

UMP CONTRIBUTES ITS EXPERTISE IN A HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN ACEH

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In a move to 'Communitising Technology', Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) had strategically mobilised its talents to ensure that those who were experts in the technology area were deployed to the field so people at the grass root level would be able to enjoy the benefits.

As such, innovations and research works carried out by the university encompassed the human factor, universality factor and social factor. A simple but big impact innovation that could transform the life and socio-economy of the people would be far more meaningful.

UMP held a programme called 'Acheh Social Innovation Humanitarian Mission Project' on May 4, 2016 that provided water filters and solar lights for 230 residents and orphans at the Dayah Nurul Huda Charity Home in Banda Aceh.

The programme was organised by UMP Women Association (Matahari), together with the Technology Engineering Faculty Student Association (Protech) and the undergraduates from Kuala Syiah University (Unsyiah). The objective was to provide better basic necessities to the group.

There were 36 people involved in the

project and they helped to clean the water ponds, paint and spruce up the home and its surrounding as well as conducting awareness and academic programmes.

The project did not only serve as a mobility programme for the undergraduates but was also seen as an initiative that supported volunteerism agenda implemented by UMP, an initiative called 'Community University'. It is an internationally-recognised social service work.

The project was led by Chief of Deputy Registrar (Research & Innovation) and Matahari Advisor, Datin Fazia Ali. Also present was Matahari President, Professor Datin Dr. Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim.

Matahari also received good cooperation from the Teuku Umar University Women Association or Darmawanita UTU.

They also raised funds of RM300,000 to build and upgrade facilities in the hostel that would benefit the occupants whose numbers kept growing. The current facilities could only cater to 60 people.

The charity home also received contributions from Malaysia Islamic Economy Development Foundation (YaPEIM) that was

meant for the construction of a residential unit for the teachers.

This project gave the opportunity for the participants especially UMP undergraduates to share ideas with UTU undergraduates. It gave them the perspective of doing humanitarian work with an Acheh community.

The university would also continue to hold the programme in the future and would help to improve the water supply system especially for cooking as well as other facilities deemed fit for the home in order to cater to the increased number of occupants.

UMP would ensure that its research findings and technology-based innovations would be the platform for sustainable development to further enhance the socio-economy of the targeted group of people.

The same thing would be applied for its social innovation effort which was a community charity drive involving the transfer of technology. It was to be carried out through its Community University programme. This would help to make the university more closer to the people and for the people to be more open to the university.