

Malaysia National Stakeholder Consultation on Marine Litter – Solving Plastic Pollution at Source

MESTECC, SEA Circular, UN Environment, Swedish Government

5 to 6 November
Klana Beach Resort, Port Dickson

RCE KUCHING

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
@ UCSI UNIVERSITY

rcenetwork.org
<http://rce.ucsiuniversity.edu.my/>



REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE
ON EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ACKNOWLEDGED BY



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Specific session:

Step-by-Step Approach to Launch Marine Litter Online Course in Malaysia, Overcoming Challenges and Solutions for Nationwide Buy-In at All Levels

Objective: How to effectively make it mandatory for government, private sector, academia, civil society and community based organisations to benefit from a free Massive Open Online Course on Marine Litter and to inspire them at all levels to execute and start a knowledge transfer chain effect.

Moderator: Ms. Jacqueline Chang, National Consultant, Project SEA Circular – Solving plastic pollution at source, UN Environment Programme at MESTECC

OUTLINE

1. About RCE Kuching
2. “River for everybody” Programme @ RCE Kuching:
5R (Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, Repurpose) Campaign
3. Implementation of Massive Open Online Course on Marine Litter: roles and challenges of integration to RCE Kuching programmes with the youths, schools and communities.



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Certificate of Acknowledgement

This is to certify that

RCE Kuching

was acknowledged by
United Nations University

3 September 2018

United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)



LINKED TO UN'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

FOCUS of RCE KUCHING, UCSI University:



SDG 4 – Quality Education, Target 4.7



SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, Target 6.3



SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities, Target 11.4



SDG 15 – Life on Land, Targets 15.1 & 15.2



RCE KUCHING

Build a cross-sector network of organisations and individuals in the region who are dedicated to the education of sustainable development

Promote community awareness about the social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects of sustainability

Promote collaborative research and innovation in the area of sustainable education

Develop ESD learning opportunities at all levels of the community

(Key Approaches: R & D, Outreach and Education)





Rivers in Kuching (Sarawak):

1. Source of water
2. Source of aqua food
3. Transportation between communities
4. Homestays and hospitality industry

RCE Kuching focuses on Sarawak River (Kiri)

1. Source of water Intake for Kuching City
2. Site of Bengoh Dam: a water reservoir to supply water to Kuching, Samarahan and parts of Serian. In Kuching, the Sarawak River Kiri stretches from Batu Kitang all the way to Padawan .

Malaysia in Asia

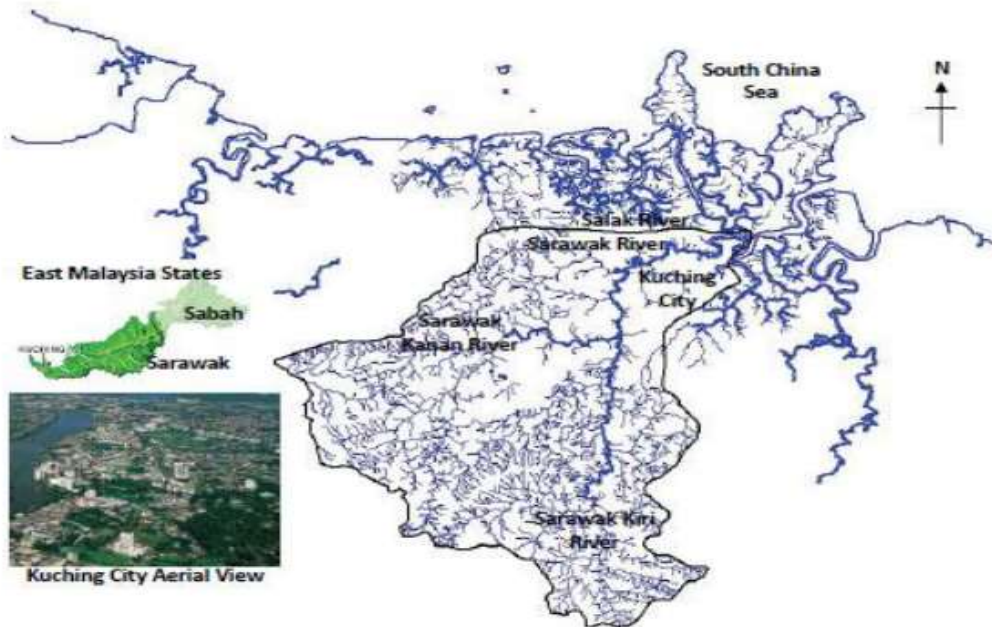


Figure 1
Sarawak River Basin

Sarawak State in Malaysia and Sarawak River

Current issues of rivers around Kuching:

1. Being treated as a waste dumping ground by the communities near the rivers
2. Threaten by wastewater from the city, sewage and floating waste; most lack filtration system of wastewater before flowing into the river
3. Regional/ seasonal floods cause overflow of rivers due to poor drainage and blockage of the drainage system
4. Awareness among the communities, dialogues of stakeholders and research are needed to work hand-in-hand to solve the issues

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



15 LIFE ON LAND





ROLES OF RCE KUCHING

Bring together scientists and educators in institutions of both formal and non-formal education

Formal Education		Non-Formal Education
Universities	→	Local Government agencies
↕		Community Leaders
Secondary Schools	→	Local NGOs
↕		Government Ministries
Primary Schools		Media

Major engines for exchange of knowledge and information and joint development of innovative programmes towards Education in Sustainable Development

WHAT DOES RCE KUCHING DO?

1. Eco-campus Programme
2. **RCE Youth Ambassador Programme**
3. **“River for everybody” Programme:**
 - A. **5R (refuse, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, repurpose) Campaign**
 - B. River Water Quality Project
 - C. River Art Competition
 - D. Eco-tourism River Project
 - E. Socio-Cultural, Economic Impact of Tourism Activities
4. Research & Scholarly activity



RCE YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

- **RCE Objective 2:**

- Promote community awareness about the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainability

- **SDG Goal & Target 4.7:**

- By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

- **Description:**

- Engagement content will focus on the 4 SDG Goals and specific targets as identified in the RCE Kuching.



RCE KUCHING YOUTH AMBASSADORS

To date: **40 Youth Ambassadors**

Catalyst: bring the youth together for a concerted effort of SDGs, specifically university students and secondary school students around Kuching

Trainers and facilitators of various RCE initiatives, including the school project

Compilation of Sarawak rivers Information, conservation/ rehabilitation efforts

Working on training for kitchen waste composting

Participating in RCE Youth SDG Challenge 2020 – Youth from different RCE networks join to lead projects in the areas of SDGs 12 & 15



“RIVER FOR EVERYBODY” PROGRAMME: 5R (REFUSE, REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE, REPURPOSE) CAMPAIGN

- **RCE Objective 4:**
 - Develop ESD learning opportunities at all levels of the community.
- **SDG Goal 6 & Target 6.3:**
 - By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, reducing the proportion of untreated wastewater, and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
- **Description:**
 - Building awareness about impacts of pollution and dumping of waste, and how we can reduce these problems through 5R.
- **Communities of focus: the riverine communities and schools**



RIVERINE COMMUNITIES OF FOCUS

1. Individual school's environmental club as enabler
2. RCE Youth Ambassadors as the “Big Brothers/ Big Sisters”
3. Training & tools with RCE Kuching & RCE stakeholders (State's Natural Resource & Environment Board, Sarawak Tourism Board, municipal council, other NGOs)



Output from 2019 “RIVER FOR EVERYBODY” PROGRAMME

5R (refuse, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, repurpose) Campaign

Phase 1: Awareness (Cognitive Learning)

Aug – Oct 2019



Our experience, the enabling factors:

1. Change starts with the young ones
2. “Big brothers/ sisters” concept work in the schools
3. School children learn most through games and role-play
4. Waste problems are contributed by insufficient waste management infrastructure

WATER

IT IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO CLEAN, SAFE AND QUALITY WATER



Our experience, the challenges:

1. The need to understand local issues
2. The need to find the best solution to the local issue (sometimes a local solution works much better)
3. The need to sustain interest of the communities
4. The need to engage more stakeholders
5. How to record and visualize the impact?
6. The lack of actual manpower (currently staff on voluntary basis, no fulltime RCE staff)
7. The lack of monetary and non-monetary resources (eg: educational materials on rivers)



MOOC ON MARINE LITTER

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

1. MOOC to Youth Ambassador programme as part of training module: most likely if content is aligned as there are available facilities at the universities
2. MOOC in schools as part of 5R programme: students' IT skills, logistic and infrastructure issues (wifi, internet, homes without access etc)
3. MOOC in community: What platform and how to motivate?
4. How to record and visualize the impact?

Youths as the agents of change



“Hand-in hand”



TERIMA KASIH

