy and engage in lifelong learning, reinforcing UM's commitment to inclusive, accessible and community-oriented educational spaces.





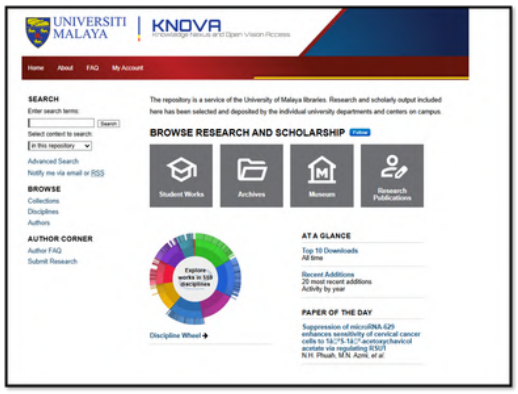




UM KNOVA: Advancing Open Knowledge and Digital Research Accessibility

Universiti Malaya (UM) advances open knowledge sharing and lifelong learning through **KNOVA (Knowledge Nexus and Open Vision Access)**, a centralised digital repository managed by the Universiti Malaya Library.





Launched in 2011, KNOVA has continued to serve as UM's integrated platform for widening access to the University's academic and research knowledge. In 2025, the platform continued to provide free public access to a wide range of academic and research resources, including full-text materials available online.

By consolidating the University's institutional repositories, KNOVA enables users to discover scholarly journals, theses, dissertations, research publications, past examination papers and other institutional scholarly outputs. Its online accessibility allows members of the public to explore and engage with UM's knowledge resources from anywhere, without the need to be physically present on campus, supporting wider knowledge dissemination, independent learning and continued engagement with scholarly resources.

Accessible to learners worldwide, the platform particularly benefits researchers, academics, students, industry professionals and independent learners seeking credible scholarly references, research findings and resources for self-directed learning and continuous professional development. Where materials are made openly available, users can discover, view and access the full text directly online, extending learning opportunities beyond conventional classrooms and institutional boundaries.

By facilitating **free and convenient access to publicly available full-text academic materials, KNOVA strengthens knowledge dissemination, supports interdisciplinary learning and research, and extends the University's intellectual contributions to wider society.** This digital knowledge ecosystem reflects UM's commitment to democratising access to educational resources, supporting evidence-based learning and cultivating an inclusive environment where knowledge is accessible to communities locally and globally.

UM e-Journal: Advocating Open Access to Scholarly Knowledge and Research

Universiti Malaya (UM) promotes equitable access to scholarly knowledge through its UM e-Journal platform, a comprehensive digital publishing portal providing **free public access to 72 peer-reviewed academic journals and research publications across diverse disciplines,** managed by the University's faculties, departments and research centres. UM's commitment to digital scholarly publishing dates back to 1996–1997 with an early prototype of the specialised EJUM internet-based journal management system .

Continuing to operate and serve the public in 2025, the platform enables researchers, academics, students, industry professionals and independent learners worldwide to freely discover, access and engage with scholarly articles and research findings online. By sustaining open access to credible academic resources, UM e-Journal strengthens knowledge dissemination, supports interdisciplinary research and lifelong learning, and extends the University's intellectual contributions beyond campus boundaries to benefit wider communities locally and globally.

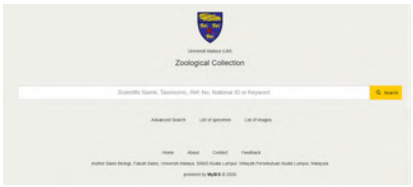
Serving as an accessible, open-access knowledge-sharing platform, UM e-Journal provides researchers, academics, students, industry professionals, policymakers, and lifelong learners with free public access to peer-reviewed scholarly articles, research findings, and emerging academic perspectives across diverse disciplines, including the sciences, humanities, social sciences, education, and professional studies, without subscription barriers.

By extending university-generated knowledge beyond conventional academic boundaries, the platform strengthens research dissemination and visibility, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and intellectual exchange, and supports evidence-based decision-making, professional development, and continuous learning. Through this initiative, Universiti Malaya (UM) advances the democratisation of knowledge by expanding equitable access to credible scholarly resources, empowering individuals and wider communities to engage with academic research, adopt evidence-based practices, develop professional competencies, and pursue lifelong learning opportunities.



UM e-Journal features 72 scholarly journals across diverse academic disciplines, providing an extensive platform for knowledge dissemination, research visibility, and free public access to scholarly publications.

UM Zoological Collection: Expanding Public Access to Biodiversity Knowledge and Scientific Exploration











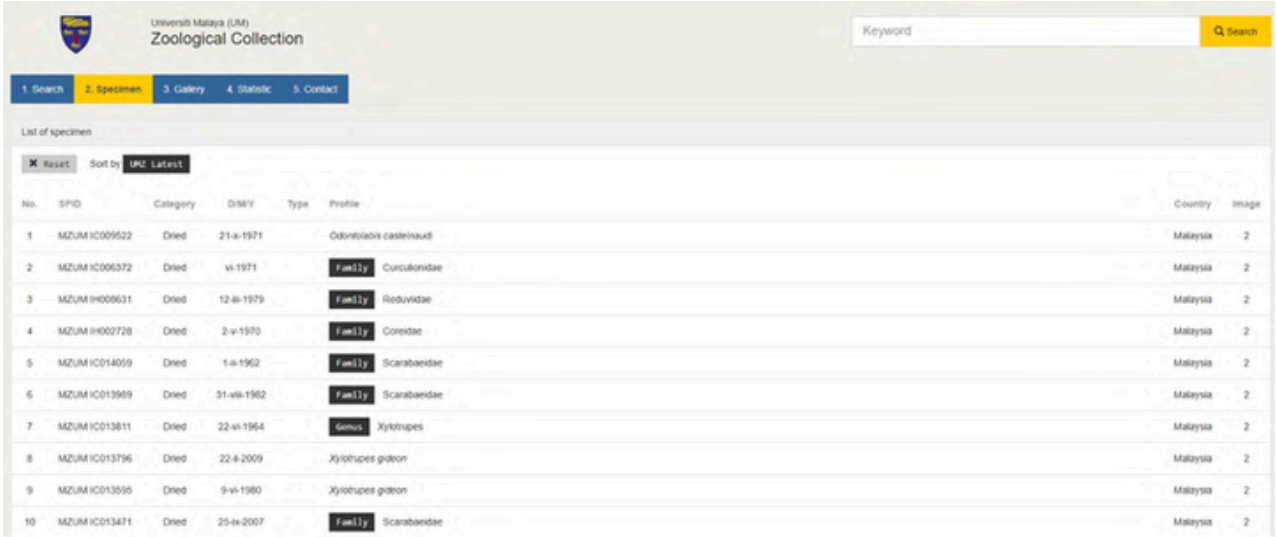


Universiti Malaya (UM), through the Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, provides **free public access to its Zoological Collection** through a dedicated digital platform powered by the Malaysia Biodiversity Information System (MyBIS), under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES).

This collaborative initiative makes UM's preserved zoological specimens and associated scientific records accessible to researchers, educators, students, conservation professionals, and the wider community.

The platform features searchable specimen listings, photographic records, advanced search capabilities, and taxonomic information, enabling users to explore UM's zoological holdings by scientific name, classification, reference number, national identification number, or keyword.

By digitising and sharing its institutional biodiversity collection, UM facilitates independent learning, species identification, scientific inquiry, and conservation awareness beyond conventional classroom settings. This open-access initiative strengthens biodiversity knowledge dissemination, supports research collaboration, and promotes lifelong learning while connecting Malaysia's natural heritage with a broader community of learners.



02 Public Events (Lifelong Learning)

In 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) provided lifelong learning opportunities to the general public through educational events, including public lectures, seminars, webinars and workshops. These events facilitated knowledge sharing, encouraged engagement with academic expertise and addressed a range of topics relevant to education and sustainable development. By offering learning opportunities through both online and in-person platforms, UM extended access to educational resources beyond the university community and supported continuous learning among diverse audiences.

Examples include:

Free events:

- **Ungku Aziz Thought and Public Policy Lecture Series** **(Page 11)**
- **FASS Seminar Series: Advancing Intellectual Exchange in Arts, Society, and Policy** **(Page 12)**
- **Breakfast@UMHealth: Continuous Medical Education for the Healthcare Community** **(Page 13)**
- **UM Open Science Workshop for Researchers 2025** **(Page 14)**
- **BioBanter@PPBGL Seminar Series 2025** **(Page 15)**
- **CEBAR Expert Seminar Series 2025** **(Page 16)**
- **IOES Scientific and IOES–NARC Seminar Series 2025** **(Page 17)**

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 Pembasmiannya: 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.





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







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:

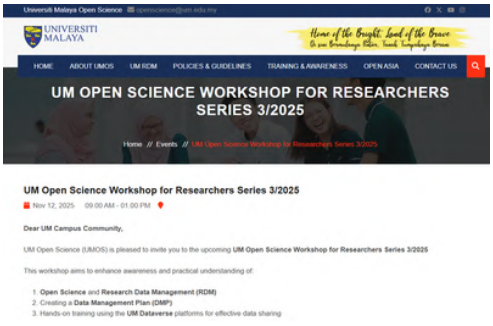
- Ep.1 – *The Global Burden of Disease: From Data to Policy*
- Ep.2 – *Dengue in Malaysia: Evolving Trends and Advances in Prevention*
- Ep.7 – *Colorectal Cancer Awareness Forum: A Unified Approach to Patient-Centred Care*
- Ep.14 – *Role of Gut Microbiota & Psychotherapy in Depression*
- Ep.17 – *Pathogen 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 free 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.



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.







03 Vocational Training Events (Lifelong Learning)

In 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) supported lifelong learning and professional development by offering both programmed and ad-hoc vocational training programmes, alongside executive education, specialised training courses and vocational education events. These initiatives provided accessible learning opportunities for professionals, practitioners and participants beyond the University's regular student community to develop practical skills, strengthen professional competencies and acquire knowledge relevant to evolving industry and societal needs. Through a combination of structured, scheduled programmes and responsive ad-hoc training tailored to specific professional, organisational and community needs, UM contributed to workforce development, skills enhancement and the broader advancement of vocational and professional education.

Examples include:

Programmed vocational training/executive education:

- **Centre of Business Excellence (CBE@UMFBEc): Executive and Professional Development Programmes** (Page 19)
- **AUN-DPPnet Accessibility & Universal Design Training Course (AUDT) 2025** (Page 20)
- **Soil Classification & Evaluation for Agriculture Course** (Page 21)

Ad-hoc/community vocational training:

- **Projek Dapur Sambal OKU: Empowering OKU Entrepreneurs** (Page 22)
- **Digital Empowerment for Women Entrepreneurs** (Page 23)
- **Empowering B40 Through Sustainable Pineapple Farming** (Page 24)
- **Community Urban Farming & Soil Health Training** (Page 25)
- **Protecting Aquaculture** (Page 25)
- **Advancing Urban Poverty Eradication through Program Pembasmian Kemiskinan Tegar (BMT) Implementation (2022–2025)** (Page 26)
- **Evolving TVET Symposium at AEI** (Page 27)

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

Category: Programmed vocational training/executive education



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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.

Throughout 2025, 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

Category: Programmed vocational training/executive education

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.







Soil Classification & Land Suitability Training

Category: Programmed vocational training/executive education

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.



Projek Dapur Sambal OKU: Empowering OKU Entrepreneurs

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

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 for free 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

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

UM Community Engagement Centre (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 free 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.



Empowering B40 Through Sustainable Pineapple Farming

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

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.

Community Urban Farming & Soil Health Training

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational 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.





Protecting Aquaculture

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

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.





Advancing Urban Poverty Eradication through Program Pembasmian Kemiskinan Tegar (BMT) Implementation (2022–2025)

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

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 freely providing 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.

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.

Evolving TVET Symposium at AEI

Category: Ad-hoc/community vocational training

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.



04 Education Outreach Activities Beyond Campus

In 2025, Universiti Malaya (UM) extended its educational contributions beyond campus through outreach activities in local schools and communities. These initiatives provided opportunities for school pupils and community members to engage in practical learning experiences, gain knowledge from university expertise and develop skills across various fields.

Examples include:

- **UMCares@222 Local Community Education Outreach Programmes** (Page 29)
- **Service Learning Malaysia-University for Society (SULAM) with Local Community** (Page 30-32)
- **Makerspace@UM STEM Outreach for Young Learners** (Page 33)
- **DIY MADE SIMPLE 2025** (Page 34)
- **Bakti Siswa Secholian** (Page 34)
- **PEARL Project** (Page 35)
- **MIRACLE Programme** (Page 35)

UMCares@222 Local 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) with Local Community

The Service Learning Malaysia–University for Society (SULAM) initiative at UM integrates academic learning with meaningful local 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 local 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.



For example, 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.



Another example was the SULAM project "Little Heroes, Big Skills", which supported children from Pertubuhan Rahoma Darul Fakir Malaysia, a welfare organisation providing care, education, and support to underprivileged children and families. Conducted by students from the Faculty of Education's Bachelor of Early Childhood Education programme, the project included self-defence sessions, basic financial management activities, and interactive poetry performances. These activities provided opportunities for the children to learn practical life skills while strengthening their self-confidence, creativity, communication abilities, and independence.



Another SULAM project brought together law and education students to promote healthy food consumption and reduce food waste among young children and their parents in Petaling Jaya. A one-day programme at Tadika Al-Husna featured educational talks, interactive songs and a mini booth carnival. Law students raised awareness of food waste and related legislation, while education students introduced balanced nutrition through the Malaysian Food Pyramid and Healthy Plate concepts. Pamphlets integrating legal and health information were also distributed to families. The project promoted awareness and long-term behavioural change while highlighting the potential role of legislation in addressing food waste in Malaysia.



The SULAM project “Furry Force: Raising Community Awareness of Animal Cruelty and Animal Welfare”, led by students from the Faculty of Law, Universiti Malaya, aimed to educate the community about animal rights, animal welfare and the Animal Welfare Act 2015. Conducted with two target groups, homeschool students aged 10–15 and Universiti Malaya students, the project used interactive and accessible approaches including talks, scenario-based games, interactive quizzes and educational materials. A talk by Dr Nur Afiqah Hashim, founder of UM Guardians, introduced participants to animal welfare issues, while the “See Something, Say Something” pamphlet provided information on legal definitions, reporting procedures, relevant statistics and animal welfare organisations. The project also extended its outreach through Instagram and collaboration with UM Guardians, enabling students to apply their legal knowledge in a community setting while encouraging empathy, civic responsibility and youth engagement in animal welfare advocacy.



Students from the Faculty of Built Environment and conducted a service-learning project at Sekolah Menengah Sains Bagan Datuk, Perak, to promote environmental awareness and sustainable practices among secondary school students. The workshop featured hands-on activities including seed bomb making and the creation of eco-friendly fire starters using recycled materials such as newspaper, wax and soil. These activities introduced students to practical ways of reusing materials while demonstrating how everyday waste can be transformed into useful products. The project combined environmental education with experiential learning, encouraging students to take greater responsibility for environmental conservation while strengthening the university students' teamwork and project planning skills.



The SULAM project "Pasar Pulse: The Heartbeat of Street Vendors" explored the challenges faced by street food vendors in Jalan Petaling and Jalan Alor, Kuala Lumpur, including licensing difficulties, financial instability and inadequate infrastructure. Students conducted a literature review, on-site visits and interviews with hawker associations to better understand the vendors' experiences and the challenges affecting their livelihoods. As part of the community engagement component, the students developed and distributed multilingual pamphlets in Malay and Chinese outlining vendors' legal rights and obligations, and produced a documentary-style video to raise public awareness. The project provided students with an opportunity to engage with an often-overlooked urban community while applying their knowledge to social advocacy and improving access to legal information.



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.



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.

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.

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.

