

# FSSH COMMUNITY UPDATES

Office of Deputy Dean (Industry & Community Engagement)

December 2022 / Vol 1



## Foreward



Welcome to our very first volume of FSSH Community Updates, an e-bulletin that showcases the community engagement and community projects organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH), UNIMAS. In line with the University's tagline of Community Driven University for a Sustainable World, we, at FSSH, have been, and will continue to be, actively involved in community engagement and giving back to the community, specifically via our University Social Responsibility (USR) and knowledge transfer projects.

We are living in a VUCA world which is full of challenges and therefore there is an urgent need to address the VUCA challenges in our daily environment. Our USR and community projects are aimed at addressing these challenges. Together with our collaborators, we seek to provide Vision, Understanding, Clarity and Agility - these are the components needed to counter the element of Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity.

The Faculty aims to make our presence felt by the local communities and that our community projects and engagements will have optimal and long lasting impacts on the community. Our projects are very much in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, and our primary focus area is on sustainable cities and communities.

I wish to thank the Deputy Dean (Industry & Community Engagement), Dr Regina Garai, our community partners and the Faculty members, both the academic and non-academic staffs, for their commitment and support in carrying out our community projects. Let us continue to engage the community in a true Sarawak spirit of Agi Idup Agi Ngelaban.

**Professor Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat**  
Dean

## Message from Director of the University Sustainability Centre, UNIMAS



***Being one of the prestigious universities in Borneo, it is part of our obligation to give back to the community. Not limited to providing tertiary education for the society; we offer services and support to the community through University Social Responsibility (USR) project and social engagement.***

***In support of UNIMAS new tagline; 'Community Driven University for a Sustainable World', University Sustainability Centre (USC) are working together with the faculties, institutes and departments overseeing this tagline being materialized and embedded in our University agenda. We believe that these types of engagement and outreach programmes are impactful with the ability to transform the communities beyond the University. We have carried out numerous trail blazing community projects all over Sarawak.***

***Having said that, congratulations to the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities for its active involvement in community engagement projects, especially the USR projects. As a faculty that is focused on humanity aspect, the Faculty certainly has a unique approach towards community engagement and community projects that are impactful and in line with the needs of the target communities. With such commitment, the Faculty are ensuring the sustainability of the programmes and has definitely been leaving behinds their lasting footprints in the community in terms of their work, sharing and expertise.***

***I also wish to praise the Faculty, especially the Office of Deputy Dean (Industry & Community Engagement) for their effort to publish the e-Bulletin: FSSH Community Updates. It is indeed a great platform to cascade the information to the public as well as to document the community projects for future reference and records. A big thank you and congratulations again to all FSSH staff who have been tirelessly involved in these activities. Well done FSSH***

**Noraziah Abdul Wahab**  
Director  
University Sustainability Centre

## Projek Tanggungjawab Sosial Universiti

# Bridging FSSH & Community

#FSSKBersamaKomuniti  
#FSSHCommunityEngagement  
#FSSHUSR



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## Editorial Note



For the last 30 years, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH), UNIMAS has been active in community engagement and outreach programmes. This is illustrated by the numerous community outreach and community-based projects that have been conducted over the years. We strongly believe that community engagement is significant as a way to strengthen community - university network, make our presence felt by the communities and as platforms to share skills, knowledge, expertise and training with the communities.

Community engagement enriches education and combined experience, knowledge and expertise from the University and the communities are needed to address societal issues. Along that line, UNIMAS emphasises on community engagement as a learning platform (e.g. via its Service Learning Malaysia- SULAM courses).

At present, community engagements conducted by FSSH are in various forms, scope and purposes. This includes University Social Responsibility (USR) project, knowledge transfer programmes, and community outreach programme - both locally and abroad. We plan to carry on with our community engagement and USR projects in 2023, along side expanding our collaborations with various community partners, to bring lasting and impactful programme to all.

Last but not least, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Dean and Faculty management for their unwavering support, and also to the Faculty members who have been involved and contributed to our USR and community projects.

**Dr Regina Garai**  
Editor

## List & Details of USR Projects for 2022

No.	Programme	Date	Organised by (collaborators)	Team leader & members
1.	Sesi Perkongsian Ilmu bersama pelajar di Kampung Samru, Lavar, Betong	7 March 2022	FSSK & JKKK Kampung Samru Lavar, Betong	AP Dr Wong Suet Kiong (L) & Azrul Hafiz Jaman
2.	Sesi Perkongsian Ilmu bersama pelajar di Nanga Tebalan, Betong	8 March 2022	FSSK & JKKK Nanga Tebalan	AP Dr Wong Suet Kiong (L) & Azrul Hafiz Jaman
3.	Seminar Kolaborasi Berbasis dan Kepemilikan Berta (online)	17 May 2022	FSSK & ASADIA	Dr Regina Garai (L), Prof. Dato Dr Spencer Emping & Prof. Dato Dr Neilson Ijan Merast
4.	Program Kamel sayang kamel (USC Fund: RM1,050)	8 June 2022	FSSK & Organisation for Addiction Prevention Treatment and Rehabilitation (OAPTAR)	Dr Adhura Azhar (L) & Dr Dolly Paul Carlo
5.	Program Kesedaran Alam Sekitar	15-16 June 2022	FSSK & JKKK Telok Melano	Awang Masahati Awang Mohamad (L)
6.	Seminar Aram Matak Universiti	25 June 2022	Ryan Bala Community Club, Kuching & FSSK	Prof. Dato Dr Neilson Ijan Merast (L), Dr Regina Garai, Prof. Dato Dr Spencer
7.	Sesi Perkongsian Bersama Warga Kampung Sebayor, Kota Samarahan	2 July 2022	FSSK & JKKK Kampung Sebayor, Kota Samarahan	Prof. Dato Dr Neilson Ijan Merast (L), Dr Sharifah Sophia Wan Ahmad, Dr Arnold Puvole, Dr Regina Garai
8.	Community Resource Mapping	26 Sept 2022	FSSK & JKKK Long Maran, Miri	Dr Nicholas Gani (L), Kelvin Rany
9.	Jub Escheich (USC Fund: RM1,026)	15 October 2022	FSSK & Kalah Pala, SMKA Tun Ahmad Zaidi, Kuching	Dr Haslina Hashim (L), Dr Adibah Yusoff, Dr Regina Garai, Dr Farah Zami, Dr Khalid Zanudin, Dr Daniel Ujih
10.	Sesi Perkongsian Bersama SK Bulau Jeragam, Sebau	25 October 2022	FSSK & PIBG SK Bulau Jeragam, Sebau	Prof. Dato Dr Neilson Ijan Merast (L), Dr Sharifah Sophia Wan Ahmad, Dr Arnold Puvole, Dr Regina Garai, Pn. Mimi Sabar, Pn. Rowena Abdullah
11.	Empowering the grassroots leaders	8 December 2022	FSSK & JKKK Ph Ungam, Nanga Empayan	Dr Lucy Selia (L)

11 USR projects

1 community project

12 different communities in different parts of Sarawak

Involving 22 FSSH staff, both academic and non-academic

Using face-to-face and online platforms



## 2021

- Seminar on Urban Community Leadership in the Era of IR 4.0 (co-organised with *Persatuan Ketua Masyarakat dan Tuai Rumah Daerah Kuching* - PEMAİK)
- Seminar on Urban Iban Youths and Culture (co-organised with Dayak Cultural Foundation dan PEMAİK)
- Ecobrick Project in collaboration with *Kelab Pencinta Alam Sekitar, SK Abang Gesa, Belawai*

## 2022

Challenges of online learning during the pandemic (co-organised with JKKK Kampung Samu, Paku and JKKK Nanga Tebalau, Betong)

*Aram Masuk Universiti* Seminar with Iban Balau Community Club & FSSH

Environmental Awareness and Beachcleaning (co-organised with JKKK Telok Melano)

"*Kamek Sayang Kamek*" Programme (co-organised with *Sekolah Tunas Bakti* and Organisation for Addiction Prevention Treatment and Rehabilitation )

Seminar on Cultural Preservation & Youth Leadership (co-organised with Academy Sarawak Dayak Iban Association - ASADIA)

Seminar on development and leadership (co-organised with JKKK Sebayor)

Workshop on Community Resource Mapping (co-organised with JKKK Long Maraan, Magoh)

*Juh' Ecobricks* (co-organised with Kelab Pencinta Alam Sekitar, SMKA TUNAZ)

Sharing session with SK Bulan Jeragam, Sebuyau (co-organised with the Parents Teachers Association SK Bulan Jeragam)

Seminar on Empowering Community Leaders (JKKK Rh Unggam)

We also welcome collaboration from various sectors to make these USR projects more impactful and reaching a wider audience.

### CONTACT:

THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY DEAN  
(INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT)  
082-584178

# UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECT (USR)

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH), UNIMAS organises University Social Responsibility (USR) projects throughout the year. These are project initiatives that we do for the community and in collaboration with various interested organisations. The key aim is to deliver specific programmes that benefit the community, in line with the expertise that we have at the Faculty. This is in tandem with UNIMAS' tagline of being a community driven university for a sustainable world. We believe that everybody could, and should, take up the responsibility of giving back to the community - in whatever capacity, shape or form.







# UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECT



These two projects focus on sharing and motivational sessions with rural students at Samu & Nanga Tebalau, Betong. These projects were co-organised with JKKK Samu and JKKK Nanga Tebalau.

The participants include the students, their parents and the JKKK. They shared and discussed the challenges of teaching and learning during the pandemic, and their coping strategies.

These projects also act as platforms to motivate the participants to persevere in the challenging time.

Team: AP Dr Wong Swee Kiong (L) & Mohd Azizul Hafiz Jamian



## USR PROJECTS AT KAMPUNG SAMU AND NANGA TEBALAU, BETONG



# UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (USR) PROJECTS BY FSSH



## ARAM MASUK UNIVERSITI SEMINAR 2022

This USR project is a collaboration between FSSH, UNIMAS and the Iban Balau Community Club (IBCC), Kuching. The target participants are students who are about to complete their STPM education. The key aim is to increase the participants' awareness on issues related to applying for a place at local Malaysian universities (IPTA). This includes making choices and applying for a place, discussing the issues and challenges in applying for a place at IPTA and to motivate the students to continue with their studies despite the challenges that they may face.

Conducted by: Prof Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat

## COMMUNITY DRIVEN UNIVERSITY FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD



*"A timely and impactful programme that benefits our students in making decision about where they would go next ..."*  
School representative  
SMK Sri Aman



### Program Aram Masuk Universiti diatur IBCC mujur

KUCHING: Sepenjang 130 iku nembali ari Pom Lima enggau Pom Enam sereta lapan iku pengajar ari Sekula Sekondari (SMK) Simanggang, SMK Sri Aman, SMK St Luke, SMK Melugu enggau SMK Lingga bisi ngambi bagi ba Program Aram Masuk Universiti. Program ti diatur Kelab Komuniti Iban Balau (IBCC) nya dipenyadika Penulung Pemasai Opis Pelajar Bagi Menuai Wilson ti mega siku Iban Balau ari Sapak Pantu ba sebuah hotel emana. Dalam program tu, bala pesereta bisi ringaka lica ari Direktor Unit Publikasyon Unimas Prof Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat enggau Dr Philip Nali Anding. Seduai bekunsika penerang beguna bekal penerang ti di-chelak dalam UPU 'brochure'. -INDUN SILONG



## SHARING SESSION WITH SK BULAN JERAGAM, SEBUYAU

This USR project was organised in collaboration with the Parents Teachers Association, SK Bulan Jeragam, Sebuyau. It is a small school located in Sebuyau with a total number of 52 students and 13 teachers. This impactful sharing session was primarily aimed at providing the school community with a platform to discuss the challenges of teaching and learning in the post-pandemic period.

*"There is a need to prepare our children and the education system to cope in the VUCA environment ..."*  
Dean, FSSH



**Team members:**  
Prof Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat (L)  
Dr Sharifah Sophia Wan Ahmad  
Dr Arnold Puyok  
Dr Regina Garai  
Puan Meri Sabas  
Puan Rowena Abdullah





# USR



Community Resource Mapping, co-organised with JKKK Long Maraan, Baram. Conducted by Dr Nicholas Gani (L) and Kelvin Egay

Environmental Awareness Talk & Beach Cleaning (co-organised with JKKK Telok Melano). Conducted by Awang Mashabi Awang Mohamad and WA12 students



Kamek Sayang Kamek Programme at Sekolah Tunas Bakti, co-organised with Organization for Addiction Prevention Treatment Rehabilitation (OAPTAR). Lead by Dr Athirah Azhar (L) and Dr Dolly Paul Carlo





# JUH' ECOBRICKS PROJECT

A USR project focusing on ecobricks was conducted by FSSH in collaboration with SMKA Tun Ahmad Zaidi, Kuching on 15 Oct 2022. Students were introduced to the use of ecobricks and its role in environmental conservation. It was a hands-on programme where students made their own ecobricks and then using them to make functional furniture (e.g. stools).

Following on from their day at FSSH, the group submitted their ecobricks project to an innovation competition at their school and won first place. Well done to the group!



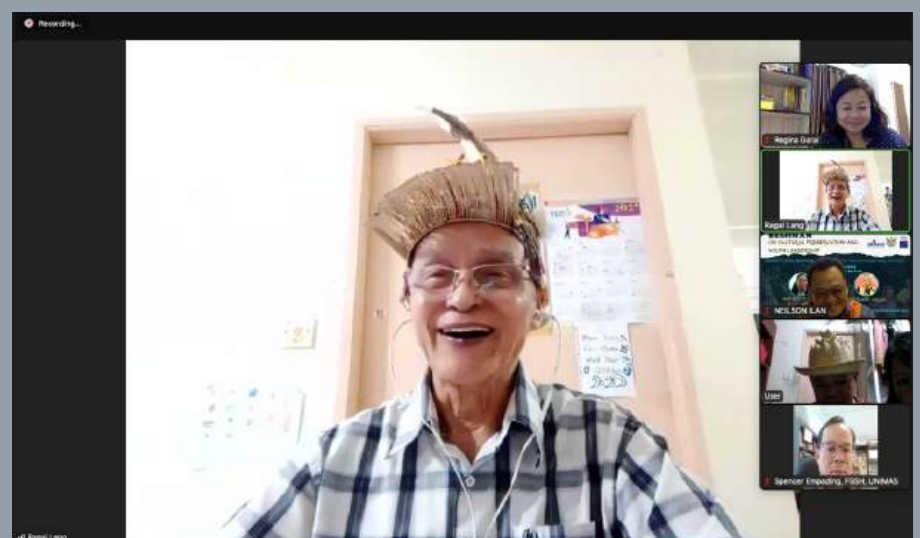
Team members: Dr Haslina Hashim (L), Dr Adibah Yusuf, Dr Regina Garai, Dr Farah Zaini, Dr Khalid Zainudin & Dr Daniel Ugih

# SEMINAR ON CULTURAL PRESERVATION & YOUTH LEADERSHIP



An online seminar on Cultural Preservation and Youth Leadership was held as one of the USR projects by FSSH. This was conducted on 17th May 2022 and in collaboration with the Academy Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (ASADIA). ASADIA's founder, Mr Mabong Unggang was one of the presenters in this seminar.

Team: Dr Regina Garai (L), Prof Dato Dr Spencer Empading Sanggin & Prof Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat





# SHARING SESSION WITH KAMPUNG SEBAYOR, KOTA SAMARAHAN



A CSR project with the residents of Kampung Sebayor, Kota Samarahan was held on 2 July 2022. The project focuses on village development and grassroots leadership. It was attended by 13 of its JKKK members, led by its village chief, TR Ruda anak Unong. More collaborative community projects will be done with JKKK Kampung Sebayor in the future, and as TR Ruda said, they are a community that is practically at UNIMAS' doorstep. The project was conducted by Prof Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat (L), Dr Sharifah Sophia Wan Ahmad, Dr Arnold Puyok and Dr Regina Garai.



## EMPOWERING THE GRASSROOT LEADERS



A CSR project, led by Dr Lucy Sebli, was held on 8 December 2022. It focuses on a workshop to empower local grassroots leaders, and was conducted in collaboration with Bukit Mabong District Office, JKKK Rumah Unggam & JKKK Rumah Laso at Ulu Antawau, Baleh, Kapit.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RUMAH SERI KENANGAN, KUCHING



An engagement session in the form of a Hi-Tea Programme with residents of Rumah Seri Kenangan, Kuching was held on 26th November 2022. This is a collaboration between FSSH and Rumah Seri Kenangan.

The programmes aims to cheer the residents, who are mainly the elderly and they are away from their families and loved ones. A total of 63 residents of RSK and 20 staffs were involved in the programme.



The hands-on activities include photo booth, various games, cake decorating competition, colouring, singing and dancing. These simple activities bring joy to the residents and staff.



Conducted by:

Dr Farah Zaini (L), Dr Faizah Mas'ud, Pn. Noorain Aini and postgraduate students of FSSH.



# FSSH'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**Persatuan Ketua  
Masyarakat Dan Tuai  
Rumah Daerah Kuching  
(PEMAIK)**



**Persatuan Veteran  
Tentera Kor Renjer  
(PVTKR)**



**SK Bulan Jeragam & the  
Parents Teachers  
Association**



**JKKK Sebayor, Kota  
Samarahan**

**Academy Sarawak Dayak  
Iban Association (ASADIA)**



At FSSH, we value our community partners and strive towards sustaining long term collaboration and partnership for more impactful benefits to all parties. We aim to share responsibilities by engaging in meaningful ways and, at the same time, offering a platform for the voices of the communities to be heard.

FSSH is a community-oriented Faculty and our community projects are mapped with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES





# GIVING VOICES TO THE COMMUNITY: SIRI BICARA PAHLAWAN 2022

One of our community partners is the Persatuan Veteran Tentera Kor Renjer DiRaja (PVTKR) and one of our collaboration is a programme called Siri Bicara Pahlawan. This Siri Bicara Pahlawan 2022 has three objectives, namely to serve as a platform for our local heroes to share their untold stories or narratives because of lack of documentation, to transfer their knowledge to the younger generation on the challenges, trials and tribulations in the process of nation building and to inculcate the spirit of patriotism by sharing their real life experience and sacrifices in combating the communist terrorists. The personalities who were invited for the sharing sessions exemplified cherished values, displayed qualities admired by the public, and they showed the younger generation how to overcome challenges and encouraged them to stand up for the nation and to defend the country beyond the call of duty.

Four sharing sessions were conducted in 2022:

Sharing #1: Ambushes in Sarawak by Lt Col Anwar Basha Khan Zakaria (Rtd) and Sjn Dajai Anggie (Rtd), PGB; 22 August 2022

Sharing #2: From Seberan to New York: A Journey of An Iban Soldier Serving Under the United Nations by Lt Col Mohd Melintang bin Abdullah (Rtd); 6 September 2022

Sharing #3: Fabian Wong's Army Story by Lt Col Fabian Wong (Rtd); 20 September 2022

Sharing #4: Ops Selamat Sawadee by Mejar Sharkawi Dawi (Rtd), 20 October 2022



*"When war or insurgency is over, the soldiers or veterans are easily forgotten. To be remembered, all parties must remind one another never to forget."*  
- Lt Col Fabian Wong (Rtd)



# SCHOOL VISITS TO FSSH

A visit by a group of students and teachers from SMK Sibu Jaya, 12 Dec 2022. It was lead by Cikgu Randy, who said that, other than wanting to know more about UNIMAS & FSSH, the school is also keen to collaborate on a USR project for 2023.



A visit by a group of 56 students and 8 accompanying teachers from SMK Maradong, 16 Dec 2022. They are Form 6 and Form 5 students and very keen to know more about the Faculty and the university environment.





# SCHOOL VISITS TO FSSH



## SK Sungai Paoh, Sarikei

An educational visit by a group of primary six students from SK Sungai Paoh, Sarikei to FSSH on 1st December 2022, lead by its headmaster, Cikgu Hung. Also present were its Parents Teacher Association representative, Mr Ngini, and 4 teachers.

The students were excited to set foot in UNIMAS and see the campus environment



## SMK Datuk Patinggi Kedit, Betong

A visit to FSSH by students and teachers from SMK Datuk Patinggi Kedit, Betong was held on 11 November 2022. According to Cikgu Kelly Lau, the aim of the visit is to expose the students to campus life and the Faculty. The students had the opportunities to ask questions to the FSSH management during the session.





# *Sharing Session by Industry Partner and Alumni*

A sharing session was held on 20th December 2022 at FSSH by Mr Joseph Blandoi, General Manager of SALCRA. He shared his experience in land development and community engagement to a group of second-year undergraduate students from the Development Planning and Management Programme.



This sharing was co-organised by the Offices of Deputy Dean for Industry & Community Engagement and Deputy Dean of Student Affairs & Alumni. Mr Joseph Blandoi is also an alumni of FSSH (SLUSE 2003) and he also represents our industry partner. He was recently appointed as an Industrial Advisory Panel (IAP) for SLUSE Master programme.

Also present were the Dean, Deputy Deans, AP Dr Faisal Ali bin Anwarali Khan from Pusat Pembangunan Pelajar, Dr Mohd Najib Abdullah Sani from University Industry Centre, and lecturers from FSSH.



# Global COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, FSSH HAD CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF ENGAGEMENTS WITH OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS IN VARIOUS FORMS, RANGING FROM VISITS, EXCHANGE AND SHARING OF IDEAS, SEMINAR AND COLLABORATION. WE, AT FSSH AND UNIMAS, VIEW COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AS AN IMPORTANT ASPECT THAT HELPS US IN BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS AND NETWORKS WITH OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS.



## **STUDY VISIT TO UNIVERSITAS TANJUNGPURA (UNTAN), INDONESIA**

Dialogue session between the students and management of UNIMAS with their respective counterparts at UNTAN.



## **EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO KELING KUMANG CREDIT UNION, PONTIANAK**

Keling Kumang Credit Union is one of the credit unions based in Kalimantan Barat that provides services to its rural communities. Its main aim is to uplift the socio-economic standard of the rural communities. It has the potential to be a good collaborator especially on research concerning the rural communities in Kalimantan Barat. Keling Kumang CU has also established an institute (Institut Teknologi Keling Kumang) and they have expressed an interest to use our expertise at FSSH for the development of that institute.



## **GLOBAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH VISIT TO INSTITUT DAYAKOLOGI, PONTIANAK, INDONESIA**

A visit to Institut Dayakologi, Pontianak to discuss potential research collaborations and to continue our global community networking across the Sarawak-Kalimantan border.



## **A RECIPROCAL VISIT BY PUSKOP CREDIT KHATULISTIWA (PUSKOPDIT KHATULISTIWA)**

Puskop Credit Khatulistiwa (Puskopdit Khatulistiwa) from Pontianak, Kalimantan Barat, Indonesia came for a working visit to UNIMAS in November 2022. This is a reciprocal visit and has opened up a number of potential collaborations between FSSH and Puskopdit Khatulistiwa.



## UNIVERSITAS TANJUNG PURA - Our Global Partner

Being social science based faculties both FSSH and Fakultas Ilmu Sosial & Ilmu Politik (FISIP) share a lot of similarities. The two faculties will enhance collaboration in areas of common interest such as in research, teaching and learning. The fact that we are being located in the same island of Borneo with diverse communities is an advantage to both institutions. For that reason FSSH is looking forward to establish a long term partnership with FISIP.



Earlier this year, a group from FSSH management and its students' association (Persatuan Sains Sosial & Kemanusiaan - PSSK) went for an educational visit to FISIP, UNTAN. It was a beginning of our global collaboration. The trip was successful and a number of activities have been carried out since July 2022. It includes a dialogue between students from both faculties, a visit and sharing session with FISIP academic staff to FSSH, a collaborative dialogue between FSSH and FISIP for a programme in conjunction with the 65th year of Indonesia-Malaysia



Adityo Darmawan Sudagung, a scholar from the International Relations Department, FISIP, paid us a visit on 26 August 2022 . He did a sharing on the relocation of Indonesian capital: New Capital City & Narration of Belonging. Adityo will be coming to FSSH as a visiting scholar in 2023.



A dialogue between academicians from FSSH UNIMAS and FISIP UNTAN in Conjunction with 65 Years of Malaysia-Indonesia Relations broadcasted by TVRI. FSSH was represented by Prof. Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat & Shafina Tantiana Zulkipli.

More activities between FSSH & FISIP are in the pipeline for 2023, including an educational visit from FISIP to FSSH, a dialogue between faculty members of both faculties - on benchmarking and community engagement, and a global classroom activity.