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# 541 participated in Sarawak Invention, Innovation & Design Exposition (SIIDEx) 2019

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The Innovation and Design Expo 2019 (SIIDEx 2019) held at the CIDB Convention Centre Kuching on 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 was a collaboration between UiTM Sarawak, Sarawak Education Department (JPNS) and Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA). SIIDEx was created as a natural platform to promote and nurture interest in Science and Technology amongst school students in Sarawak.

Hence, SIIDEx 2019 was aimed at promoting and nurturing interest in science and technology through active involvement of school students in STEM activities, to inculcate the habit of innovating and inventing amongst school children through participation in competitions, to create an avenue for sharing and learning among participant as well as members of the public on the products and processes of innovation towards becoming innovative Sarawakians and also to provide a platform for networking among schools, higher institutions and industries in Sarawak in efforts to create a sustainable innovation society.

4 stages of activities were executed by SIIDEx 2019 in order to achieve its set objectives. SIIDEx 2019 started with the Mentor's Workshop in February 2019. 19 mentors were involved and tasked with guiding the schools in developing their products. Next was the School Innovation Workshop which was conducted in February in three zones, namely the Northern, Central and Southern Zones. 183 schools throughout Sarawak participated in this workshop. To ensure the quality of the products to be competed, SIIDEx 2019 conducted a Mini SIIDEx 2019 competition in each zone. 102 schools participated in the competition and 26 products were selected to go for the main event in October.

There were 4 categories of competitions in SIIDEx 2019.

Main categories	Participants
<b>A</b> (Innovation, Invention and Design)	Schools (selected from Mini SIIDEx in the three different zones)
<b>B</b> (Innovation, Invention and Design)	Undergraduate students (IPTA/ IPTS/ Polytechnics/ Vocational)
<b>C</b> (Innovation, Invention and Design)	Lecturers/ Researchers/ Postgraduates (IPTA and IPTS) / Public/ Non academic
<b>D</b> (Teaching and learning Innovation)	Teachers/ Lecturers

A total of 128 products competed in SIIDEx 2019. The types of products competing in SIIDEx 2019 were Arduino-based products, automation, electrical and electronics, biotechnology, agriculture, cosmetics, teaching and learning applications, waste management, food production and applications development. A total of 25 experienced members of the industries and academia judged the competing products based on their originality, creativity, functionality, commercial potential and quality of presentation.

The products that won the Best of the Best Award are as follow:

- Category A - Shorea de la cream by SMK Pujut, Miri
- Category C - Converting Waste to Bio - Pepper Enhancer by Malaysian Pepper Board
- Category D - Maze - Wizer Board by SK Rakyat Kuching.

The closing ceremony was presided over by The Right Honorable Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Chief Minister of Sarawak. Also present during the ceremony were Professor Dato Dr. Jamil bin Haji Hamali, Dato Sri Michael Manyin Ak Jawong, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Sarawak (MESTR), Dr Annuar Rapae, Assistant Minister of Education, Science and Technological Research Sarawak, Datu William Patrick Nyigor, Permanent Secretary, MESTR and Dr Zaidi bin Razak, General Manager, Sarawak Multimedia Authority.



Photo-taking of the participants with the VIPs after the closing ceremony



The Closing Ceremony of SIIDEx 2019 by The Right Honorable Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Chief Minister of Sarawak



The Best of the Best Award for Category A Shorea de la Cream by SMK Pujut, Miri





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