

Striking the right balance

MANY countries in the world, especially the poor developing ones, are in a dilemma. As a result of environmental pressures and the global push to preserve biodiversity, such developing countries are cautious about opening up new areas for development. This is because they would incur economic threats in the form of trade barriers and import bans from the more developed nations if they do not conform.

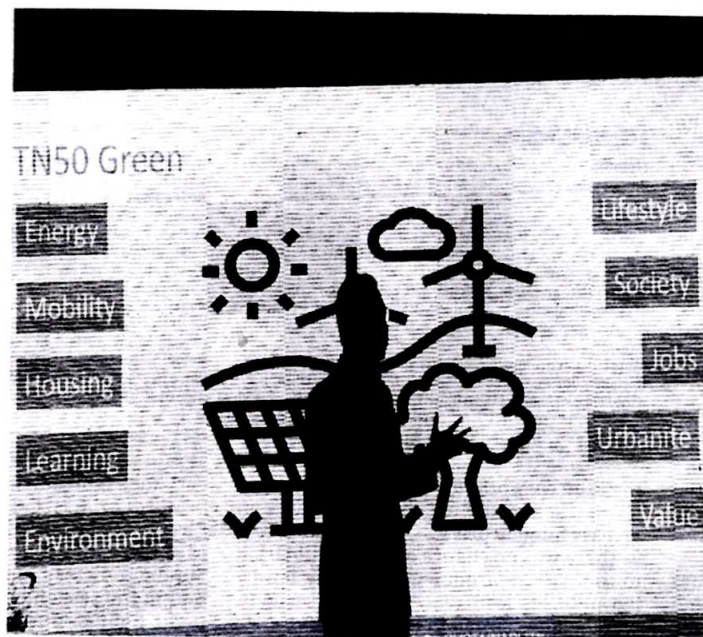
At the same time, they are struggling to bring development to their people. They were promised technologies to help them improve productivity on the limited land that they have developed but such promises were seldom delivered.

And if the promises were delivered, they were often offered at exorbitant costs which the poor countries can ill afford.

As part of the effort to champion the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UCSI University recently hosted a public talk on environment and conservation by Tan Sri Salleh Mohd Nor, a council member of the university and a long-time president of the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS).

It is not a coincidence that his initials bear a close resemblance to MNS with a bit of tweaking. No wonder his passion for nature and conservation is well known especially among the ardent devotees of the environment not only in the country but also around the world.

As a winner of the coveted Langkawi Award, Salleh, a senior fellow of the **Academy of Sciences Malaysia**, literally lives and breathes nature. He sometimes jokingly refers to himself as the true "orang utan". Coming from Negri



Sembilan, he attributes his good health to his Negri food passion, *masak tempoyak*.

His carefree and easy-to-understand delivery attracted good participation among the attendees comprising mainly staff and students of the university plus a few from the local community.

Salleh spoke at length about why conservation should be given high priority.

There is much evidence produced by scientists worldwide that nature is under serious threat. Among the constituents of nature which are under constant threat are water, air, and the flora and fauna of the forests and oceans.

Salleh cited findings from vari-

ous sources showing that many plant and animal species are already on the verge of extinction. Unless something is done to address the causes of the disappearance, our entire natural biodiversity is at risk. He further argued that if our natural biodiversity is losing balance, then nature itself will lose its value as a capital to drive development.

Yes, many have come to accept the fact that nature itself is a critical capital for business. For far too long, businesses have taken nature for granted but now things have changed. If businesses are unwilling to reinvest in nature as they normally do for all their other capitals, including talent, finance,

machinery and technology, then the future of business itself is at risk.

How then do we handle this dilemma? We can find the right recipe in the SDGs. Under the 17 goals of sustainable development formulated by countries in the United Nations, the targets are balanced. Environmental factors are part of the goals. Almost equal emphasis is given to the other goals including the well-being of society and the economy. No single country can achieve the goals alone, however. That is why the last goal of the SDGs speaks about partnership on a global level.

Admittedly, the root of global unsustainability is the high incidence of poverty and inequality. This explains why the number one goal of the SDGs is about alleviating and reducing poverty. Studies have consistently confirmed the fact that with poverty out of the way, the entire issue related to environmental neglect will just disappear.

This is the reason why one should not treat the SDGs with a strong bias towards concerns for the environment and conservation alone. For that matter, any effort to promote sustainability should never ignore people, who are the centre of the whole issue. What the world needs to do is to strike the right balance between conservation and development. And the SDGs essentially have the right formula to achieve this balance.

PROFESSOR DATUK DR AHMAD IBRAHIM
Hubert H. Humphrey Alumni
Malaysia
UCSI University

LAMPIRAN 2
SINAR HARIAN (EDISI NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 33
TARIKH : 24 APRIL 2018 (SELASA)

TPM Corporation edar 600 Qamus Digital

HULU SELANGOR - Technology Park Malaysia (TPM) Corporation Sdn Bhd mengedarkan 600 Qamus Digital Pro17 kepada 12 sekolah rendah dan menengah di Dun Hulu Bernam.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif TPM, **Datuk Ir Mohd Azman Shahidin** berkata, kamus bertaraf antarabangsa itu dapat membantu pelajar menguasai bahasa Inggeris biasa dan istilah teknikal secara digital.

Menurutnya, dengan perisian mesra pengguna, Qamus Digital Pro17 mempunyai lebih 800,00 penyelesaian perkataan yang meliputi 20 kamus dan dapat disampaikan dalam 21 bahasa.

"Ciri-ciri lain termasuk terjemahan, semakan ejaan, fungsi sebutan selain keupayaan penguasaan membaca, bertutur serta mendengar.

"Produk ini menggabungkan infrastruktur terkini bagi membantu meningkatkan mutu pembelajaran dalam sistem pendidikan dengan mengatasi kelemahan pelajar.

"Inovasi ini dibangunkan bersama MyView System Sdn Bhd dan Universiti Teknologi



(empat kiri) Mohd Azman menyempurnakan majlis penyerahan Qamus Digital Pro17 kepada sekolah berkenaan.

Mara (UiTM) Alor Gajah, Melaka di bawah Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (Mosti),"katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika merasmikan program Aspirasi Pendidikan Digital Felda dan Penyerahan Qamus Digital Pro17 di Dewan Semai Bakti Felda Soeharto.

Hadir sama, Pengarah Seranta Felda, Datuk Mohamad Khairuddin Mohamad dan Ahli Lembaga Pengarah Felda, Datuk Mohd Isa Abu Kassim.

Turut hadir, Ahli Lembaga Pengarah Tabung Haji, Datuk Rosni Sohar dan Pegawai

Pendidikan Daerah Hulu Selangor, Abu Mansor Sathri.

Mohd Azman berkata, keupayaan berkomunikasi dalam bahasa Inggeris menjadi kelebihan kepada pelajar kerana bahasa itu digunakan secara meluas di bidang sains, kejuruteraan, perubatan, perdagangan, kewangan serta pelaburan.

Menurutnya, Qamus Digital Pro17 dibangunkan dengan pelaburan berjumlah RM300,000 selepas kajian menyeluruh berhubung kelemahan pelajar dalam persaingan yang kompetitif.

"Kami yakin ia dapat beri kemahiran pelajar,"katanya.

LAMPIRAN 3
MALAY MAIL (CORPORATE COMMUNITY) : MUKA SURAT 23
TARIKH : 24 APRIL 2018 (SELASA)

Cultivating human capital for the future

THREE schools, representing Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia respectively, recently convened to present innovative inventions and prototypes under the theme "Access to Energy" for the grand final of #MyGeekMovement initiative. Organised under Shell Malaysia's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Education Programme, the competition is aimed at developing the capacity of Malaysian students in the said subjects.

The grand event saw SMK Lutong, Miri emerging as the national champion with its dust detector prototype which met the contest criteria of conserving energy. It beat the champions from Sabah, SM St Michael, and Peninsular Malaysia's SMK Bandar Puncak Jalil.

Aside from the #MyGeekMovement National Champion title, the team members won a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of Shell's Make the Future Live in London, an event which celebrates ideas, inventions and innovations that explore the future of energy.

There, they will have the opportunity to experience hands-on science experiments and contribute bright



SMK Lutong, Miri team members with their air-conditioner dust detector prototype that alerts users to clean the filters regularly to conserve energy consumption.

energy ideas.

The #MyGeekMovement initiative was launched in August 2017 with the support of the Education Ministry. Following that, the programme selected 225 then secondary one students across 15 schools in Peninsular Malaysia and the East Coast states to take part in

STEM learning programmes with a focus on technology.

Apart from the ministry's support, Shell collaborated with the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) in pursuing the STEM Education programme, including monitoring and evaluating its effectiveness as well as

strategising its sustainability planning.

Shell Malaysia country external relations head Nimmi Kamal said: "Shell Malaysia has aligned the #MyGeekMovement to ensure the programme is directed towards meeting targets and aspirations to increase the numbers of STEM graduates."

She said STEM subjects are close to the heart of Shell.

"Our industry needs talented people with relevant knowledge and skills in these areas. Thus, through the related programmes, we aim to contribute to the future pipeline of talents and capabilities that are crucial to our industries."

The initiative also provides learning content that complements the existing schools' co-curricular structure with a long-term goal to increase the number of students opting for the science stream in selected schools while boosting interests in science and technology among the young generation.

"The national goal is to achieve a 60:40 ratio in science and arts stream at high school level, and this has resulted in a strong call at the state and national level to grow the interest in STEM subjects to meet Malaysia's future human capital needs," Nimmi added.

LAMPIRAN 4
KOSMO (K2) : MUKA SURAT 22 &
TARIKH : 24 APRIL 2018 (SELASA)



SISA elektronik akan dipecahkan kepada komponen kecil bagi memudahkan proses pelupusan.

E-SISA yang tidak dilupuskan dengan cekap akan menambah longgokan di tapak pelupusan sampah.



TELEFON pintar perlu dilupuskan dengan cekap sekiranya tidak digunakan lagi.

Cara selamat melupus sisa elektrik, elektronik

Menguruskan sisa elektrik dan elektronik dengan cara selamat dan mesra alam dapat mengelakkan berlakunya timbunan sisa di tapak pelupusan yang bukan sahaja menyumbang kepada pencemaran alam sekitar bahkan menjejaskan kesihatan penduduk setempat.

PENGALAMAN memiliki telefon pintar pertama kira-kira lima tahun lalu masih segar dalam ingatan **Muhammad Amirul Iman Zalzilah Rashidi**, 21, atau mesra disapa Ejoi.

Dia mengambil masa hampir setahun untuk mengumpul wang saku sejak tingkatan empat semata-mata untuk memiliki sebuah telefon pintar berharga kira-kira RM500.

Tidak seperti golongan remaja lain yang memiliki telefon pada awal usia remaja, Ejoi lebih selesa memiliki telefon pintar selepas tamat alam persekolahan.

Terurai

Ironinya, tidak sampai lima bulan digunakan, peranti berkenaan sudah pun tamat riwayatnya. Semuanya gara-gara keterujaannya menjalani aktiviti riadah bermandi-mandi di Hutan Lipur Sungai Sendat, Selangor.

"Keadaah air sungai yang jernih itu membuatkan saya tidak sabar untuk terjun ke dalam sungai walaupun ketika itu hujan lebat.

"Setelah puas bermandi-mandi, baru saya perasan telefon di dalam poket.

"Saya terus gelabah dan membelek-belek telefon untuk memastikan ia masih boleh digunakan malangnya,

ia sudah rosak," kongsiinya ketika dihubungi *Kosmo!* baru-baru ini.

Perasaan sayang terhadap peranti mudah alih berkenaan membuatkan Ejoi memilih untuk menyimpannya walaupun tidak digunakan.

Baru-baru ini anak kelima daripada lapan beradik itu terdengar mengenai inisiatif mengitar semula telefon atau peranti mudah alih yang tidak digunakan dikenali sebagai e-Sisa Mudah Alih.

Anak jati kelahiran Rawang, Selangor itu difahamkan, peranti mudah alih tidak boleh terurai secara semula jadi. Ia mengandungi komponen berbahaya yang boleh menjejaskan kesihatan serta mencemarkan persekitaran sekiranya tidak dilupuskan secara berhemah.

Lantaran itu, Ejoi berazam untuk menghantar telefon kesayangannya itu bersama dua lagi telefon lain.

Kad SIM

Inisiatif e-Sisa Mudah Alih dilancarkan oleh Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (SKMM) pada bulan Ogos 2015 lalu dengan kerjasama pihak industri telekomunikasi, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO), institut pengajian tinggi, sekolah, syarikat swasta dan agensi media.



MUHD. AMIRUL IMAN



HALIM



BADARUZZAMAN

Pengerusi SKMM, Tan Sri Dr. Halim Shafie berkata, tema e-Sisa merangkumi semua jenis perkakas elektrik

dan elektronik yang telah dibuang.

"Pada peringkat awal pelaksanaannya, inisiatif ini memberi fokus kepada pengumpulan peranti berasaskan kad SIM lama dan tidak digunakan seperti telefon pintar, tablet termasuk pengecas dan aksesori lain.

"Ia kemudiannya diperluaskan kepada peranti-peranti lain seperti komputer riba, modem dan juga *power bank*," katanya ketika dihubungi *Kosmo!* baru-baru ini.

Berdasarkan penyelidikan yang dijalankan oleh Agensi Perlindungan Alam Sekitar Amerika Syarikat (EPA), sebanyak 16 tan tembaga, 350kg perak, 34kg emas dan 15kg paladium boleh diperolehi semula bagi setiap satu juta telefon mudah alih yang dikitar semula.

Menurut laporan *The Global e-Waste Monitor 2017*, e-Sisa merupakan sejenis sisa yang mencatatkan peningkatan paling tinggi di negara-negara maju dan membangun.

Ia terbukti apabila jumlah e-Sisa di rantau Asia meningkat hampir kepada 63 peratus dalam tempoh lima tahun lalu.

Di Malaysia, dalam tempoh antara tahun 2010 sehingga

SAMBUNGAN KOSMO (K2) : MUKA SURAT 22 & 23 TARIKH : 24 APRIL 2018 (SELASA)

2015, jumlah e-Sisa yang dihasilkan telah meningkat sebanyak 39.7 peratus. Data-data daripada Sirim QAS International Sdn. Bhd. pula menganggarkan terdapat 65.7 juta unit telefon bimbit yang didaftarkan antara tahun 2009 hingga 2014 di negara ini dikategorikan sebagai e-Sisa.

Jangka hayat

Hal ini kerana purata tempoh jangka hayat telefon bimbit adalah pendek iaitu antara 18 hingga 24 bulan sahaja.

Justeru, Halim berpendapat pelaksanaan e-Sisa Mudah Alih sebagai menyokong komitmen negara dalam mengurangkan sebanyak 45 peratus intensiti pengeluaran karbon menjelang tahun 2030 berbanding kadar pengeluaran tahun 2005.

Tambah Halim, inisiatif tersebut memberi penekanan kepada konsep 3R iaitu Pengurangan, Guna Semula dan Kitar Semula yang turut membantu usaha memelihara kelestarian alam sekitar.

Sisa elektrik dan elektronik akan dimasukkan ke dalam kotak-kotak pengumpulan yang disediakan di lebih 150 lokasi melibatkan cawangan kedai telekomunikasi, sekolah, universiti dan lokasi peruncit terpilih di seluruh negara.

Kotak pengumpulan tersebut tertera perkataan *e-Sisa Mudah Alih* sekali gus memudahkan individu menghantar sebarang sisa elektronik.

Pengitar semula kemudiannya akan



KOTAK pengumpulan e-Sisa terdapat di cawangan kedai telekomunikasi terpilih seluruh negara. - Gambar hiasan



KAKITANGAN SKMM menunjukkan kotak pengumpulan sisa elektrik dan elektronik.

Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Pembangunan Teknologi SKMM, Badaruzzaman Mat Nor berkata, bahan yang tidak boleh digunakan lagi akan dilupus dengan cekap sementara yang masih boleh digunakan akan diekstrak untuk

dijadikan produk baharu.

Katanya, semua bahan yang dipulihkan akan diproses sebelum dijual kepada kilang pembuatan yang diperakui dan mengikut piawaian ditetapkan.

"Kesemua langkah-langkah yang diambil ini adalah penting bagi mengelakkan berlakunya timbunan sisa di tapak pelupusan yang bukan sahaja menyumbang kepada pencemaran alam sekitar bahkan menjejaskan kesihatan penduduk setempat.

"Hakikatnya, masih ramai

pengguna yang menyimpan peranti lama mereka ataupun membuangnya begitu sahaja seperti sisa domestik lain.

"Tindakan sedemikian amat berbahaya kerana bahan toksik yang terhasil daripada aktiviti pembakaran itu seperti plumbum, kadmium dan merkuri mampu memudaratkan kesihatan manusia," jelasnya.

Ia berupaya menjejaskan kesihatan sehingga mengakibatkan kegagalan buah pinggang, hati, rangka, sistem pernafasan, pembangunan otak serta neurologi dalam jangka masa panjang.

Bagi individu yang ingin menyerahkan e-Sisa, pelbagai prosedur perlu dipatuhi.

Antaranya, sebelum meletakkan peranti ke dalam kotak pengumpulan yang disediakan, orang ramai diminta meneliti kandungan syarat pada kotak berkenaan.

Ia mensyaratkan bahawa individu adalah pemilik sah kepada peranti berkenaan.

Selain itu, individu yang berminat juga akan diminta untuk memadamkan semua maklumat peribadi yang disimpan dalam peranti terbabit atas faktor keselamatan.

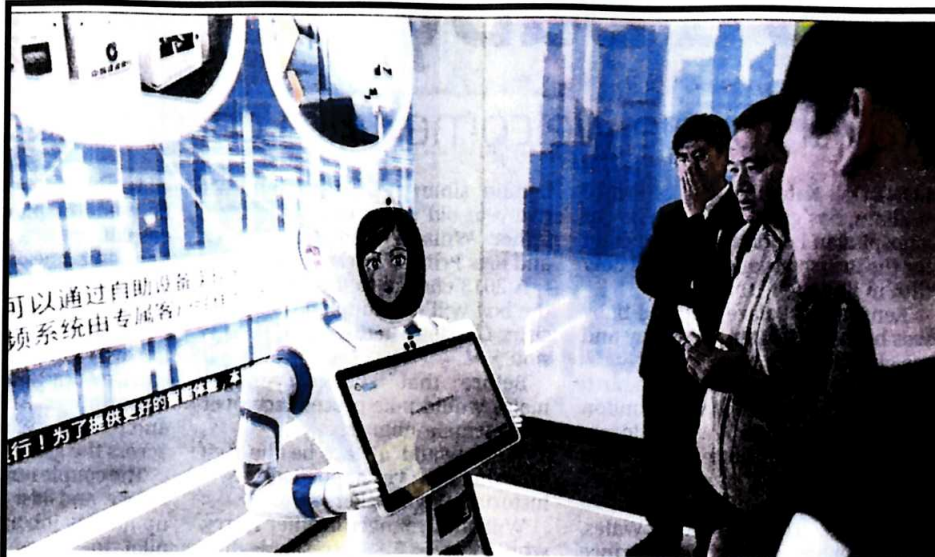
INISIATIF e-Sisa Mudah Alih bermula dengan pengumpulan peranti berasaskan kad SIM.

INFO e-Sisa Mudah Alih

■ e-Sisa merangkumi semua jenis perkakas elektrik dan elektronik yang telah dibuang
■ Peranti yang boleh dikitar semula:

Telefon bimbit
Telefon pintar
Tablet
Phablet
Pengecas
Bateri
Lampu pendarfluor
Lampu LED
Televisyen
Monitor
Peranti GPS
Kalkulator
Mesin pencetak
Kamera
Komputer riba
Modem
Powerbank
Vakum
Kipas
Ketuhar gelombang mikro





Face of future: Customers speaking with a robot at the automated branch of China Construction Bank in Shanghai. — AP

Shanghai gets automated bank with face scanning

SHANGHAI: Missed paying dues on your Communist Party membership? There's a bank for that – and it's fully automated.

A state-owned Chinese bank has opened an automated branch equipped with facial-scanning software, a virtual reality room, a hologram machine, talking robots and touch-screens for paying utility bills and Communist Party fees, among other functions.

The branch opened last week in central Shanghai's Huangpu district and is being hyped as China's first "unmanned bank".

Beijing-based China Construction Bank says the high-tech branch is meant to make banking more convenient, personalised, and efficient. It also reflects growing competition from cashless payment systems that are giving the banks a run for their money.

A robot greets customers at the entrance and answers questions using voice recognition software.

Clients can swipe their national identification cards to enter the bank – or scan their faces using the bank's facial recognition device. Machines inside allow visitors to buy gold, change currency, or scout real estate investments using virtual reality goggles.

The bank isn't totally unstaffed. Guards still stand sentry, and a room equipped with tele-conference software allows VIP clients to request help from human employees based elsewhere.

News of the newfangled bank spread rapidly online, drawing throngs of curious observ-

ers. Tian Ting, a finance worker, said she was impressed after touring the branch.

"These days, people are less and less likely to be inclined to want other people to come and bother them," Tian said.

"We hope to come to a bank where we can interact with machines."

State-owned China Construction Bank, founded in 1954 to fund large-scale infrastructure projects, is the second largest bank worldwide as measured by assets, and seems an unlikely tech pioneer.

Analysts say the bank is responding to pressure from Internet giants like Alibaba and Tencent, which are transforming Chinese consumer finance with mobile applications that enable people to transfer money and pay for goods using their smartphones.

"These days, everyone is talking about banking or financial innovation," said You Tianyu, vice-president of research at iYiou, a technology think tank.

"This is kind of an experiment, a shot in the dark, trying to prove that traditional banks, too, can innovate."

The trend towards automation is not new. Retailers in China and elsewhere have been tinkering with automated supermarkets and convenience stores, and Bank of America last year piloted three automated banks in the United States, calling them "advanced centres". It now has 14 such branches, featuring ATMs and videoconferencing capabilities. — AP