



[Home](#) / [2025](#) / [September](#) /

UiTM Sarawak Concludes CDBK2025 with Cultural Showcase and Renewed Commitment to Global Collaboration

GRU2025

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SAMARAHAN, 22 August 2025 – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sarawak Branch successfully concluded the third edition of its flagship international inbound mobility programme, *Come Discover Bumi Kenyalang 2025 (CDBK2025)*, with a Closing Dinner held at Dewan Jubli, Samarahan Campus.

The evening commenced with a captivating Bidayuh cultural performance, setting the tone for a celebration of Sarawak's rich heritage and multicultural identity. In his closing address, Rector of UiTM Sarawak, Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah, expressed his honour in hosting the programme, describing it as “a bridge that connects us through friendship, shared experiences, and mutual understanding.”

CDBK2025 welcomed 40 participants comprising undergraduate students and staff from the National University of Management, Cambodia; Guangxi Minzu Normal University and Quanzhou Technical & Vocational University, China; and Universitas Panca Bhakti (UPB), Pontianak, Indonesia. The event was further distinguished by the presence of senior representatives from UPB, including Vice

Rector of Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Ir. Aguslim Masulili, Vice Rector of Collaboration Ir. Arif Parabi, MT, and Director of Quality Assurance Prof. Dr. Ir. Rahmatullah Rizieq.

Professor Dr. Firdaus reaffirmed UiTM Sarawak’s commitment to internationalisation and global visibility through strategic partnerships. “We have signed numerous MoUs and MoAs with foreign universities to foster mutually beneficial collaborations. These efforts are dedicated to preparing future-ready graduates who can compete globally,” he stated.

He further highlighted the programme’s impact in nurturing cross-cultural competence, personal growth, and global awareness among participants. “Grades and certificates cannot measure the laughter shared, the lessons learned, and the confidence gained. These experiences leave a lasting impact on hearts and minds,” he added.

The Rector also emphasised UiTM Sarawak’s alignment with the Sarawak State Government’s socio-economic development agenda, noting the importance of cultivating a workforce capable of contributing to a dynamic global economy. He acknowledged that participants from Cambodia, China, and Indonesia share similar national aspirations, and expressed optimism for continued collaboration.

Special appreciation was extended to the organising committee led by Dr. Wan Juliana Emeih Wahed, UG Sarawak Coordinator and Project Manager, together with the UiTM Global Ambassadors (UGLAMs). Their efforts in curating a vibrant programme—featuring activities such as *Jom Klaka Bahasa Sarawak*, Sarawak layer cake making, outdoor challenges, cultural visits, and traditional games—were praised as “a truly remarkable showcase of Sarawak’s cultural richness.”

Professor Dr. Firdaus concluded by encouraging participants to serve as ambassadors of Sarawak upon returning to their home countries, sharing their experiences and strengthening international ties. “Although this programme has ended, it does not signify the end of our collaboration. We look forward to welcoming you back to Sarawak in future initiatives,” he said.

The evening concluded on a note of optimism and unity, with the official closing of CDBK2025 and a reaffirmation of UiTM Sarawak’s dedication to fostering international friendship, cultural exchange, and academic excellence.

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