



الجامعة الإسلامية العالمية ماليزيا
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Creating the Tomorrow

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

TAWHIDIC EPISTEMOLOGY
LEADING THE WAY

UMMATIC EXCELLENCE
LEADING THE WORLD

KHALIFAH • AMĀNAH • IQRA' • RAHMATAN LIL-ĀLĀMĪN

IIUM SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024



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Message from the Rector

Leading the Way, Leading the World



Sustainability for IIUM is not a trend it is our identity. From our founding, this University has carried the mission to integrate faith, knowledge, and action in service of humanity.

At the heart of our vision is Tawhidic Epistemology the belief that all knowledge is ultimately one, unified by the Oneness of Allah. This unity rejects fragmentation and compels us to see the world in its wholeness: human beings, society, and nature as interconnected trusts (amanah). In this way, Tawhidic Epistemology provides the very foundation for sustainability to seek balance (mizan), uphold justice ('adl), and ensure mercy (rahmah) for all creation.

From this epistemological foundation flows our commitment to an interdisciplinary approach. Just as knowledge cannot be divided, solutions to the challenges of climate, poverty, inequality, and peace cannot come from one discipline alone. IIUM brings together the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, guided by tawhid, to develop holistic responses for humanity's future.

Our work in sustainability also flows directly from IIUM's mission to cultivate intellectuals and professionals who embody iman, `ilm, and akhlaq; to nurture lifelong learners with social responsibility; and to foster intercultural understanding and civilisational dialogue. These missions ensure that sustainability is not only about survival but about nurturing a just, compassionate, and inclusive society.

This is why we speak of Ummatic Excellence education that prepares graduates to be more than skilled professionals. They are leaders with conscience, bridge-builders of peace, and innovators for sustainable change.

Through MADANI in action, we turn philosophy into practice. From Usrah in Action to Living Labs and global partnerships, we show how values can live in classrooms, in communities, and across nations.

IIUM's story is not just about being part of the world. It is about leading the way, leading the world offering a model where sustainability is both universal and authentically our own. We invite you to walk with us on this journey of knowledge, faith, and humanity towards a future that is just, balanced, and compassionate.

Prof. Emeritus Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar
Rector

International Islamic University Malaysia

Message from the Director Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity



In the name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

The years 2023–24 have marked an important phase in IIUM's sustainability journey. At this University, it is not by chance that Tawhidic Epistemology, Ummatic Excellence, MADANI, and sustainability come together. They are epistemologically connected, sharing the same purpose: to uphold balance (mizan), justice ('adl), and mercy (rahmah) in how knowledge is pursued and how society is served.

Over this period, IIUM has worked to make sustainability a lived reality across the institution. Our commitments are reflected in the data and indicators presented in this report, showing how sustainability is tracked and measured across campus life. The University has also continued to grow as a space where learning is transformative, linking disciplines and values, and preparing graduates to be agents of balanced progress.

Research has been increasingly directed toward responsibility and real-world problem-solving, with academics and students working together to address social, economic, and environmental challenges. Community engagement has remained central, allowing the University to stand alongside society in co-creating solutions. Meanwhile, the way IIUM organises itself through its operations, governance, and culture has been steadily aligned with the principles of care, accountability, and long-term sustainability.

What emerges in this report is not just a record of programmes and projects, but a portrait of a university-wide culture of sustainability. It is seen in classrooms, in research, in community partnerships, and in the very way the University is managed.

This report is therefore both a testimony and a roadmap: a testimony to what has been achieved in 2023–24, and a roadmap for how IIUM will continue to live its mission leading with vision, acting with integrity, and serving humanity with compassion.

Prof. Dr. Zainal Abidin Sanusi

Director

Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity (SC4SH)

International Islamic University Malaysia

ABOUT IIUM

- **Garden of Knowledge and Virtue**
- **IIUM Roadmap**
- **Communiversality**
- **IIUM Flagship Projects**

**AUTHORS : DR. NOOR SUZILAWATI BINTI RABE, DR. MUHAMMAD FARIS BIN ABDULLAH &
ABAZAZILAH BINTI MOHD ABBAS**

ABOUT IIUM

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

After almost 4 decades of existence, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) remains dear to her raison d'être and philosophy of education that are mirrored in its Vision and Missions. IIUM sees education as a mean to impart knowledge so that human beings can understand their positions on earth, their relationships with the Creator, their roles and functions, and the need to achieve harmony with their own being, their communities, and their environment.

In its reimagined futures, IIUM is determined to depart itself from the conventional model of university education that is confined mainly to material knowledge for material gains, and where the curriculum is fragmented thus losing its meaning and purpose in the universal context. Therefore, IIUM shall not merely be a seat of learning but an educational institution leading towards personality and character development of its staff and students at par with the Islamic way. IIUM will continue to champion the integration of knowledge, imbued with values and spiritual development under the aegis of the belief system of Islam.

The International Islamic University Malaysia is the manifestation of one of the major aspirations of Muslims scholars in Malaysia to have an Islamic university in Malaysia to lead the Muslim ummah in all branches of knowledge.



ABOUT IIUM

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

The early history of the International Islamic University Malaysia can be traced back to 1917 when Za'ba (Zainal Abidin bin Ahmad, 1895-1973) mooted the idea of the need to establish 'one or two Big Madrasahs which deserve to be called university'. These Big Madrasahs, according to Za'ba shall embody the concept of 'two in one knowledge', referring to the integration of religious and worldly knowledge. In 1983, the idea put forward by Za'ba came into fruition with the establishment of the International Islamic University Malaysia, where integration of revealed and human knowledge has become the central underpinning of education at the University. The establishment of the International Islamic University in Malaysia in 1983, like the Islamic Bank, was undoubtedly one of the outstanding achievements in the Muslim world today that we can all feel proud of. It was a fulfilment of a long-felt need of the Muslim Community in Malaysia and in the world for a model of Islamic university education that would serve as an alternative to the dominant secular institution of higher learning which has functioned, among other things, as an agent of Westernisation and secular modernisation in Muslim countries. This new Islamic university model was based on the classical Islamic philosophy of knowledge and education which was grounded in the worldview of the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him).

The establishment of the University, which was grounded on the basis of the principles and philosophy of knowledge and education, was also recommended by the First World Conference on Muslim Education held in Mecca in 1977. What follows is a brief survey of IIU's (the University was named IIU initially at the time of her establishment) philosophy, objectives and aspirations culled from official documents in order to indicate the seriousness and the gravity of the Islamic responsibility of the present and future employees of the University, in particular its policy makers and those who are entrusted with the administrative and academic leadership, as well as the students of university.



ABOUT IIUM

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

Our Philosophy

This unique philosophy of knowledge and education as expounded in the First World Conference on Islamic Education in Mecca in 1977 stresses, among other things, (a) the unity of knowledge in which the "revealed knowledge" becomes the most important component and centre of Islamic education. (b) the purpose of acquiring knowledge as a means of assisting the seeker to play the fundamental role as Allah's servant ('abd) and vicegerent (khalifah) on earth. (c) the all-embracing scope of Islamic education as the process of nurturing the cognitive, affective, spiritual and behavioural aspects of the human personality in the light of Islamic aqidāh (creed), shariah (law), akhlaq (ethics).

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

① أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ
Read! In the Name of your Lord, who has created.

② خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ
Created man from a clinging clot.

③ أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ
Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous.

④ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ
Who taught by the pen.

⑤ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ
Taught man what they knew not.

IIUM was developed on two basic principles; that man is the servant of Allah and that man is vicegerent (Khalifah) of Allah on earth. In the philosophy of Islamic education, knowledge is an integral part of education which serves to achieve the totality of human development, both physical and spiritual. This is consistent with Allah's creation of man, the unity of his being in body and soul (jasad and ruh). In consistency with the above philosophy, the purpose of education in Islam is therefore to impart knowledge so that man could understand his position on earth, his relationship with his Creator, his role and function, and the need to achieve harmony with his being, his community and his environment. The knowledge imparted will also enable man to perform his role and function effectively. To serve its purpose as described, the scope of knowledge must be total, complete and inclusive. It should cover intellectual, spiritual and moral dimensions. It has to be integrated and unified because of the basic concept of creation the unity of being. The academic concept of the University should be characterised through inclusive and total, universal and wholistic as well as integrated and unified.

ABOUT IIUM

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

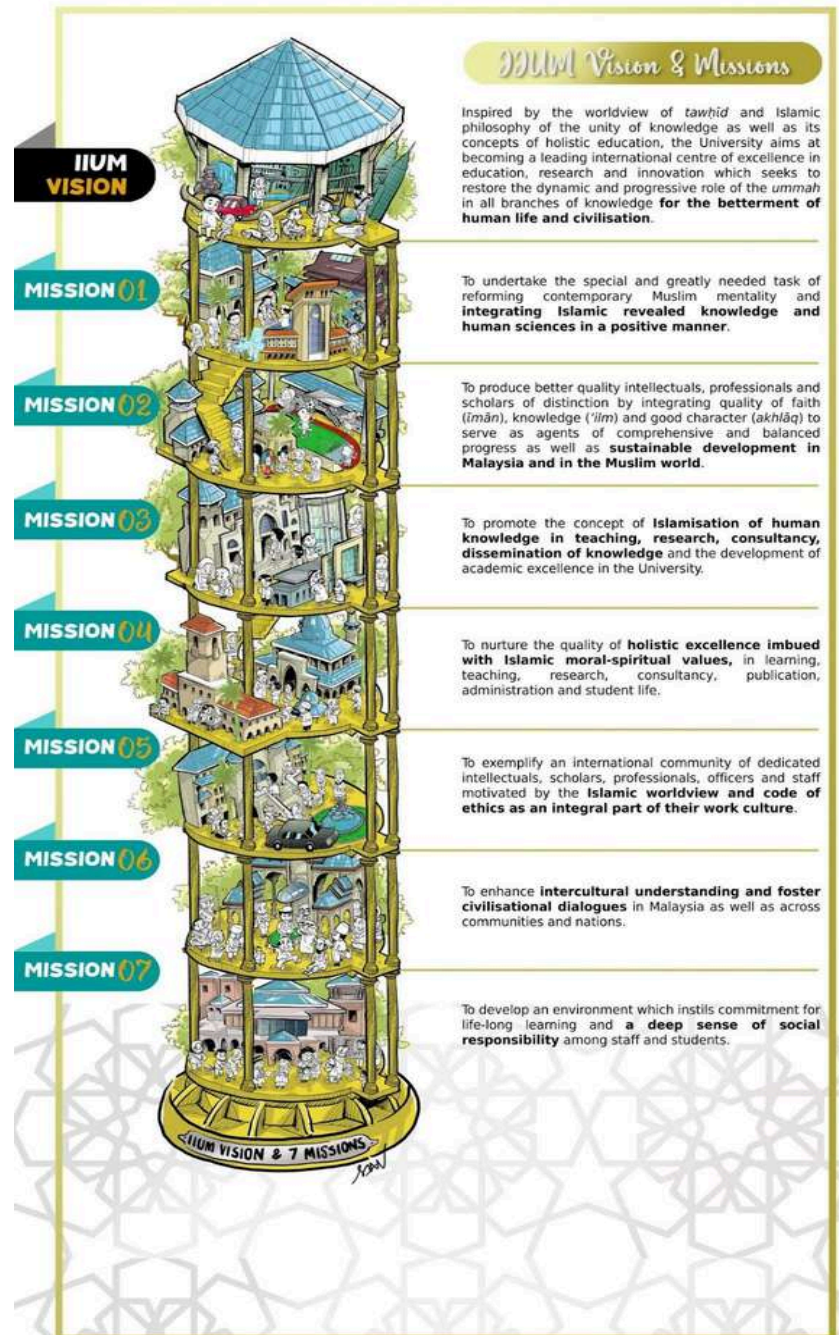
IIUM Mission and Vision

The original vision and mission statements of 1995 are quite long-winded, highly idealistic and too abstract for all staff and students to understand and internalise.

Therefore, both vision and mission statements were summarised and simplified to be more realistic.

The vision statement was summarised as:

IIUM aims at becoming a leading international centre of educational excellence which seeks to restore the dynamic and progressive role of the Muslim Ummah in all branches of knowledge for the benefit of mankind.



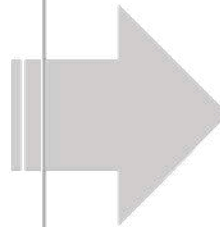
IIUM Educational Goals

1 Nurture graduates who are balanced and harmonious (*Insan Sejahtera*) as stipulated in the Falsafah Pendidikan Kebangsaan, crafted on values-based holistic and integrated education for sustainable development (Education 2030).

2 Provide conducive shared learning (culture of *Iqra'*) ecosystem geared towards the convergence of knowledge founded on the worldview of Tawhid (affirmation of the absolute Oneness of Allah swt in realising comprehensive excellence).

3 Engage in research and innovation relevant to *Maqasid Al Shariah* and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at mercy for all the worlds (*Rahmatan lil- Alamin*).

4 The main outcome of the Educational Goals is to nurture *Insan Sejahtera* (a balanced and harmonious person), equipped with useful knowledge and specialized skills, and committed to Islamic values and practices imbued with integrity, *Amanah*, *Iman*, *Akhlaq* and *Taqwa* towards the realisation of virtuous civilisation.



Graduates who are *Insan Sejahtera*, equipped with useful knowledge and specialised skills, and committed to Islamic values and practices manifesting the KHAIR attributes.

IIUM Major Contributions To Ummah

1 Islamic banking and finance

- Developed framework for Malaysia and other countries.
- Pool of experts.
- Trainings.

2 Shariah law

- Elevated the image of shariah law administration in Malaysia.
- The first university to offer double law degree – civil and shariah laws.

3 Nation rebuilding

- Assisted in rebuilding of countries affected by wars.
- Bosnia, Afghanistan


4 Muslim minorities


- Provided access to international higher education for Muslim minorities.
- Southern Thailand, Sri Lanka.


5 Integration of Islamic revealed knowledge and human sciences


- As a process in teaching and learning.


IIUM Successful Transformations In The Last 5 Years

- 1 Breaking the silo
 - IIUM Flagships.
 - Transdisciplinarity.

MISSION 1 & 3
- 2 Going beyond KPI
 - Intangibles matter.
 - KIP in APAR and promotion.

MISSION 4
- 3 Empowering staff and students
 - Administrators do research, publication, teaching.
 - Student Union.
 - Study leave, joint-appointment.

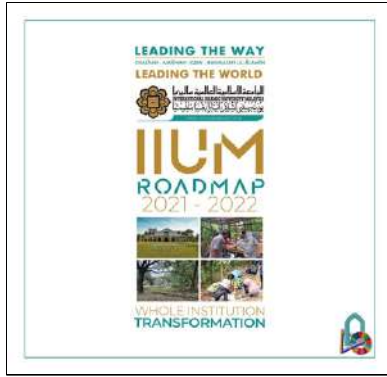
MISSION 2 & 4
- 4 Mainstreaming university for society
 - Community engagement projects.
 - Industry-sponsored research.
 - Islamisation in action.

MISSION 1, 2 & 7
- 5 Leading the way
 - Global relevance.
 - International collaboration

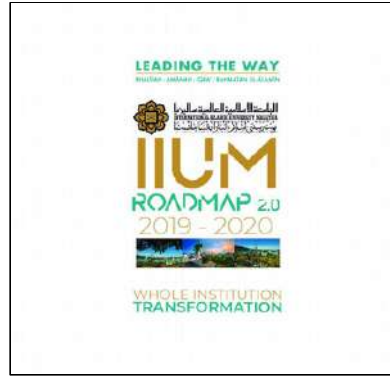
MISSION 5 & 6

IIUM Roadmap

Since 2019, our immediate strategies have been charted through IIUM Roadmap. It is a concise strategic planning document that outlines our immediate direction as well as the strategic initiatives to be undertaken for a 2-year planned period. The short time span of the Roadmap is deliberate in order to add urgency in the implementation of the Roadmap and our strategic initiatives.



2019 - 2020



2021 - 2022



2023 - 2024

The main objective of the IIUM's strategic planning is to realise our Vision, Mission and Educational Goal through an orderly process of visualising our desired future and determining the appropriate action needed to achieve that future. The three main strategic documents of the University are the IIUM Roadmap, the Sejahtera Academic Framework and the IIUM 2040.

After 4 decades of her existence, IIUM remains dear to her raison d'être and her philosophy of education that are mirrored in her Vision and Mission. In consistency with the purpose of education in Islam, IIUM sees education as a means to impart knowledge so that human beings can understand their positions on earth, their relationships with the Creator, their roles and functions, and the need to achieve harmony with their own being, their community, and their environment.

Therefore, IIUM is not and shall not merely be a seat of learning but an educational institution leading towards personality and character development of her staff and students at par with the Islamic way.

The University must depart herself from the conventional model of western-type university education that is confined mainly to material knowledge for material gains, and where the curriculum is fragmented thus losing its meaning and purpose in the universal context.

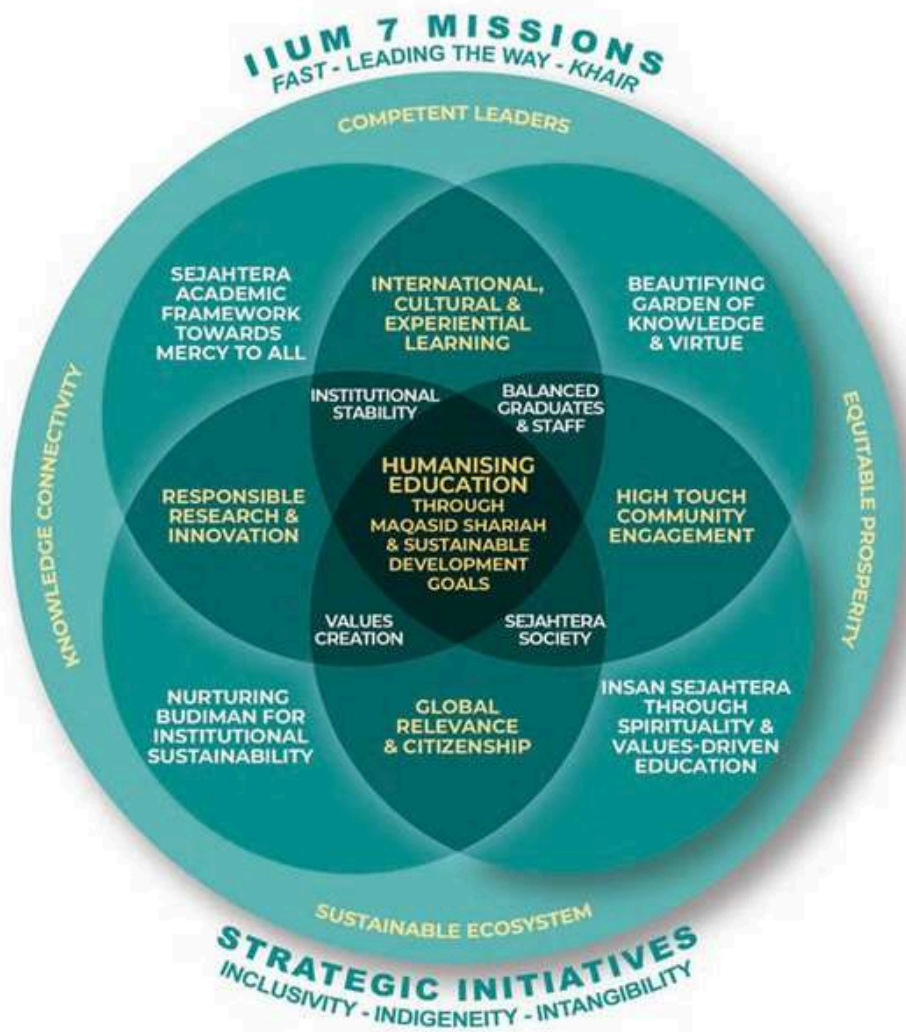
Hence, IIUM will continue to champion the integration of knowledge, imbued with values and spiritual development under the aegis of the belief system of Islam.

IIUM Roadmap

Education in IIUM must be a humanised one to serve as the vehicle to produce morally and spiritually strong, mentally rational, physically fit, and professionally equipped individuals to develop the Muslim ummah and the global community, in line with the IIUM mission which seek to promote holistic excellence and life-long learning grounded on the principle of integration between Islamic revealed knowledge and human sciences, emphasising on sustainable development and social responsibility, and remaining relevant globally through inter-cultural understanding towards Rahmatan lil 'Alamin.

This IIUM Roadmap 2023-2024 was formulated based on the building blocks which include the University's Mission, the Maqasid Shari'ah, Sustainable Development Goals, Falsafah Pendidikan Kebangsaan and the UNESCO's Futures of Education.

It introduces 30 Strategic Initiatives to be supported and implemented by KCDIOM. The IIUM Roadmap 2023-2024 will also be supported by 38 IIUM Flagships 3.0.

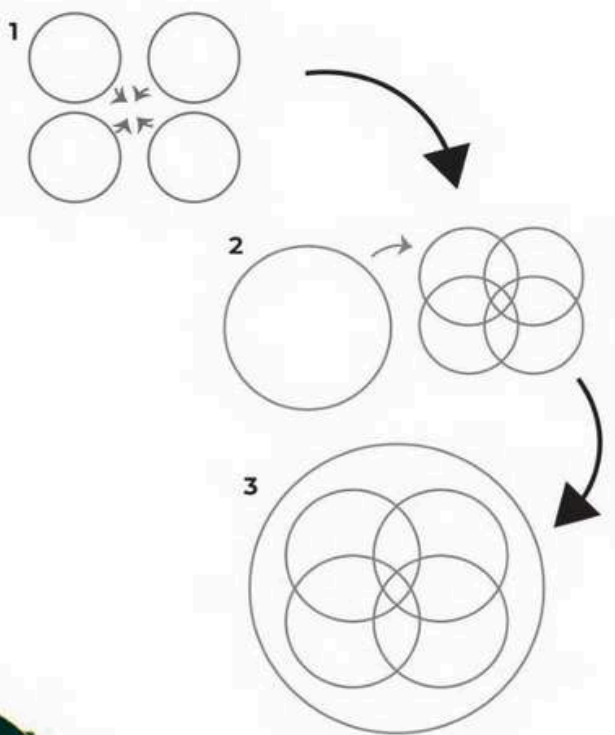


The Roadmap is seen as the starting block for the University to move towards her preferred IIUM 2040 futures, along the way espousing and realising the principles of the Sejahtera Academic Framework. It is designed to bring about change through the Whole Institution Transformation.

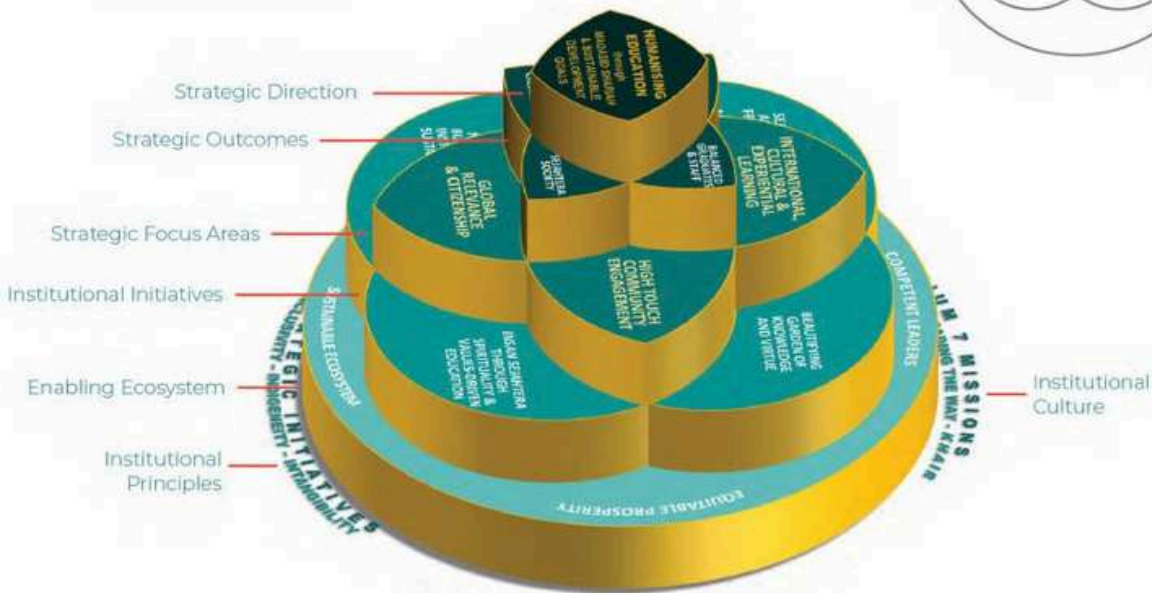
IIUM Roadmap

The IIUM Roadmap 2023-2024 strategy framework is made up of overlapping circles resulting in several domains. As the circle overlap, the shade of the domains colour becomes darker. The darkest shade domain shows where the circles overlap the most (i.e. humanising education).

Overlapping circles represent the need to work together and eliminate silos, and that everyone is involved in the Whole Institution Transformation.



- In 3D form, the framework can be interpreted as having several layers.



IIUM Roadmap

Strategic Initiatives

IIUM Roadmap carries the strategic direction of '*Humanising Education through Maqasid Shari'ah and Sustainable Development Goals*'.

Humanising education refers to the need to ensure education is values-based in an effort to nurture the balanced person, or otherwise also known as *Insan Sejahtera*. In other words, humanising education is about education with soul, loaded with values and wisdoms. It is about nurturing a person (*hamba Allah*) first, a professional second.

In the context of IIUM Roadmap, the process of humanising education in IIUM must be bounded by the principles of Maqasid Shari'ah. Meanwhile, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as the project-based platform on which education can be linked to the experiential and practical learning ecosystem, as well as to learning outcomes that are relevant and impactful to the communities, locally and globally. All these are concisely put in the *Sejahtera Academic Framework*, which facilitates Whole Institution Transformation (WIT).



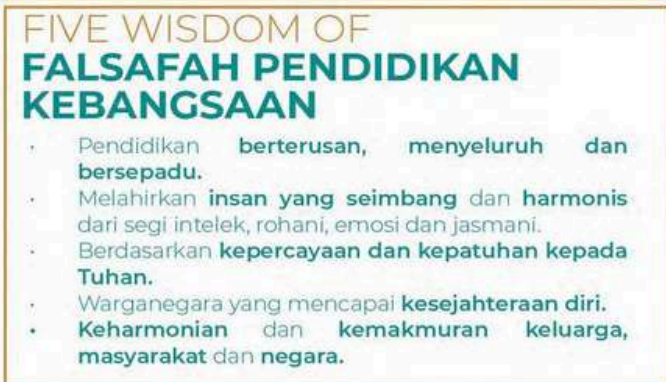
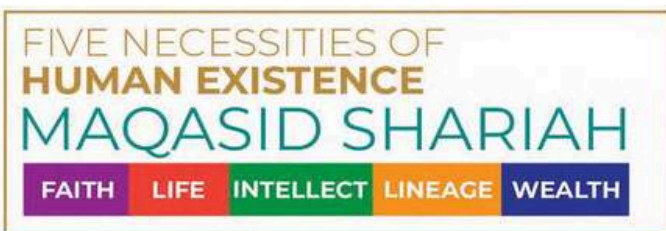
Humanising education at IIUM requires a holistic transformation through Whole Institution Transformation consisting of:

- Integrated and comprehensive efforts from all.
- Student education is a shared responsibility of every member of the University community.
- Education is values-based and involves whole student experience, which in turn becomes transformative.
- Moving away from 4M (Manpower, Mind, Machine, Money) to focus on 4H (Heart, Humanity, High Touch, Humanising).

IIUM Roadmap

Education without values has no value in education

In the case of humanising education, IIUM is convinced of the importance of values in education, where Islamic values must be imbued in all aspects of the University, including its administration, academic activities, and student life. Values will help to define the ethics of IIUM community. Hence, IIUM implores that her community must not only possess the highest level of values, ethics and dedication, but also to mirror these in their daily lives and work culture.



Values in education must be taught, shared, and instilled in every IIUM student. They must understand that once they enrol into the University, they will experience education that puts values and intellectual competencies on equal importance, since humanising education, as aforementioned, is one with soul, loaded with values and wisdoms.

IIUM also believes that for values to be appreciated, students must experience them first-hand. Hence, experiential learning is key in the University's effort to inculcate values. Learning should not be limited to the classroom, but also through real-life experience and through learning by doing.

Learning should be linked to issues on the ground and within the society so that education and expertise at IIUM remain relevant. IIUM community must endeavour themselves to contributing towards resolving societal problems through sustainable development. Through this approach, not only the students and staff will have the opportunity to learn and hone real-life skills, but the community will also be benefited directly from the presence of a university in the vicinity.

IIUM Roadmap

Towards Rahmatan lil 'Alamin

IIUM is not contented being a player only within the Islamic world. The University has set her sight higher, looking to remain relevant at the global stage and to become the beacon of centres for excellence. This means IIUM will have to be able to sift through the many scenarios and ideologies and offer them viable alternatives via the Islamic perspective. Islamisation agenda will be strengthened and pragmatic solutions will be offered to the entire world, not just Islamic nations, in tandem with Rahmatan lil 'Alamin.

Leading the World does not only connote the need to be relevant and the champion at global stage, but also the need for IIUM to be courageous to not follow the mainstream if it does not suit or support the Vision and Mission of the University, or if it does not fall in line with the *raison-d'etre* of the University. However, in the spirit of Leading the World, IIUM and her community must offer better alternatives in cases where mainstream agendas are not to be followed, and that these alternatives must be supported by sound intellectual justifications.

IIUM leads the world by propagating the creation of SDG 18: Spirituality which focuses on the aspect of spirituality in sustainability. IIUM has established a University-level special task force to develop SDG 18: Spirituality and to motion it to the United Nations.



Communiversality

The contemporary era is marked by the rapid advance of digitalization and technological change, which have profoundly reshaped human society. Innovations such as artificial intelligence, big data, and the Internet of Things have facilitated global communication, streamlined commerce and healthcare, and redefined education. These developments have brought undeniable benefits by creating efficiency, expanding opportunities for collaboration, and breaking down barriers of time and space. Yet the same technological progress has also produced significant challenges. It has widened inequalities between those with access and those without, fostered social isolation by reducing face-to-face interaction, and encouraged the commodification of knowledge.

In higher education, these pressures have shifted institutions away from their traditional role of nurturing wisdom and values toward a model that is increasingly focused on market demands, performance indicators, and global rankings. Universities are producing graduates primarily as a workforce for machines and markets, often at the expense of cultivating humane, ethical, and socially responsible individuals. This trajectory has been characterized as the WEIRD model—Westernized, Economic-centric, Industry-led, Reputation-obsessed, and Dehumanizing—revealing a system that risks reducing learning to little more than technical training.



Figure 1. Effects of Digital Transformation.

Source: macrovector (n.d.).

Communiversality

A different orientation for education is therefore essential if it is to serve both humanity and the planet in meaningful ways. Global frameworks such as the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UNESCO's Education 2030 Agenda emphasize that education must extend beyond the provision of skills for the labor market. At its heart, education should be an instrument of equity, fairness, and inclusion, ensuring that no one is left behind regardless of background or circumstance. Such an approach reframes education as a transformative process rather than a transactional one. A constructive alternative is offered in what is called the WISER framework: Worldwide, Inclusive, Sustainable, Equitable, and Rahmatan lil 'alamin, which can be translated as mercy to all. This model calls for a shift in emphasis from the limited orientation of the 4Ms—Manpower, Mind, Machine, and Market—to a more holistic vision embodied in the 4Hs: Humanity, Heart, High-touch, and Humility. In this reorientation, the purpose of education expands beyond efficiency and technical competence to embrace compassion, empathy, humility, and justice. Instead of viewing students as future workers alone, education is envisioned as a process that nurtures whole individuals capable of responsibility toward both society and the environment.



Figure 2. WEIRD and WISER.

Source: Office of the Rector, IIUM (4 June 2023)

Communiversality

The idea of Communiversality emerges as a framework capable of realizing this transformation. Rather than functioning as detached ivory towers, institutions of higher learning are called to become active partners with their surrounding communities. A Communiversality is conceived as a living collaboratory where knowledge is not only transmitted from the university outward but co-created with local communities in ways that directly address pressing challenges. Such a model recognizes that academic knowledge and indigenous or community-based wisdom are equally valuable, each contributing insights that lead to more sustainable and socially relevant solutions.

The Communiversality approach transforms higher education into a shared endeavor where learning extends beyond classrooms into real-world contexts, where students engage with community issues, and where universities help to foster cultural respect, civic responsibility, and innovation rooted in the lived realities of society. By positioning higher education as a collaborative force for the common good, the Communiversality represents an essential step toward embedding the principles of sustainability and equity into education. A practical illustration of the Communiversality in action can be found at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).

Since 2018, the institution has undergone a Whole Institution Transformation, followed by a Whole Community Transformation, that integrates sustainability across teaching, research, governance, and community engagement. Rather than pursuing recognition through global rankings, IIUM has drawn upon the indigenous concept of Sejahtera, which embodies holistic well-being in spiritual, intellectual, ecological, emotional, and societal dimensions. This guiding philosophy has allowed the university to realign its mission around values of balance and humanity.

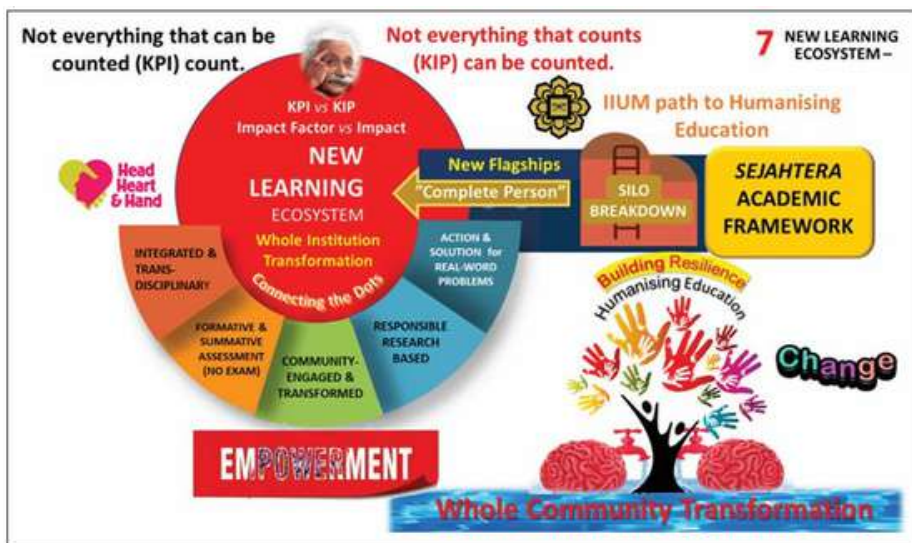


Figure 3. Humanising Education through Whole Community Transformation.

Source: Office of the Rector, IIUM (10 August 2024).

Communiversality

A series of flagship initiatives were launched to embed the SDGs into curriculum and research, and the institution has gone further by proposing an additional eighteenth SDG: Spirituality, Values, and Culture. Thousands of students have been actively engaged in community-based projects that promote sustainability and well-being, demonstrating the practical integration of values-based learning. These initiatives have earned international recognition, including the prestigious Green Gown Award for Sustainability Institution of the Year, positioning IIUM as a global example of how higher education can lead through human-centered transformation.



Figure 4. Communiversality in Action.

Source: Office of the Rector, IIUM (10 August 2024)

Communiversality

The achievements at IIUM highlight the broader implications of adopting the Communiversality model. The current trajectory of digital and technological progress, if allowed to dominate unchecked, risks eroding the social and ethical dimensions of education. Market-oriented models, focused narrowly on economic productivity, undermine the values of justice, equity, and compassion that education should cultivate. The pressing challenge of the twenty-first century is therefore to harmonize technological innovation with human dignity, cultural wisdom, and sustainable practices. The Communiversality offers a path toward achieving this balance, enabling universities to overcome elitism and detachment by re-engaging directly with their communities. By fostering transdisciplinary collaboration, valuing multiple forms of knowledge, and addressing both local and global problems, the Communiversality establishes education as a moral and societal force.

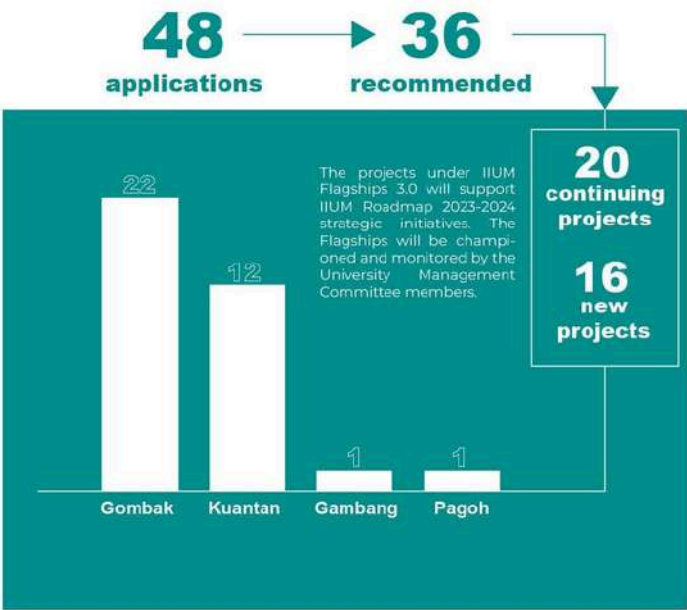
Institutions that embrace this model are encouraged to innovate continuously, to reassess their strategies, and to adopt sustainability as a guiding principle across all dimensions of academic and community life. The aim is to cultivate graduates who are not only competent in their professional fields but who also embody empathy, humility, and responsibility toward society and the environment. Such individuals are needed to realize the goals of global sustainability and to contribute to a just and balanced world. The transformation of education into Communiversality underscores that higher learning cannot remain confined to technical or economic functions; it must also be human-centered, community-oriented, and globally responsible. Through such an orientation, education can reclaim its rightful role as a foundation for justice, compassion, and sustainable well-being for future generations.



IIUM Flagship Projects

Besides the strategic initiatives, the IIUM Roadmap is also being operationalised through the IIUM Flagships. These are high-impact initiatives or projects, run and managed by IIUM staff and students whose memberships transcend Kulliyyahs and Offices boundaries. Introduced under the IIUM Roadmap 2019-2020, IIUM Flagships have gone from strength to strength.

The IIUM Flagships has been a successful programme since its introduction in 2019 under the umbrella of the IIUM Roadmap 2019-2020. Under the roadmap, a total of 29 IIUM Flagships were established. These projects were led and participated by IIUM staff and students from various Kulliyyah/ Centre/ Division/ Institute/ Office/ Mahallah (KCDIOM). Many of these projects have proved to be successful and have gone on to achieve greater heights. Some of the projects were World's First and some have set the examples for others to follow. Many of the IIUM Flagships also became the backbone in IIUM getting recognised as the **RCE Greater Gombak**.



Ultimately, the aim of IIUM Flagship to promote everyone to work with one another and break the silo-ed working environment has been achieved. Under the IIUM Roadmap 2021-2022, the number of IIUM Flagship projects grew to 46 from only 29 under the previous IIUM Roadmap. Recognising the impacts of IIUM Flagships in contributing to the University agendas, the IIUM Flagship projects continue as among the main initiatives to support the implementation of the Roadmap 2023-2024. A total of 48 project applications has been received and 36 projects are recommended. Based on previous IIUM Flagship performance, the University foresee the enabling activities such as the IIUM Flagships become one of the focal platforms to blend the community engagement activities with experiential learning. Thus, the IIUM Flagships has been approved by the University to become one of the strategic initiatives aimed to support the University to develop Balanced Graduates and Balanced Staff, Values Creation, Sejahtera Society and Institutional Stability, as described in the IIUM Roadmap 2023-2024.

IIUM Flagship 3.0 (2023-2024) Achievement



IIUM Flagship Projects

Achievement (2019 - 2021)



NOOR ENDOWMENT IN ISLAMIC BANKING AND FINANCE

With the setting up of the endowment fund amounting to **AED2.5 million** (MYR2.8 million), 50% of the return from the endowment will be allocated to the "Noor-IIIBF Ummatic Scholarship in Islamic Banking and Finance", to pay for the tuition fees of students enrolled in the postgraduate programmes offered by IIIBF.



07 students
15 staff
30 orphans & poor children



Pertubuhan Kebajikan & Pendidikan Raudhatul Nurr Jannah

Seri Gombak, Selangor



WORLD RIVER DAY 2019

This event was organised by Selayang Municipal Council, and assisted by IIUM ROL. It was launched by the Menteri Besar of Selangor. Also present were Rector of IIUM and officers from various government agencies. Fun games such as river rangers, creative use of recycled wastes and archery were conducted.



ROL RECEIVED AWARD

IIUM ROL has received an award **Anugerah Khas Aktiviti Kebersihan, Kesihatan dan Kelestarian (3K) Tahun 2019** from Selayang Municipal Council for its roles in promoting and conducting river conservation programme.



KOMUNITI DISAYANGI IBADAH CAMP

150 LGBTQ individuals from all over Malaysia, including several from neighbouring countries, attended the ibadah camp. Activities conducted include motivational talks, health checks, fun team building games and spiritual enhancement sessions.



Purple (2012)



Nasir (2018)



Mona (2012)



Mona (2015)



Kak Jun (2011)



Mohd Bakri (2019)





Green Gown Awards International 2022

THE 6 FINALISTS FROM IIUM

1. CATSS@IIUM (Community Action to Save Strays at the International Islamic University Malaysia) for Benefitting Society category.

2. Go Green for Climate Change for 2030 Climate Action category.

3. Transforming Society: From Zero to Self-Sustain for Benefitting Society category.

4. 'MyPLACE' (My Post-Addiction Living Awesomeness and Capacity Enhancement) @ KOMITED for Benefitting Society category.

5. Communiversity for Community Empowerment for Benefitting Society category.

CATSS@IIUM was awarded the Highly Commended award under the Benefitting Society category.



WHAT THE JUDGES THOUGHT

The judges loved this project which they felt was unique, compassionate, and sought to significantly change people's attitudes to local animals. It helps grow and nurture our respect and understanding of nature.

WHAT IT MEANS TO WIN

The International Green Gown Awards is fast becoming the "Oscar Award" of Sustainability that everyone wants a piece of. To win it reaffirms our utmost commitment towards an equitable world for the everlasting survival of all - human and non-human - species.

Dzulrifli Abdul Razak, Rector

SEJAHTERA FAMILY

- ◆ Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dato' Dr. Hamizah Ismail of Kulliyyah of Medicine
- ◆ History: Started as IIUM Flagship Baby-Friendly Hospital in 2019 before rebranded into IIUM Flagship Sejahtera Family in 2021
- ◆ Objective: To encourage maternity facilities to practice the 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding'.
- ◆ Target: At least 70% of SASMEC@IIUM staff have breastfeeding knowledge through attending 20-hour breastfeeding workshop.
- ◆ Achievement: Establishment of Halimatussaadia Mother's Milk Centre



IIUM FROZEN ZOO

The IIUM Flagship IIUM Frozen Zoo, which spawned from the IIUM Molecular and Cellular Biology Cluster (iMoleC), has been acknowledged by the Malaysian government through the provision of two important grants, amounting to RM 1.5 million.

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>LATEST PROJECT</u>
Budget 2022, MOF	RM 1 million	To establish Frozen Zoo at IIUM and establish gallery of Endangered Animal in Malaysia	Upgrading and refurbishment of venues for Frozen Zoo and Gallery, and installing lab equipment at Jalan Hospital
Public Asset Management Division,	RM 500,000	To establish Frozen Zoo and producing embryo from Sumatran rhino and Malaysian tiger	Ongoing work on producing embryo from Sumatran rhino and Malaysian tiger, and establishing cloning method. Established PLANETIIUM





Green Gown Awards International 2023

8 projects from IIUM are shortlisted as the Finalists for the International Green Gown Awards 2023:

- **Communiversity** – Actioning for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Community (C-ADEIC) for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- **Snoezelen Therapy** at School for Special Needs Children for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- **Tirkah Rimba**: Reviving Remnants of the Jakun Tribe
- **YSM Agropreneurs** – Empowerment of Youth and Single Mothers through Sustainable Agriculture
- **Sustainable Wellness** in Tembeling
- **Trash to Treasure** – A Journey Towards Becoming a Zero-Waste Community
- **First Frozen Zoo** in Malaysia – Rescuing Endangered Wildlife Species
- **Pendekar Siber** (Cyber Warrior): Empowering Youth to Combat Cyber Threats

Five of the finalists are IIUM Flagships.





Green Gown Awards
International

2023

Congratulations IIUM

*Highly Commended in
Benefitting Society Category*

**YSM Agropreneurs – Empowerment
of Youth and Single Mothers Through Sustainable
Agriculture**

Organised by:



The Asia-Pacific
Centre for Environment



in association with
Allianz
Global Investors



OFFICIAL IIUM

INTERNATIONAL GREEN GOWN AWARDS 2023

IIUM Flagship 'YSM Agropreneurs' project, also received the Highly Commended recognition under the Benefitting Society category. The project addresses the socio-economic gap between community members by providing opportunities for youth from B40 families and single mothers to empower themselves through sustainable agricultural activities. The project provides training to participants to develop skills in growing organic vegetables and herbs, which are then sold to generate income.

mKitchen



mKitchen, or Masjid Kitchen, is a joint venture between IIUM and mosques to strengthen the economic well-being of B40 participants through food entrepreneurship.

mKitchen also runs soup kitchen and training and consultation to foodpreneurs.

Masjid Al-Syakirin Gombak was the first mosque that collaborated with mKitchen to open up a Rumah Makan mKitchen.

mKitchen also work with IIUM students in training them to become foodpreneurs.

mKitchen prepared the dining event for Her Majesty the Constitutional Head during the launching of the Vila Arah MAKNA on 20th March 2023.

The Ministry of Health Malaysia encourages the study of the history and manuscript sources of Malay medicine and the development of their contents into therapeutic interventions.

The IIUM Flagship Health Information and Knowledge from Malay Medical Manuscripts (HIKAM) was established in 2019.

HIKAM's activities include:

- promote the value of Malay heritage treasures recorded in the old Malay manuscripts, particularly on the medical information
- education and training on the transliteration of the manuscript
- exhibition in various events
- establishment of MyGAHARU project and MyULAM garden at KAHS
- integration of the Malay Medical Manuscript (MMM) elements in the academic courses
- participation in the laboratory-based research and international conference.

HIKAM project leader, Assoc Prof Dr Mohd. Affendi Mohd Shafri was awarded the Anugerah Tokoh Harapan Akademik Bahasa Melayu by the Ministry of Higher Education.

SASTERA PERSPEKTIF

Kitab tib, himpunan ilmu perubatan Melayu

Kajian terhadap manuskrip Melayu lama beri sudut pandang berbeza dengan pendapat orientalis

Olleh Nan Norzila Nashed
nanz@iium.edu.my

Kuala Lumpur: Ilmu perubatan Melayu merupakan salah satu warisan budaya yang kaya dan bersejarah. Namun, kajian terhadap manuskrip Melayu lama sering kali dilihat melalui sudut pandang orientalis yang cenderung mengabaikan konteks budaya dan sosial masyarakat Melayu. Buku 'Kitab tib, himpunan ilmu perubatan Melayu' yang diterbitkan oleh Institut Islam Universiti Malaysia (IIUM) menawarkan pandangan yang berbeza dan mendalam mengenai warisan perubatan Melayu ini.

Buku ini, yang diedit oleh Prof. Dr. Mohd. Affendi Mohd Shafri, mengandungi 10 bab yang membahas tentang sejarah, teori, dan praktik perubatan Melayu. Ia juga mengandungi banyak gambar dan ilustrasi yang menunjukkan perkembangan perubatan Melayu dari masa ke masa.

Salah satu kelebihan buku ini adalah ia ditulis dalam bahasa Melayu yang mudah difahami, menjadikannya sebagai sumber yang berguna untuk pelajar dan peminat perubatan Melayu. Buku ini juga mengandungi banyak maklumat mengenai perubatan Melayu yang mungkin tidak diketahui oleh ramai orang.

Buku ini adalah salah satu daripada banyak buku yang diterbitkan oleh IIUM untuk mempromosikan dan melindungi warisan budaya Melayu. Ia juga merupakan salah satu daripada banyak buku yang diterbitkan oleh IIUM untuk mempromosikan dan melindungi warisan budaya Melayu.

Buku ini adalah salah satu daripada banyak buku yang diterbitkan oleh IIUM untuk mempromosikan dan melindungi warisan budaya Melayu. Ia juga merupakan salah satu daripada banyak buku yang diterbitkan oleh IIUM untuk mempromosikan dan melindungi warisan budaya Melayu.

Prof. Dr. Mohd. Affendi Mohd Shafri

Prof. Dr. Mohd. Affendi Mohd Shafri adalah seorang pakar dalam bidang perubatan Melayu. Beliau telah menulis banyak buku dan artikel mengenai perubatan Melayu. Beliau juga telah mengadakan banyak seminar dan konferensi mengenai perubatan Melayu.

Prof. Dr. Nan Norzila Nashed

Prof. Dr. Nan Norzila Nashed adalah seorang pakar dalam bidang perubatan Melayu. Beliau telah menulis banyak buku dan artikel mengenai perubatan Melayu. Beliau juga telah mengadakan banyak seminar dan konferensi mengenai perubatan Melayu.

Access to Justice for the Community

Through its flagship initiatives Access to Justice for the Community, the Ahmad Ibrahim Kulliyah of Laws (AIKOL) has been actively promoting access to justice within the community. This commendable effort is achieved through the organisation of legal awareness activities and the provision of advisory services on a broad spectrum of legal issues affecting individuals and families in the community. This initiative primarily targets those who experience disadvantages due to factors such as limited education and literacy levels, financial constraints, and a lack of awareness regarding their rights and available avenues for advice or assistance.

Through this flagship project, the committee members consisting of IIUM lecturer and Student IIUM Legal Aid Club offering legal advisory services to individuals who are financially incapable of securing legal representation or accessing the court system. The primary beneficiaries of this initiative are Malaysians situated in the lower and middle-income brackets, as well as those within the more vulnerable sectors of society.

AIKOL also collaborates with local communities in a program called "Jalinan Mahabbah." This programme aims to make legal information more understandable and accessible while providing free legal consultations to the community.

In addition, the initiative includes a Clinical Legal Education course. This hands-on course allows students to learn through real-life practice by interacting with actual clients. This practical experience not only enhances their theoretical knowledge but also equips them with practical skills needed in the legal field.

LEADING THE WAY
TOWARDS THE FUTURE
AN INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING PERFORMANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

40

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Join us to get
first-hand experience
of mediation training!

IN COLLABORATION WITH
**Messr Chambers of Zainul Rijal &
Muslim Lawyers Association
Malaysia**

Register now!

IIUM LEGAL AID CLUB

Organized by: IIUM KULLIYAH OF LAWS, ZAR, and others.



Community-Based First Aid (CBFAA)



Historically, Community-Based First Aid (CBFA) was the principal method of reaching communities (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2023). IFRC has mentioned that CBFA is one of its Global Agenda which aims to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. The IIUM Flagship 3.0: Community-Based First Aid (CBFA), which is based in IIUM Kuantan has a clear mission: to promote deep awareness and practical knowledge of first aid for both physical and psychological injuries.

Spearheaded by academic and staff members of the Kulliyah of Nursing at IIUM, this project aims to empower communities to offer crucial first aid in emergency situations, bridging the gap until professional help arrives or patients can be transferred to healthcare facilities for further care. Among the programmes facilitated by the flagship to showcase comprehensive first aid practices was the "First Aid Demonstration," hosted during the Jamboree on The Air (JOTA) and Jamboree on The Internet (JOTI) 2023, which took place at the Kulliyah of Pharmacy, IIUM Kuantan.

This collaborative educational activities was made feasible through the generous invitation and coordination efforts of the Kumpulan Latihan Kelanasiswa Malaysia (KLKM). The event attracted over 100 elementary and secondary school students, primarily from Pahang, along with enthusiastic participation from IIUM students.

The IIUM Flagship 3.0 CBFA also organised the "Kitchen First Aid" event at PDK Kompleks Penyayang. Collaborating with the Kulliyah of Nursing and Kulliyah of Dentistry, the program focused on teaching essential first aid skills using materials commonly found in a kitchen. Participants learned practical techniques like applying arm slings and bandages and handling bleeding. They also had hands-on practice sessions to improve their first aid abilities. This event showcased the initiative's dedication to empowering individuals with the knowledge to respond effectively to emergencies.



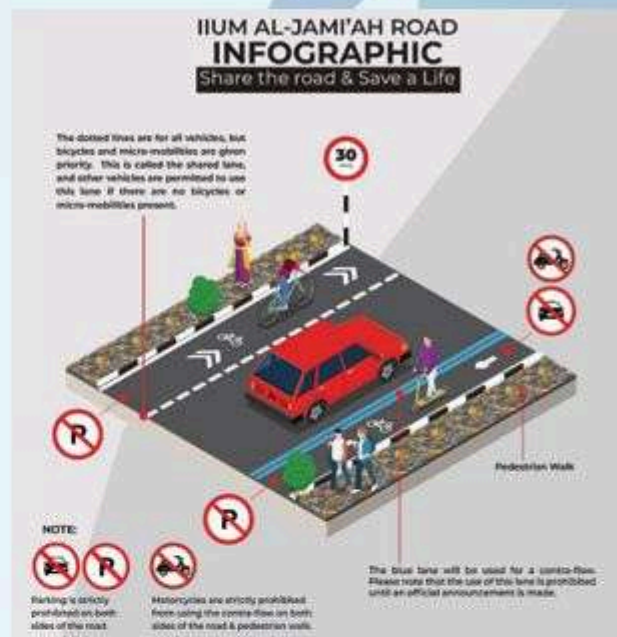
CBFA also collaborated with Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bukit Goh (SMKBG), Kuantan, to organise an "Introduction to First Aid" programme, aimed to raise awareness about first aid among students. The programme focused on teaching essential first aid skills through informative presentations and engaging demonstrations. Students learned vital techniques such as CPR, the stop-to-bleed method, proper bandaging techniques, and general first aid practices. Practical hands-on activities were included to boost students' confidence in applying first aid in real-life situations. This collaborative effort between SMKBG and the CBFA team provided the Kulliyah of Nursing students with broader understanding of health and safety awareness.

GREENING THE CAMPUS: IIUM'S MICROMOBILITY

IIUM has always been at the forefront with green-campus initiatives. For instance, in 2013, IIUM launched her Green-Campus Masterplan. In 2017, IIUM promoted the use of bicycles as a travel mode in Gombak campus.

Now, in 2024, as part of her Sustainable Ecosystem strategic initiative, the University implemented initiatives to encourage the IIUM students and the whole community to use bicycles and micromobility devices on campus.

Recently, the University has launched her micro-mobility programme on 12th June 2024 for a greener campus. This consists of the creation of micro-mobility priority lanes along the Al-Jami'ah Road in IIUM Gombak campus, centralised car parking facility and the introduction of electric shuttle services.



SEJAHTERA: A LOCAL CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABILITY [SUSTAINABILITY AT IIUM: OVERVIEW]

AUTHOR : PROF. DR. ZAINAL ABIDIN BIN SANUSI

Sejahtera: A Local Concept of Sustainability

[Sustainability at IIUM: Overview]

For IIUM, sustainability is not a borrowed agenda but one rooted in Malaysia's own intellectual and cultural traditions. The University has continued to strengthen its role in localising and contextualising sustainability through four interrelated concepts: Tawhidic Epistemology, Ummatic Excellence, MADANI, and Sejahtera.

During 2023-2024, these concepts shaped the way sustainability was understood and practiced across the University. Tawhidic Epistemology provided the foundation, ensuring that sustainability was viewed not in fragmented terms but as part of a unified purpose; to uphold balance, justice, and mercy in human–nature relations. This foundation supported Ummatic Excellence, which guided IIUM in producing graduates who combine faith, knowledge, and character, and who are able to serve as agents of sustainable development in society.

The framework of MADANI translated these ideals into action, embedding inclusiveness, accountability, and compassion into institutional life, community partnerships, and governance. Meanwhile, Sejahtera offered a distinctly local vocabulary for sustainability; one that emphasises harmony, well-being, and moderation in everyday practice.

These four concepts came together through IIUM's Communiversality approach, which positioned the University as both a centre of knowledge and a partner to society. By linking academic work with real-world needs, IIUM demonstrated that sustainability is not confined to classrooms or policies but is lived through education, research, community engagement, and institutional culture.

In this way, IIUM's sustainability journey reflects Malaysia's local contribution to global discourses: showing that sustainable development must be anchored not only in technical outcomes but also in values, identity, and a holistic vision of human well-being.

TEACHING AND LEARNING (TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION)

- **ESD (SCSH 1201, 2163 & 3164)**
- **Master in Sustainability Science**
- **SULAM**

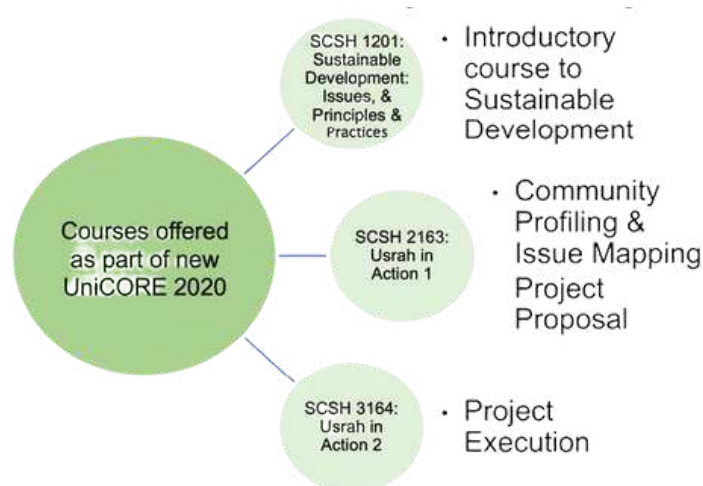
AUTHOR : WAN ZAHIDAH BINTI WAN ZULKIFLE

Teaching and Learning (Transformative Education)

Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity plays a pivotal role in reorienting the curriculum towards sustainability, aligning with IIUM's strategic direction of Humanising Education. With a mission to integrate sustainable development principles into the educational framework, the unit focuses on empowering students with knowledge, values, and skills to address global challenges and contribute meaningfully to society. This mission is deeply rooted in the university's philosophy of Rahmatan lil Alamin, ensuring education nurtures holistic individuals who promote justice, balance, and sustainability.

In line with this vision, Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity has successfully introduced three innovative and compulsory courses under the UniCORE 2020 curriculum. Through these courses, students engage with real-world community issues, fostering experiential learning and meaningful contributions to sustainable development goals (SDGs).

This curriculum innovation exemplifies IIUM's commitment to producing balanced individuals equipped to lead sustainable futures.



The achievements of the Education for Sustainable Development efforts reflect IIUM's steadfast commitment to embedding sustainability into its core academic mission, seamlessly integrating learning, teaching, and research with impactful community engagement.

The Impact

Since its inception, Usrah in Action has accomplished remarkable milestones. Over five semesters, it has implemented 402 community engagement projects, directly involving 8,640 students and 277 voluntary instructors. These initiatives have positively impacted more than 6,000 local communities, making tangible contributions to societal well-being. The course's transformative impact is evident not only in the breadth of its outreach but also in its success in fostering meaningful partnerships, nurturing civic responsibility among students, and advancing IIUM's strategic aim of humanising education through sustainability-focused action.



A unique strength of Usrah in Action lies in its inherently multidisciplinary approach, fostering collaboration across diverse fields of expertise. Students enrolled in the course hail from various Kulliyyahs, bringing together perspectives from disciplines such as engineering, medicine, Islamic studies, economics, and more. This diversity creates a dynamic learning environment where knowledge and skills from different fields converge, enabling students to address complex community challenges with innovative and holistic solutions.

Similarly, the course benefits from the guidance of instructors representing multiple Kulliyyahs, who voluntarily contribute their time and expertise. This rich diversity among instructors further amplifies the course's impact, as students receive mentorship from experts with varied academic and professional backgrounds. Together, this transdisciplinary engagement cultivates a collaborative ethos, ensuring that projects are not only grounded in theoretical knowledge but also enriched by practical insights, cultural sensitivity, and sustainable development principles. Through this model, Usrah in Action exemplifies the power of interdisciplinary teamwork in creating meaningful societal impact.

LIVE DOCUMENTATION OF USRAH IN ACTION PROJECTS

A pivotal feature of the Usrah in Action initiative is the live mapping of community engagement projects, visualised through an interactive Google Earth platform. This dynamic map reflects over 400 student-led initiatives, categorised into diverse themes such as Education, Health & Wellbeing, Humanitarian, Entrepreneurship, and Environment. By showcasing the geographical spread and thematic focus of each project, the map provides a transparent, evolving record of IIUM's sustainable development contributions. Updated at the end of every semester, the map not only serves as a monitoring tool but also offers the public and stakeholders insights into the university's impactful outreach. The live map is accessible through the Sejahtera Centre's website, with a QR code available for direct access.



**Live Mapping of Usrah
in Action Projects**

PUBLICATION

In line with the Usrah in Action initiative, the Sejahtera Centre published the Agents of Change towards Sustainability (ACTS) Book, a compilation of best practices and impactful stories derived from student-led projects. Launched during the Jamalullail Communiversy Symposium, the publication encapsulates reflections and insights from key stakeholders, including university management, instructors, students, and community partners.



This book serves as a valuable resource for other higher education institutions seeking to integrate sustainability into their curricula, providing a roadmap for fostering community engagement and transformative learning. By documenting success stories and challenges, the ACTS Book stands as a beacon of inspiration, reinforcing IIUM's leadership in sustainable development.

UNIVERSITY IN ACTION SYMPOSIUM: FOSTERING COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT

The University in Action Symposium stands as a hallmark event within IIUM's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) agenda, embodying the university's commitment to community-driven learning and engagement. Held biennially, the symposium serves as a platform to celebrate and disseminate the achievements of Usrah in Action projects, bringing together students, instructors, community partners, and jurors from academia, industry, government agencies, and NGOs.

This pentahelix model of collaboration ensures that student projects receive comprehensive feedback and visibility, fostering a deeper connection between the university and its broader community network. Through students' presentations and showcases, the symposium highlights best practices and facilitates knowledge exchange, contributing to the national and global discourse on sustainable development in higher education.





SUSTAINING THE MOMENTUM OF TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING

The journey of Usrah in Action reflects IIUM's unwavering dedication to embedding sustainability at the heart of education. As the initiative continues to grow, it exemplifies the university's strategic mission of Humanising Education, fostering future leaders who are compassionate, resilient, and driven by the values of sustainability and communal well-being. The collective efforts of students, instructors, and community partners have shaped this remarkable programme into a blueprint for other institutions seeking to merge academic learning with societal impact.

To witness the transformative journey of Usrah in Action since its inception, watch the video capturing its milestones and stories of change.



USRAH IN ACTION JOURNEY

NEW POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME: MASTER IN SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

International Islamic University Malaysia is proud to introduce the Master in Sustainability Science, a groundbreaking postgraduate programme designed to address global sustainability challenges through a transdisciplinary approach.

This programme stands out with its unique human-centric approach, integrating theoretical knowledge with practical applications to empower students to create impactful, sustainable solutions that enhance human well-being and social equity.



Master in Sustainability Science (MSSCI) at IIUM



SULAM: Bridging Curriculum and Community

As part of the Ministry of Higher Education's initiative to strengthen experiential learning, IIUM has actively embraced SULAM (Service Learning Malaysia – University for Society) as a pedagogical approach aligned with Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Implemented across various Kulliyahs, SULAM integrates academic content with real-world application, allowing students to translate classroom theories into meaningful community engagement.

Through SULAM, students develop critical thinking, empathy, and problem-solving skills while addressing local challenges. This model not only reinforces IIUM's mission of Humanising Education but also strengthens the university's role as a Communiversity; bridging academic knowledge with societal needs.

Since its adoption, IIUM has recorded a growing number of SULAM projects embedded within formal courses, ranging from environmental conservation and health awareness programmes to educational empowerment and socio-economic upliftment. These projects are conducted in partnership with schools, NGOs, and local communities, ensuring that students' contributions are both impactful and sustainable.

SULAM complements IIUM's existing flagship initiatives, such as Usrah in Action, by embedding sustainability-driven community engagement directly into academic courses. While Usrah in Action provides a broad interdisciplinary foundation for all students, SULAM offers discipline-specific service learning, enabling students to deepen their professional competencies while nurturing civic responsibility.

This synergy enhances IIUM's overall transformative education agenda, ensuring that graduates not only excel academically but also emerge as socially responsible leaders equipped to champion sustainability in their respective fields.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

- **IIUM Takrim Awards**

AUTHOR : ABAZAZILAH BINTI MOHD ABBAS

IIUM Takrim Awards

Honouring Contributions and Celebrating Excellence



IIUM Takrim, formerly known as IIUM Quality Day, is an annual occasion where the university expresses its appreciation to IIUM staff for their contributions and achievements throughout the year. Various categories of awards have been introduced to recognise excellence in different fields, encompassing both academic and administrative staff. At the same time, IIUM has never overlooked the role of students, alumni, and external partners whose contributions have also been instrumental in the university's success.

In 2024, IIUM Takrim became even more meaningful as it extended recognition and appreciation to strategic partners, external agencies, and the surrounding community who have worked hand-in-hand with IIUM in advancing its educational, research, innovation, and community engagement agenda. This step not only broadened the scope of recognition but also reflected the university's spirit of gratitude and openness in acknowledging the collective efforts that drive its mission and vision forward.

This year, IIUM proudly honoured the finalists of the Green Gown Award, who have worked tirelessly to raise the university's name on the international stage. A total of 13 awards were presented to the Special Mention Finalists of the 2024 International Green Gown Awards, in recognition of their dedication and commitment to impactful sustainability projects. To be named a finalist itself is already a remarkable achievement, serving as a testament to the quality and global standard of IIUM's initiatives.

In addition, the Financial Sustainability Award and Environmental Sustainability Award were introduced to celebrate KCDIOM and groups that have demonstrated outstanding achievements in ensuring the sustainability of university resources, whether in terms of financial management or environmental stewardship. Their efforts not only safeguard the continuity of university operations but also set an exemplary model of sustainable practices.

Equally significant was the recognition of IIUM Flagship Projects, which have played an essential role in generating impactful outcomes for the community. The awards presented included Social Entrepreneur Flagship Project Award, Most Innovative IIUM Flagship Award, Most Participative IIUM Flagship Award, Most Promising IIUM Flagship Award, Most Inspirational IIUM Flagship Award and Most Impactful IIUM Flagship Award

These recognitions serve as encouragement for all flagship teams to continue innovating, strengthening implementation, and expanding collaborations with the wider community towards sustainability and the well-being of society.

More than just a celebration of achievements, IIUM Takrim has become a platform to inspire the university community to strive for actualising IIUM's mission through humanising education values. It symbolises appreciation for the hard work, dedication, and collective commitment of the entire IIUM ecosystem in elevating the university's stature both nationally and internationally.

With these inclusive recognitions, IIUM Takrim is envisioned to be a catalyst for a culture of excellence, innovation, and unity, paving the way for the emergence of knowledgeable, ethical, and impactful individuals who will continue to serve humanity.

GOVERNANCE

- **IIUM Go-Green Committee**

AUTHOR : MUHAIDEEN ABDUL KADER BIN MOHAMAD IKBAL

IIUM Go-Green Committee

A dedicated committee within the university committed to advancing sustainable practices and environmental awareness, established in Meeting No. 6/2017 of the University Management Committee (UMC). The committee aligns with the institution's sustainability goals and works collaboratively to implement eco-friendly initiatives across various aspects of campus life.

IIUM's Go-Green Committee focuses on sustainability through initiatives in Energy, Water, Waste, Built Environment, Landscape & Biodiversity, Green IT, Green Transportation, Recycling, ESD, Responsible Research, Green Reporting, Capacity Building, Green Finance, and Green Youth.



LEADING THE WAY, LEADING THE WORLD

- UNDP SD Malaysia Roadmap
- Achievement/Recognition
- International Green Gown Awards
2024/2023-2024
- RCE Greater Gombak
- RCE Awards

AUTHORS : PROF. DR. ZAINAL ABIDIN SANUSI &
MUHAIDEEN ABDUL KADER

Leading the Way, Leading the World

UNDP SDG Malaysia Roadmap

In 2023–24, IIUM was appointed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and national partners as a consultant in the development of Malaysia's SDG Roadmap - a document that sets out the country's strategies, priorities, and commitments in achieving the 2030 Agenda. This appointment is more than a technical role; it represents national recognition of IIUM's thought leadership and its credibility in translating sustainability from philosophy into policy.

IIUM's contribution ensured that the Roadmap reflected not only global benchmarks but also Malaysia's local realities, values, and cultural contexts. Drawing on its experience with Tawhidic Epistemology, Ummatic Excellence, MADANI, and Sejahtera, IIUM helped to frame sustainability in a way that resonates with both national aspirations and international standards.

This role positions IIUM as a policy partner and reference point for sustainability in Malaysia, reinforcing its reputation as a university that not only educates and researches, but also informs and shapes the country's long-term development pathway. By contributing to such a critical national document, IIUM has demonstrated that its impact reaches far beyond campus boundaries, influencing the direction of sustainability at the highest levels of governance.

Achievement

International Green Gown Award 2024

IIUM's journey with the International Green Gown Awards (IGGA) began in 2020, when the university was honoured as the Sustainability Institution of the Year. This recognition, regarded as the highest accolade in sustainability within higher education, acknowledged IIUM's early efforts to embed sustainability across its governance, curriculum, operations, research, and community engagement.

Winning this award was more than a milestone; it set a global benchmark for IIUM as a leading Islamic university, demonstrating how education can be humanised through sustainability values rooted in rahmatan lil alamin.

Building Momentum (2021–2023)

After its 2020 breakthrough, IIUM continued to strengthen its initiatives, expanding projects and fostering broader participation across the university community.

- 2021: IIUM received commendation for the HyFlex Project under the Next Generation Learning & Skills category, showcasing adaptability and resilience in education delivery.
- 2022: Recognition followed for Community Action to Save Strays (CATSS@IIUM), highlighting student compassion and innovative responses to community issues under Benefiting Society.
- 2023: IIUM secured a major win with Trash to Treasure: A Journey Towards Zero Waste, demonstrating practical, student-led circular economy solutions. The YSM Agropreneurs Project, empowering youth and single mothers through sustainable agriculture, was also highly commended.

Each year, these recognitions reflected IIUM's growing ability to connect sustainability to real-world impact while strengthening its culture of transformative education.

2024: Scaling to Greater Heights

In 2024, IIUM once again reached a global pinnacle by reclaiming the title of Sustainability Institution of the Year. This reaffirmed the university's position as a global leader in sustainability in higher education, but more importantly, it reflected the deepening and widening of efforts since 2020.

Beyond the institutional award, IIUM also achieved three additional category wins, demonstrating a broad spectrum of impact:

- **Creating Impact (Winner):** Nourishing Futures – Malaysia's First Human Milk Bank Initiative, advancing health equity and compassion-driven innovation.
- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Sustainability (Winner):** Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges, through disability-inclusive education and outreach (OKU4U Sejahtera & Islamic Outreach).
- **Student Engagement (Winner):** WikiKata, a student-driven project to preserve indigenous

languages, strengthening cultural sustainability and community empowerment.

In addition, eight finalist projects showcased IIUM's diverse and community-anchored sustainability work; from smart farming to renewable energy and mental health support.

From 2020 to 2024: A Strengthened Legacy

The progression from 2020 to 2024 illustrates how IIUM has not only sustained but amplified its sustainability agenda. What began as recognition for embedding sustainability institution-wide has evolved into multi-dimensional excellence:

- **Institutional Leadership:** Twice crowned Sustainability Institution of the Year (2020 & 2024).
- **Expanding Scope:** From early focus on institutional frameworks to recognition of student-led, community-based, and inclusive projects.
- **Global Relevance:** Positioning IIUM as a bridge between Islamic values, national aspirations under the MADANI framework, and international sustainability goals (SDGs).

This journey highlights IIUM's unwavering commitment to Humanising Education; ensuring that knowledge, values, and skills contribute to holistic well-being, justice, and sustainability.

RCE GREATER GOMBAK

RCE is a network of formal, non-formal, and informal organisations that facilitate learning towards sustainable development in local and regional communities. A global network of RCEs constitutes the Global Learning Space for Sustainable Development. To date, 190 RCEs have been acknowledged globally by United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS).

RCE Greater Gombak (RCEG2) was officially acknowledged on 1 April 2020 by the Global RCE Service Centre and the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for the RCEs. RCEG2 and its partners address sustainable development issues through the Whole Community Transformation (WCT) approach, elevating spirituality, and mainstreaming indigenous knowledge through tawhidic approach for ummatic excellence.

RCE members will meet annually at Regional and biannual for Global Conference. RCE Greater Gombak has successfully hosted the 14th Asia-Pacific RCE Regional Meeting (AP RCE Meeting) from 19 to 21 July 2022 and 13th Global RCE Conference from 31st October to 2nd November 2023 with the support of the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS).

Since 2022, RCE Greater Gombak has been entrusted as the convenor of the RCE Asia-Pacific Coordination Committee. The Global RCE Conference forms part of the Convenor's responsibilities, with the participation of Secretariat members ensuring continuity of action plans and sustaining the leading role of RCE Greater Gombak at the regional level.

We are thrilled to share some wonderful news with all of you.

Our community engagement projects have been acknowledged for their exceptional impact, innovation, and contribution to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=543b295378&view=pt&search=pt&simthid=thread-f:16171918032232024366%7Cmsg-f:16171918032232024...> 1/2

This year, the RCE Awards introduced a special category for youth-led projects, and we are proud to announce that our projects have been honoured with the following prestigious awards:

Project 1: AQUAGREEN (Aquatic-based Urban Agriculture for Growth and Resource Efficiency through Environmental Stewardship)

Achievement: Outstanding Flagship Project (Youth-Led Category)

Project Leader: Dr. Ahmad Zahirani Bin Ahmad Azhar (Kulliyyah of Engineering | AMTech)

RCE AWARDS 2024

This certificate is presented to

RCE Greater Gombak

AQUAGREEN (Aquatic-based Urban Agriculture for Growth and Resource
Efficiency through Environmental Stewardship)

Outstanding Flagship Project
Youth-Led Category



Certified by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Jonghwi Park
Head of Innovation and Education Programme
United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
1 December 2024

Project 2: Empower Perlis: Sustainable Growth for Asnaf Families

Achievement: Acknowledged Flagship Project

Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Azrul Azlen Bin Abd. Hamid (KSTCL | Jamalullail Chair IIUM-MAIPs)

RCE AWARDS 2024

This certificate is presented to

RCE Greater Gombak

Empower Perlis: Sustainable Growth for Asnaf Families

Acknowledged Flagship Project



Certified by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Jonghwi Park.

Jonghwi Park
Head of Innovation and Education Programme
United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
1 December 2024

Project 3: WikiKata - A Collaborative Journey in Preserving Indigenous Languages

Achievement: Acknowledged Flagship Project (Youth-Led Category)

Project Leader: Br. Ahmad Ali bin A. Karim (Student, AHAS KIRKHS | RCE Greater Gombak Youth Coordinator)

RCE AWARDS 2024

This certificate is presented to

RCE Greater Gombak

WikiKata - A Collaborative Journey in Preserving Indigenous Languages

Acknowledged Flagship Project
Youth-Led Category



Certified by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jorghwi Park".

Jorghwi Park
Head of Innovation and Education Programme
United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
1 December 2024

This recognition is a testament to the remarkable efforts of our academics, staff, partners, and the dedication of our students who have driven these initiatives. We are thrilled to be part of such an important global movement and are proud to see our contributions to the ummah in line with our vision and mission being recognised on an international stage.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the project leaders and their teams for this significant achievement. We also want to take this opportunity to thank all internal and external partners who have supported these projects. Your contribution has been essential to bringing these initiatives to life and making a meaningful impact on the community.

The following partners have been instrumental in the success of these projects:

AQUAGREEN:

1. Advanced Manufacturing and Materials Technology Research Unit (AMTech), Kulliyyah of Engineering (KOE)
2. Mahallah Aminah
3. Institute of Oceanography & Maritime Studies (INOCEM), Kulliyyah of Science
4. CIMB Foundation
5. Orang Asli Community in Sungai Relang, Karak
6. Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli, Kementerian Kemajuan Desa dan Wilayah (JAKOA)
7. Malaysia Institute of Sustainable Agriculture (MISA)

WikiKata:

1. Wikimedia Community User Group Malaysia
2. National University Malaysia
3. Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA)
4. COMRADE Club
5. JASA Club
6. Titian Asli Club
7. IIUM Silat Seni Gayong Club
8. Wikimedia Indonesia
9. Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM)
10. Department of Indigenous Peoples Development (JAKOA)

Empower Perlis:

1. Perlis Islamic Religious Council and Malay Customs
2. Jamalullail Chair IIUM-MAIPs
3. Local Government Division of the Perlis State
4. This recognition is a testament to the ongoing efforts of the IIUM community in advancing University for Society through ESD. We are proud to see our contributions to ummah being acknowledged on a global platform

This recognition is a testament to the ongoing efforts of the IIUM community in advancing University for Society through ESD. We are proud to see our contributions to ummah being acknowledged on a global platform.



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