



ANNUAL REPORT 2023



MALAYSIA ONE HEALTH UNIVERSITY NETWORK

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ANNUAL REPORT

USAID
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AOHUN
East Asia One Health
University Network



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THE LOGO

GREEN COLORED FONT

As part of the One Health concept, green is synonymous with nature, as green is the color of a pollution-free natural environment.

MALAYSIA FLAG

The colored map of Malaysia symbolizes the sovereignty of the nation, set against a blue background representing the harmonious ecosystem of the sky, sea, and land.



TIGER & HUMAN HEAD

The tiger represents the national symbol of Malaysia and plays a crucial role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem as a guardian of the natural forest. The combined image of the human and tiger head ensures a harmonious existence, synergistic cooperation in research and the human-animal discipline in the spirit of One Health, while depicting environmental awareness.

PREFACE

MyOHUN has penned yet another chapter of its ongoing journey, defined by resilience, collaboration, and innovation. As we navigated the complexities of the evolving global health landscape in 2023, our commitment to advancing the One Health agenda has never wavered. This year has proven our dedication to building partnerships, empowering the next generation of health professionals, and tackling critical health challenges affecting humans, animals, and the environment.

Our gratitude extends to USAID's invaluable support, which has enabled MyOHUN to strengthen the One Health workforce through education, training, and research, preparing the next generation of health professionals.

This year, MyOHUN introduced fee-based activities in our star programs, such as the One Health Field Epidemiology Training, Table-top Simulation Exercise, and In-Situ Problem-Based Learning. This strategic shift aims to sustain and enhance our programs while ensuring long-term viability. This move reflects our adaptability and commitment to preparing the One Health workforce to address current and future health challenges, with a focus on creating a lasting impact.

Despite challenges in coordinating multi-sectoral efforts and ensuring sustainability, MyOHUN emerged stronger. Initiatives like the "Stop Rabies" highlighted the power of collaboration, paving the way for more partnerships between private and government sectors, locally and globally, as we work to turn the One Health concept into action.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver", resonates with MyOHUN's mission. By prioritizing health for humans, animals, and the environment, MyOHUN invests in true wealth—community well-being and resilience. Through training programs, youth leadership, and initiatives like combating antimicrobial resistance and rabies, MyOHUN focuses on building a healthy society, echoing Gandhi's belief that a strong, sustainable future depends on health, not material wealth.

This Annual Report serves as a comprehensive record of our journey in 2023, highlighting achievements, challenges, and the collective efforts that define MyOHUN's commitment to advancing One Health principles and continuing to make a meaningful impact today and into the future.



ABOUT MyOHUN

Malaysia One Health University Network (MyOHUN) was built to promote the philosophy and spirit of One Health in working together to respond to new and re-emerging infectious and zoonotic diseases. It was initiated in 2012 as part of the Southeast Asia One Health University Network (SEAOHUN), receiving funds from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). MyOHUN currently comprises **17 universities** and **3 ministries** under its wings. Working under the umbrella of One Health, MyOHUN outlined our own vision, mission, and goals to mobilize the network.



GOALS

- To strengthen the One Health Workforce policy on environment and stakeholder engagement.
- To increase the capacity of universities, government, and related agencies to identify and address One Health Workforce needs.
- To increase the One Health Workforce's capacity to detect, prevent, and respond to infectious and zoonotic diseases.



VISION

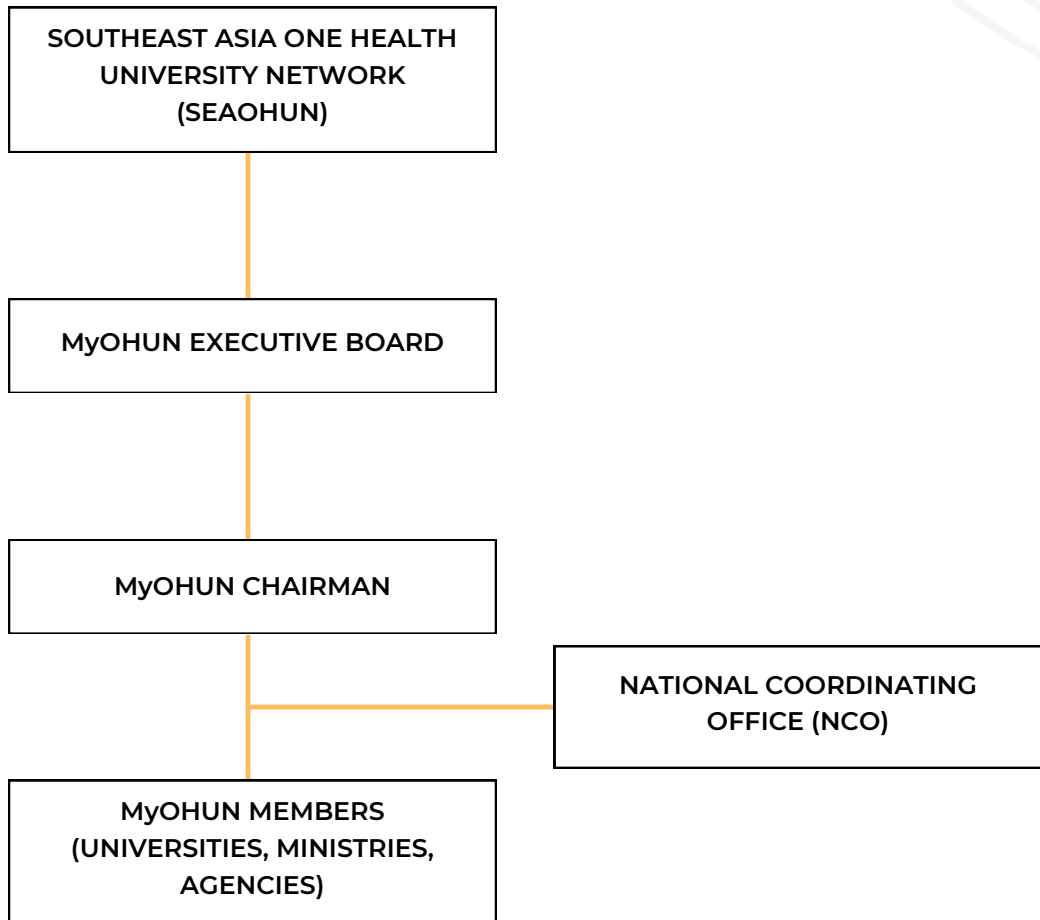
Network of social and intellectual excellence on One Health against infectious and zoonotic diseases of national and global concern.



MISSION

To link and enable universities, government, and relevant agencies to generate social and intellectual capital on One Health against infectious and zoonotic diseases.

MyOHUN STRUCTURE



EXECUTIVE BOARD

CHAIRMAN:

Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman Omar
Universiti Putra Malaysia

MEMBERS:

YBhg. Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Hair Bejo
Universiti Putra Malaysia

YBhg. Dato' Abdul Kadir bin Abu Hashim
Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia

Prof. Dr. Mohd Rizal Abd Manaf
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Prof. Dr. Sazaly bin Abu Bakar
Universiti Malaya

Prof. Dr. Latiffah Hassan
Universiti Putra Malaysia

YBhg. Datuk Dr. Norhayati binti Rusli
Ministry of Health

Dr. Akma Ngah Hamid
Department of Veterinary Services

Dr. Rohani Jahis
Ministry of Health

Prof. Dr. Suzana Shahar
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

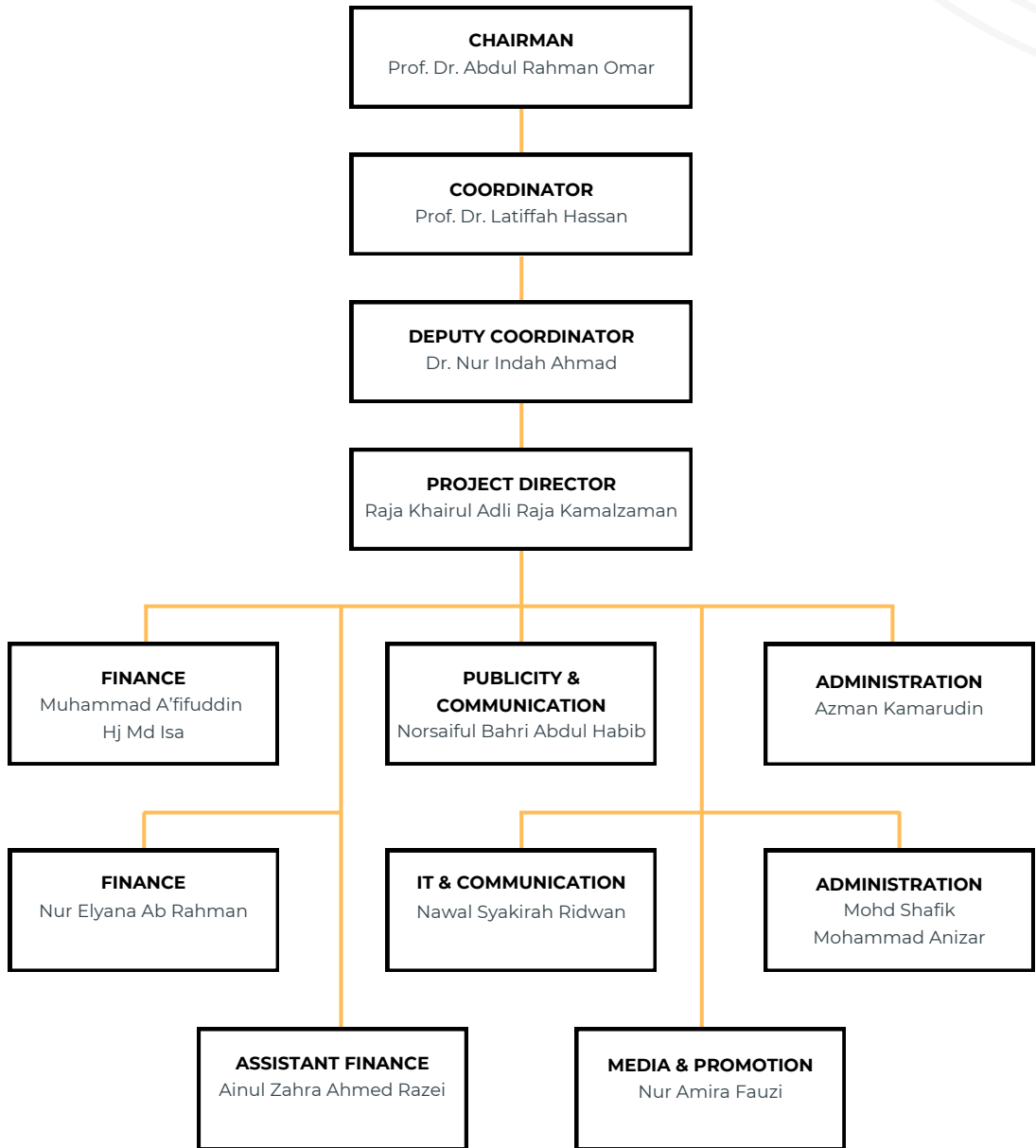
Prof. Dr. Hidayatulfathi Othman
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Prof. Dr. Abdul Halim Abdul Gafor
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia



NATIONAL

COORDINATING OFFICE



UNIVERSITIES

Universiti Putra Malaysia
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia
University of Cyberjaya
Management & Science University
Universiti Malaya
International Medical University
RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus
Universiti Sains Malaysia
Universiti Malaysia Kelantan
International Islamic University Malaysia
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
Universiti Malaysia Sabah

MINISTRIES

Ministry of Health
Ministry of Natural Resource and Environmental Sustainability
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

AGENCIES

Department of Veterinary Services
National Public Health Laboratory
Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) Peninsular Malaysia
National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)
Veterinary Research Institute
Institute of Medical Research



ONE HEALTH WORKFORCE- NEXT GENERATION

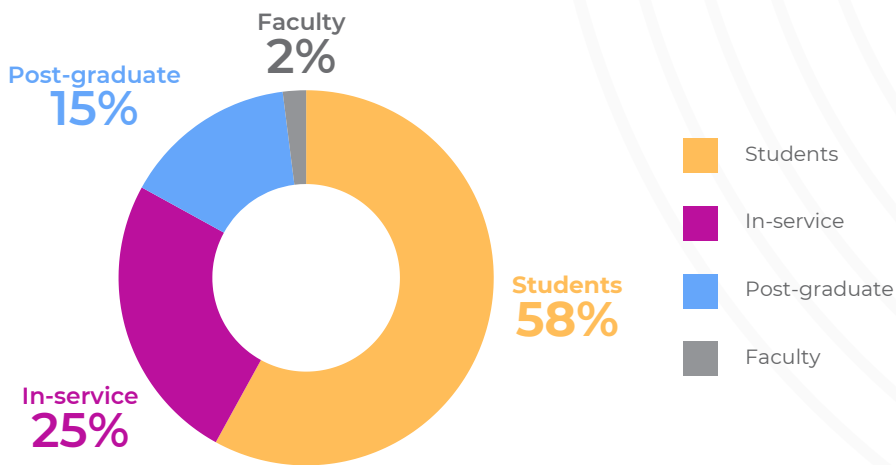
Emerging threats such as the 2019 novel coronavirus epidemic, which is presumed to have originated in wildlife and subsequently transmitted to humans, highlight the importance of a well-prepared and technically skilled One Health workforce for disease prevention, detection, and response. The complex nature of these emerging health threats serves as a reminder that a large-scale, comprehensive, multidisciplinary network of health professionals is required to fortify our biodefenses and achieve global health security.

The USAID One Health Workforce - Next Generation (OHW-NG) project is dedicated to advancing global health security by empowering One Health University Networks in Africa and Southeast Asia to build human resources and bolster the workforce's capacity for more effective disease surveillance and control. Employing a variety of pre-service and in-service formats, including One Health student clubs and experiential learning, OHW-NG is fostering One Health competencies.

2023 AT A GLANCE

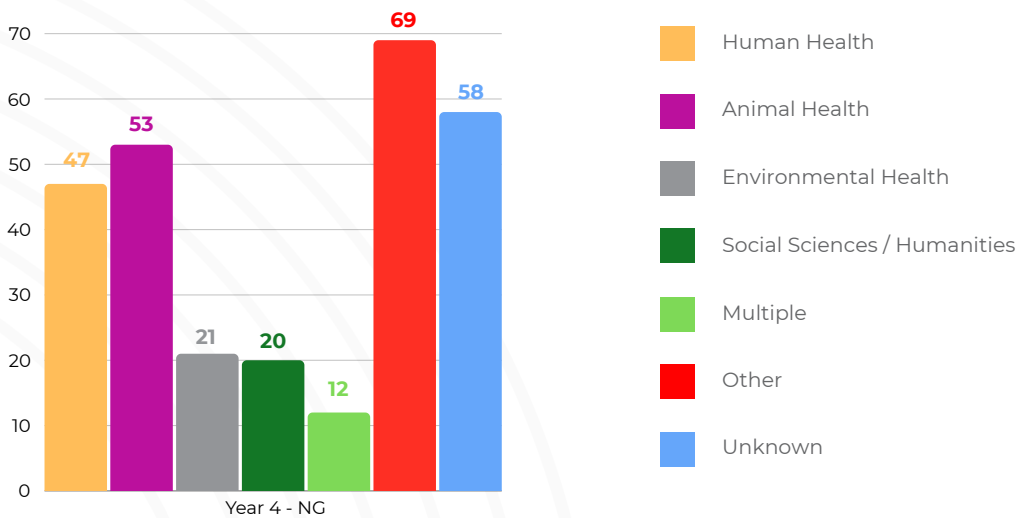
12 activities successfully executed in 2023

280 total individuals trained in 2023



204 students trained in 2023

76 in-service/faculty trained in 2023

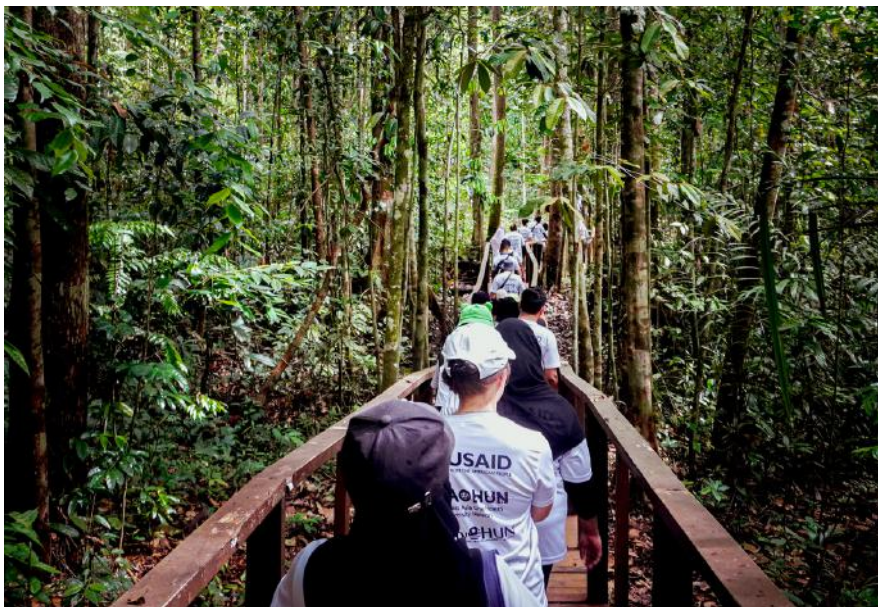


YEAR 4 HIGHLIGHTS



Improving the Quality of One Health Education in Malaysia Through Understanding of Real-World Applications

The *Guide on How to Run an In Situ One Health Problem-Based Learning* is a transformative resource in One Health education. This guidebook equips educators with the tools to conduct problem-based learning (PBL) outside traditional classrooms, immersing learners in environments that enhance engagement and creativity that have significantly impacted the quality of One Health education in Malaysia by shifting the traditional classroom-based learning approach toward real-world applications.



"With years of experience in education, this book is a clear example of transformative teaching that empowers learners to address real-world One Health challenges. It is a valuable resource for educators who seek to create meaningful learning experiences. Students can learn through interdisciplinary collaboration and develop a holistic understanding of human, animal, and environmental health, positively impacting the world."

-Associate Professor Dr. Hasliza Abu Hassim, Chief Editor of *A Guide on How to Run an In-Situ One Health Problem-Based Learning*.

While classroom-based education has been effective, it can limit students' thinking and problem-solving abilities, particularly with One Health issues, which require a broader understanding of the interconnectedness between humans, animals, and the environment. The In-Situ One Health PBL shifts the learning environment outdoors, allowing students to experience real-world scenarios. Despite initial concerns about distractions and the complexity of creating these PBL cases, the MyOHUN team successfully implemented this innovative approach in 2016. Students from diverse backgrounds have since benefited, gaining new perspectives on tackling One Health challenges.

To share this success, MyOHUN gathered experts to create a guidebook with clear instructions and practical examples of successful real-world cases. The guidebook is a valuable resource that encourages educators to adopt this approach while simultaneously inspiring a new generation of One Health professionals better equipped to address complex health issues in Malaysia.

One Vaccination at a Time, Fight the Silent Threats

Despite global efforts, rabies remains a deadly zoonotic threat in Sarawak, Malaysia, with 65 deaths reported since 2017 and in 2023 alone, 17 cases were reported, leading to 15 deaths. In response, the Angels Initiative and Stop Rabies Campaign, organized by Boehringer Ingelheim Malaysia in collaboration with Chevron, SEAOHUN, MyOHUN, Universiti Putra Malaysia, and local stakeholders, took action to raise awareness and vaccinate pets.

The program kicked off at local schools on August 18, 2023, educating over 350 students on rabies prevention through creative activities like poster competitions and cartoon presentations. This first phase empowered the younger generation to become advocates for rabies prevention.



"Owning a pet comes with responsibility, and getting my dog vaccinated against rabies was a no-brainer. The whole process was quick and simple, and now I feel relieved knowing my dog is safe. Plus, it's not just about protecting my pet—it's about keeping the whole community safe. If you've got a dog, make sure to get them vaccinated. It's a small thing, but it can save lives."

-Lim Chieng Jin, Dog Owner

The second part of the campaign took place the following day, focusing on pet owners in the community. This dual-impact initiative combining public health efforts with veterinary outreach has successfully vaccinated over 250 pets, highlighting the importance of community collaboration in addressing zoonotic threats, fostering responsible pet ownership, and ultimately saving lives. The initiative also offered free stroke risk and health screenings, providing health benefits for the community.

This initiative reflects MyOHUN's commitment to the One Health approach, fostering collaboration between academic institutions, local communities, and organizations. The success of this campaign demonstrates the power of collective efforts in addressing public health threats, creating a healthier future for both humans and animals.



Test (Activities)

- What method?
- Who will perform the test?
- Where?
- When to do the test?
- How many samples?
- What equipment test will?
- Any sharps involved?
- Any animal involved?
- Any GAD work?





ACTIVITY REPORTS 2023



MyOHUN Strategic Planning Meeting

The MyOHUN Strategic Planning Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in Melaka from 19 to 21 February 2023. This meeting marked the start of Year 4 for the One Health Workforce-Next Generation project. Forty attendees from MyOHUN members representing various institutions, agencies, and fields, gathered and reconnected to enable efficient planning and execution of MyOHUN activities.

	Date	19th - 21st February 2023
	Venue	Holiday Inn, Melaka
	No. of Participants	40 MyOHUN Members







In-situ One Health Problem-Based Learning on Animal, Wildlife, and Ecosystem Health



The In-Situ One Health Problem-Based Learning (PBL) program on Animal, Wildlife, and Ecosystem Health was successfully held from 8 to 12 June 2023 at Kompleks Belia Dan Sukan (KBS), Kuching, Sarawak, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hasliza Abu Hassim. The program engaged thirty-nine undergraduate students from the Medical, Veterinary, Environmental Sciences, Biomedical, and Animal Science disciplines.



	Project Leader	Associate Professor Dr. Hasliza Abu Hassim Universiti Putra Malaysia
	Date	8th – 12th June 2023
	Venue	Kompleks Belia dan Sukan (KBS) Kuching, Sarawak
	No. of Participants	39 Students

Over five days, participants participated in hands-on learning activities, including field visits to the Semenggoh and Matang Wildlife Centres, where they observed and analyzed wildlife health. Using the One Health approach, students worked collaboratively to apply classroom knowledge to real-world health challenges, enhancing their understanding of the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health.







MyOHUN



One Health Field Epidemiology Training Program

The One Health Field Epidemiology Training Program, now in its sixth year, was held at the Promenade Hotel in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, from 11 to 16 June 2023. Led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yap Wei Boon, the program engaged fifty-two participants from various health sectors, ministries, agencies, and universities.

The participants were involved in lectures, group activities, simulations, and a field visit to build their One Health competencies for addressing health threats. Visiting Lok Kawi Wildlife Park provided hands-on learning about zoonotic diseases and the interconnectedness of wildlife, human, and environmental health—a perfect fit for the One Health approach.

	Project Leader	Dr. Yap Wei Boon Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
	Date	11th – 16th June 2023
	Venue	Promenade Hotel Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
	No. of Participants	52 Participants





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One Health Young Leaders and Communicators







The One Health Young Leaders and Communicators program, led by Dr. Ahmad Filza Ismail, was held from 14 to 18 June 2023 at The Palace Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Fifty undergraduate students from various fields participated in the program, including medicine, health sciences, veterinary science, environmental science, social sciences, and engineering.



Participants collaborated to address One Health's challenges by combining problem-solving skills with creativity through diverse group activities, discussions, role-playing, and group challenges. Field visits to Lok Kawi Wildlife Park further illustrated the interconnectedness of human and animal health within the ecosystem, translated from learning to understanding.



 Project Leader	Dr. Ahmad Filza Ismail Universiti Sains Malaysia
 Date	14th – 18th June 2023
 Venue	The Palace Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
 No. of Participants	50 Students









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Malaysia Youth One Health Workshop (MYOHW)



The Malaysia Youth One Health Workshop, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sharifah Norkhadijah, was held from 26 to 29 July 2023 at De'Baron Resort in Langkawi. Building on last year's student innovation competition, which yielded over 80 inventive prototypes, this year's program shifted its focus to educators in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). The aim was to enhance their understanding of the One Health concept and its implementation within the TVET curriculum.

Throughout the four-day event, participants engaged in interactive talks on One Health, innovations, and various group activities centred around the topic. A field trip to Kilim Geoforest Park provided valuable insights into the interconnectedness of the One Health triad.

 Project Leader	Associate Professor Dr. Sharifah Khadijah Universiti Putra Malaysia
 Date	26th - 29th July 2023
 Venue	De'Baron Resort, Langkawi
 No. of Participants	39 TVET Teachers



MyOHUN

Tabletop Simulation Exercise for Postgraduate Students

The Tabletop Simulation Exercise for Postgraduate Students was held from 6 to 9 August 2023 at the Bangi Resort Hotel, Selangor, under the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azimatun Noor Aizuddin. This program engaged participants in in-depth discussions on strategic responses to simulated outbreak scenarios. The forty-four attendees had the opportunity to interact with expert facilitators and speakers on One Health-related topics, focusing on the core competencies required for multidisciplinary collaboration in managing zoonotic disease outbreaks.

The program included an informative field visit to the Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services (MAQIS) at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), effectively bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

	Project Leader	Associate Professor Dr. Azimatun Noor Aizuddin Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
	Date	6th – 9th August 2023
	Venue	Bangi Resort Hotel, Selangor
	No. of Participants	44 Participants



MyOHUN World Zoonoses Day - Leptospirosis Prevention with Community

Leptospirosis Prevention with the Community was held on 26 August 2023 at Pasar Awam Banting, Selangor, to commemorate World Zoonoses Day. The event focused on educating the public about proper food waste disposal to avoid attracting wild animals and thus prevent the spreading of infectious diseases.

Local residents, students, and preschool children engaged in various activities to raise awareness, including booth exhibitions, colouring competitions, rubbish collection competitions, physical games, and hand-washing demonstrations.





	Project Leader	Dr. Norita Shamsudin Ministry of Health
	Date	26th August 2023
	Venue	Pasar Awam Banting, Selangor

In a key initiative, Majlis Perbandaran Kuala Langat (MPKL) distributed 50 rat traps to market vendors to reduce the rat population, which poses a risk for leptospirosis transmission.



One Health Community Education on Malaria Knowlesi

From 24 to 27 August 2023, twenty students and five facilitators from multidisciplinary backgrounds participated in the One Health Community Education program on Malaria Knowlesi at Kampung Orang Asli Abu, Cameron Highlands.

 Project Leader	Professor Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) & University College Dublin (UCD) Malaysia Campus
 Date	24th – 27th August 2023
 Venue	Cameron Highlands, Pahang
 No. of Participants	20 Students

The four-day program included lectures on zoonotic malaria, environmental factors, and infection risks, focusing on Malaria Knowlesi for the marginalized community. This information was developed into a health education module - knowledge on malaria, its risks, and preventive measures - and was creatively communicated to the Orang Asli, including indigenous school children.

The initiative concluded with a visit to the vector control unit in Cameron Highlands, where participants observed malaria control efforts by the Ministry of Health.





MyOHUN





Angels Initiative and Stop Rabies Campaign

Boehringer Ingelheim Malaysia, in collaboration with Chevron, SEAHOHUN, MyOHUN, UPM, Rhone Ma, and various local stakeholders, including the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak (DVSS), has launched the Angels Initiative and Stop Rabies Campaign to raise awareness about rabies and stroke by providing health education and services to the community.

The program commenced on 18 August with a rabies awareness school initiative at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Kota Samarahan, where students were educated on rabies, dog bite management, and prevention strategies. The following day, a vaccination drive was conducted at Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Chung Hua in the Serian District, the location of Sarawak's first reported rabies case in 2017.




The objective of the drive was to provide free rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats in the district, which successfully vaccinated approximately 250 pet dogs and cats.

	Date	18th – 19th August 2023
	Venue	Kota Samarahan and Serian District, Sarawak, Malaysia



MyOHUN Annual Meeting

The MyOHUN Annual Meeting 2023 was held at the Ames Hotel, Melaka, from 27 to 29 October 2023. Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman Omar, MyOHUN Chairman, welcomed participants and expressed gratitude for their contributions in the project's fourth year. The meeting featured presentations from project leaders who organized their activities under MyOHUN, including insights from the One Health Booster Grant recipients and the One Health Student Club (OHSC) university advisors.

 Date	27th – 29th October 2023
 Venue	Ames Hotel, Melaka
 No. of Participants	50 MyOHUN Members

These presentations highlighted achievements, challenges encountered, and lessons learned to enhance the impact of future initiatives. The meeting also included group work and pre-planning discussions for year five activities, emphasizing added value and improvements based on experiences from the previous year.



MyOHUN Booster Funds



No.	Title	Recipient
1.	Community Medicine: Outbreak Investigation	Dr. Edre Mohammad Aidid (IIUM)
2.	Community Health Engagement and Project (CHEAP)	Dr. Mohd Hafiz Jaafar (USIM)
3.	Enhancing One Health Competencies through Transformative Field Exercise on Risk Assessment related to Melioidosis via Community-Based Education Program in Sabah	Dr. Zulkhairul Naim Sidek Ahmad (UMS)
4.	Safe Food Today for a Healthy Tomorrow	Dr. Shalinawati Ramli (USIM)
5.	Zoonoses and Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness among Wildlife Workers and Farmers	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sandie Choong Siew Shean (UMK)
6.	Rabies Simulation Assessment Day	Dr. Syamira Syazuana Zaini (UPM)





One Health Student Clubs

No.	University	Program
1.	Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	Walk on the Wild Side
2.	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	Outreach to Orang Asli: Becoming Agents of Change
3.	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)	E-WASTE: Wealth that is Hazard to One Health
4.	Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK)	Community Awareness on Cat Scratch Disease (CSD): Small Scratch Bold Effect
5.	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)	One Health Malaria Awareness with Indigenous People in Kampung Sungai Rual
6.	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)	Community Awareness: Human-Animal-Ecosystem Interface
7.	International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)	Field Sampling and Awareness Program on Zoonotic Knowlesi Malaria for Future One Health Workforce
8.	Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS)	One Health, One Planet and One Future Treasure Hunt



Sandia Laboratories Activities

On 28 February 2023, representatives from MyOHUN and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) convened at Le Meridien Putrajaya. This collaboration aims to strengthen biosecurity and global cooperation through seminars, workshops, and various activities in Malaysia.

On 6 and 7 August 2023, the first Biorisk Management Curriculum Modules Roadshow took place at Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA), attended by twenty-seven participants from diverse disciplines. The program covered key topics like laboratory management, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and biological waste disposal.



Additionally, the Biosafety Risk Assessment Workshop was conducted from 14 to 18 August 2023 at Courtyard by Marriott, Melaka. Twenty-five participants from various professional backgrounds engaged in talks and activities focused on biosafety and risk evaluation.



These initiatives have contributed to building capacity in biosecurity and fostering cooperation between Malaysian and international stakeholders.

As part of this initiative, the MyOHUN-VOHUN Biorisk Management Trainer Development Workshop was held from 12 to 16 June 2023 at Park Royal Hotel, Pulau Pinang. Twenty-three participants from Malaysia and Vietnam, representing fields such as microbiology, biosafety, and biomedical science, attended the workshop, focusing on the latest trends in biorisk management.





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