WORKFORCE

INGENUITY IN TALENT DEVELOPMENT

The Official Newsletter of the Sarawak Skills Group of Learning Institutions

PPK453/05/2014(033875) | VOL. 103 APRIL - JUNE 2026



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HOW TO REACH US?

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Published by:
Sarawak Skills Development Centre
Jalan Canna, Off Jalan Wan Alwi, Tabuan Jaya, 93350 Kuching, Sarawak

Printed by:
PPKS Production Sdn. Bhd.
Jalan Canna, Off Jalan Wan Alwi, Tabuan Jaya, 93350 Kuching, Sarawak
Tel: 082 - 539233

We are pleased to release the April - June 2026 issue of Workforce, the official newsletter of Sarawak Skills Development Centre. It features updates on events and happenings in Sarawak Skills.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



> These collective efforts reinforce our vision of building an agile, innovative, and globally competitive workforce that supports Sarawak's aspirations for sustainable growth and economic transformation.

HALLMAN BIN SABRI
Executive Director
Sarawak Skills Development Centre

This edition reflects Sarawak Skills' continued commitment to preparing future-ready talent through innovation, strategic collaboration, digital transformation, and community engagement. As technology continues to reshape industries, we remain focused on ensuring our learners and workforce are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and adaptability needed to thrive in an increasingly digital economy.

Our ongoing initiatives in STEM education, artificial intelligence, digital technologies, and industry-driven training demonstrate our commitment to delivering TVET that is relevant, responsive, and aligned with future workforce demands. At the same time, our growing collaborations with local and international partners continue to create valuable opportunities for knowledge exchange, innovation, and talent development.

Beyond technical excellence, we believe that responsible leadership also requires a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and community well-being. Through meaningful engagement with our communities, we strive to develop graduates who are not only competent professionals but also responsible citizens who contribute positively to society.

These collective efforts reinforce our vision of building an agile, innovative, and globally competitive workforce that supports Sarawak's aspirations for sustainable growth and economic transformation.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our staff, students, industry partners, and stakeholders for your unwavering support and dedication. Together, we will continue to strengthen the TVET ecosystem, embrace new opportunities, and empower the next generation of skilled talent.

STEM CATALYSTS 2026

EMPOWERS OVER 260 STUDENTS IN SEBUYAU TO EMBRACE FUTURE TECHNOLOGY

SEBUYAU - The STEM Catalysts 2026 programme commenced at SJK Chung Hua Sebuyau, the host school for a transformative educational initiative to empower the next generation of innovators.

The event was graced by The Honourable Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi, Minister for Utility and Telecommunication Sarawak, who emphasised the critical importance of early exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The programme brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including Loh Boon Piaw, and Cikgu Ismail bin Suhai, representing the Simunjan District Education Office (PPD Simunjan).

Initiated by the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak, in collaboration with Sarawak Skills, University of Technology Sarawak (UTS), and other partner institutions, the programme saw participation from 13 schools, with an estimated attendance of over 260 students. The initiative is designed to bridge the gap in STEM accessibility, particularly for students in rural communities, by providing hands-on learning experiences and interactive demonstrations.



Dato Sri Haji Julaihi (centre) receiving a memento from Mr John Rizal Biki, Senior Manager, Strategic Engagement and Consultancy. Sarawak Skills during the programme.



Dato Sri Haji Julaihi (centre) observing a student's engineering demonstration during the exhibition.



Group photo:
Dato Sri Haji Julaihi (seated, centre) commemorating the occasion with school pupils.





A University Technology Sarawak (UTS) student presenting a satellite model to Dato Sri Haji Julaihi.

During the event, The Honourable Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi highlighted the necessity of building a strong foundation in primary school to ensure a sustainable talent pipeline for the future. He highlighted, "I believe this programme is highly suitable, particularly for rural students. By fostering an early interest in STEM, it serves as a catalyst for them to engage with these subjects at more advanced levels in the future."

While celebrating the success of the current cohort, Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi also challenged organisers to scale the initiative further to reach every student in the district.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the organisers. In Sebuyau, we have 19 primary schools and one secondary school. Moving forward, I believe it would be even more impactful if students from all these schools could be brought together. Such an initiative would certainly make the program more engaging and meaningful in the future." He added.

STEM Catalysts 2026 continues to serve as a vital platform for rural students to explore modern technology and develop the problem-solving skills essential for the digital economy. The programme commenced in Kota Samarahan, Simunjan, and Betong, marking the final phase of its journey across the southern region of Sarawak

EVENT

SARAWAK SKILLS AND IMSEA EDUCATION (M) SDN BHD

SIGN MOU TO ADVANCE DIGITAL COMMERCE AND AI TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Sarawak Skills and IMSEA Education (M) Sdn Bhd formalised a strategic partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly develop programmes within the Alibaba Group ecosystem, focusing on digital commerce, artificial intelligence (AI), and cross-border e-commerce.

The MoU signing ceremony was officiated and witnessed by Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Dato Haji Husain, Chairman of Sarawak Skills. The agreement was signed by Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, and Professor Wallace Wong Shung Hui, Director of IMSEA Education (M) Sdn Bhd, in the presence of Mr Feng Diyang, Chairman of Pute Education Group and Dean of Alibaba Digital Commerce Industry College, Mr Mohamad Isham bin Fauzi, Chief Strategy Officer of Sarawak Skills, and Ms Celine Tay Jing Ying, Manager of IMSEA Education (M) Sdn Bhd.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Hallman described the collaboration as a significant step towards strengthening industry-driven education and preparing future-ready talent for the digital economy.



Mr Hallman bin Sabri (seated, second from left) and Professor Wallace Wong Shung Hui (seated, second from right) signing the MoU documents.



The exchange of MoU between Sarawak Skills and IMSEA Education (M) Sdn. Bhd.

"This partnership bridged education and industry through one of the world's leading digital ecosystems. By leveraging Alibaba's expertise, we equipped our learners with globally relevant skills and practical exposure in digital commerce, AI, and cross-border e-commerce," he said.

He added that the collaboration would strengthen Sarawak Skills' programme offerings while preparing graduates and entrepreneurs to compete in the global digital economy.

The partnership included the co-development of training programmes, industry certifications, and knowledge-sharing initiatives, reinforcing both organisations' commitment to developing digital talent and supporting Sarawak's digital transformation.



Group photo commemorating the MoU signing ceremony.



Group photo:
Mr Hallman bin Sabri (seated, fourth from left) and Dr Kwan Kian Hong (seated, second from left) commemorating the occasion with participants.

SARAWAK SKILLS ADVANCES AI INTEGRATION IN TVET THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH TEMASEK POLYTECHNIC, SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE: A total of 10 TVET trainers from Sarawak Skills Kuching, Miri, and AWISAR successfully completed the AI Adoption in Teaching & Learning Programme at Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore, from 13 to 17 April 2026.

The programme aimed to enhance trainers' capabilities in integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into education and training, while exposing them to innovative, practice-based learning approaches. Throughout the five-day programme, participants engaged in knowledge-sharing sessions, institutional visits, and hands-on observations, including exposure to AI applications in real-world teaching environments at the School of Informatics & IT and the Security & Forensics Hub.

The initiative was part of the Executive Series: Navigating the Future of Education with Technology and AI Integration for Educational Leadership, held in collaboration with Temasek Polytechnic and Temasek SkillsFuture Academy, Singapore. The programme reflects Sarawak Skills' commitment to strengthening leadership, innovation, and digital transformation in line with Sarawak's Post-COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030.

Speaking on the initiative, Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, emphasised the importance of continuous upskilling among educators. "This programme equips our trainers with the knowledge and exposure needed to integrate AI into teaching and learning effectively. It is essential that our educators stay ahead of technological advancements to ensure our training remains relevant and future-ready."

He added that international collaboration plays a key role in strengthening the TVET ecosystem. "Our partnership with Temasek Polytechnic enables us to learn from global best practices and adapt them to our local context. This will ultimately enhance the quality of training and better prepare our workforce for the demands of the digital economy."

The programme concluded with a certificate presentation by Dr Kwan Kian Hong, Director of Temasek SkillsFuture Academy, and Mr Hallman bin Sabri, followed by a sharing session highlighting key insights and future directions for AI-driven education.

This initiative marks another significant step by Sarawak Skills in advancing AI-driven learning transformation and developing a skilled, adaptive, and digitally competent workforce.

Also present were Mr Chew Chang Guan, Chief Executive Officer of the Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore (STATOS); Mr Lim Teng Leng, Director of International Relations, Temasek Polytechnic; Mr Tang Ming Fai, Director of the School of Informatics & IT, Temasek Polytechnic; and Ms Amy Francis Najur, Chief People Officer of Sarawak Skills.

PICTORIAL



Sarawak Skills Raya Celebration "*Berjarah Raya.*"
(2 April 2026)



Sarawak Skills and Alibaba College of Digital Commerce, Zhejiang Yuexiu University, China paid a courtesy call on YB Datuk Amar Professor Dr Sim Kui Hian, Deputy Premier of Sarawak and Minister for Public Health, Housing and Local Government.
(8 April 2026)



The Official Launch Ceremony of the TVET MyKomoditi Programme in Sarawak was successfully held and officiated by the Honourable Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad, Minister of Plantation and Commodities.
(4 May 2026)



Sarawak Skills in collaboration with Sarawak Energy, successfully organised the "Campus in a Garden" Tree Planting Programme in support of environmental sustainability and a greener future.
(11 May 2026)



Sarawak Skills was pleased to welcome delegates from Singapore Business Federation (SBF), STATOS and HFCAS for a visit and engagement session.
(15 June 2026)



"*Pengurus Pusat Bertauliah*" (PPB) Conference Programme with the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (KPPK) 2026.
(16 June 2026)



Mascot Competition Prize Giving Ceremony.
(16 April 2026)



Sarawak Skills Got Talent Finale 2026.
(23 April 2026)



Sarawak Skills TVET Mobility For Future Skills Programme
at SMK Bandar Samariang.
(13 May 2026)



Management Council Meeting No.1/2026.
(20 May 2026)



Sarawak Skills Sport Carnival 2026.
(18 – 19 June 2026)



AWISAR and Sarawak Skills were pleased to receive a courtesy visit from Mr Pete Jackson, International Business Development Manager of the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI), United Kingdom.
(24 June 2026)



Mr Ibrahim Sani (second from left) presented a complimentary laptop and a certificate to one of the recipients during the ceremony

384 GRADUATES CELEBRATED AT CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR STRATEGIC DIGITAL MARKETING PROGRAMME

A total of 384 participants received their certificates during the Certificate Presentation Ceremony for the Strategic Digital Marketing Programme, an initiative funded by Yayasan Peneraju and implemented by Sarawak Skills.

Conducted from November 2025 to January 2026, the programme was delivered in three batches and equipped participants from across Sarawak with industry-relevant digital marketing skills, including social media strategy, content creation, digital advertising, and data-driven marketing.

The ceremony was officiated by Mr Ibrahim Sani, Chief Executive Officer of Yayasan Peneraju, who commended the graduates for their commitment and emphasised the importance of digital marketing in building a future-ready workforce. He noted that the programme reflected Yayasan Peneraju's commitment to enhancing employability while nurturing entrepreneurs and digital leaders.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, highlighted the successful collaboration with Yayasan Peneraju and reaffirmed Sarawak Skills' commitment to delivering industry-driven training that creates meaningful career opportunities for local talent.



Group photo:
Mr Ibrahim Sani (front row, eighth from the left)
together with Mr Hallman bin Sabri (front row, seventh from the left),
members of the organising committee, and graduates.

To support their continued learning, graduates received complimentary laptops and subscriptions to digital tools, including Canva and ChatGPT, enabling them to apply their newly acquired skills in the workplace and digital business environment.

The programme reflected the shared commitment of Yayasan Peneraju and Sarawak Skills to strengthening Malaysia's digital talent pipeline and preparing participants for the evolving digital economy.



SARAWAK SKILLS DRIVES DIGITAL INNOVATION AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT AT INAUGURAL TVET COLLOQUIUM

LUNDU: Aligning technical and vocational training with the rapid advancements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution was the core objective of the Sarawak Skills TVET 1st Colloquium & Team Building 2026. The recent four-day event underscored the institution's proactive steps in upgrading its education landscape for tomorrow's industries.

The programme brought together 122 teaching staff and TVET executives from all Sarawak Skills branches, including Sarawak Skills Kuching, Sri Aman, Mukah, Bintulu, and Miri, as well as Sarawak Skills Automotive and Welding Institute of Sarawak (AWISAR), and Sarawak Skills Sarawak Agriculture and Vocational Training Institute (SAVTI). Guided by the theme "*TVET Masa Hadapan: Integrasi Industri, Digitalisasi dan Pembangunan Bakat*," the colloquium served as an important platform to align regional trainers in advancing industry integration, digital transformation, and talent development initiatives.

A major focus of the colloquium was navigating the transition towards the Code of Practice for TVET Programme Accreditation (COPTPA), presented by Ir. Ts. Dr. Kamaruzaman bin Hj. Md. Ali, Director-General of the Department of Skills Development Malaysia (JPK). The session provided valuable guidance on strengthening quality assurance and accreditation standards within the TVET ecosystem.

The colloquium also featured key insights from Madam Anielia Anak Siam, Deputy Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Education, Innovation and Talent Development Sarawak (MEITD), who highlighted national TVET quality enforcement efforts and regional advancements in digital innovation.

In his remarks, Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills emphasised the importance of agility in adapting to the new framework. "This transition goes far beyond a rebranding or code change; it represents a complete transformation. Moving forward, we can no longer rely on rigid and static modules. Instead, our learning content must continuously evolve to remain aligned with the demands of today's workforce and industries' needs."

Mr Hallman also highlighted Sarawak Skills' recent achievement of securing the highest number of 5-star ratings from JPK, calling it a benchmark to push further rather than a final destination. Looking toward global expansion, he shared an update on the institution's next major international move.

"Stepping onto the global stage, Sarawak Skills is envisioning to become an authorized training center for Germany's Handwerkskammer Aachen. This exciting milestone paves the way for you to gain from world-class training standards aligned with the German dual system." He said.

The programme successfully concluded with strategic cluster forums on campus digitalization and intensive team-building exercises designed to strengthen inter-branch collaboration.

PROGRAMME

SARAWAK SKILLS LEADS BEACH CLEANING INITIATIVE AT KAMPUNG SANTUBONG IN CONJUNCTION WITH WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



Group photo:
Mr Hallman bin Sabri (back row, ninth from left) together with the volunteers from both Sarawak Skills and Kpg Santubong during the programme.

KUCHING – Demonstrating its commitment towards environmental sustainability and community engagement, Sarawak Skills successfully organised the Sarawak Skills Beach Cleaning Programme at Kampung Santubong in conjunction with the celebration of World Environment Day.

The programme brought together a total of almost 100 participants, comprising Sarawak Skills staff, students, and members of the Kampung Santubong community, in a collective effort to preserve the beauty and cleanliness of one of Sarawak's iconic coastal destinations.

The programme was also graced by the presence of Tuan Haji Suhaili bin Kipli, Penghulu Kampung Santubong, and Tuan Haji Hardy bin Alim, Ketua Kaum Santubong, reflecting the strong support and collaboration between Sarawak Skills and the local community in promoting environmental conservation initiatives.

Through the beach cleaning activity, participants successfully collected a total of 249.1 kilograms of waste, reflecting the strong commitment and collaborative spirit of all parties involved in protecting the marine ecosystem and promoting responsible waste management practices.



Group photo:
Sarawak Skills contributed 20 pots of Jessica flowers around Kampung Santubong Map Signboard area.

As part of Sarawak Skills' contribution to the local community, the institution also donated and planted 20 pots of Jessica flowers around the Kampung Santubong Map Signboard area to enhance the aesthetic value and create a more welcoming environment for visitors and the community.

The programme was coordinated by Sarawak Skills in collaboration with the Kampung Santubong Village Development and Security Committee (JKKK) and received encouraging participation from volunteers who shared the common vision of creating a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable environment.

Speaking on the initiative, Mr Hallman bin Sabri, Executive Director of Sarawak Skills, emphasised that environmental responsibility should be embraced as a shared commitment among educational institutions, communities, and society.

"At Sarawak Skills, we believe that education extends beyond classrooms and technical competencies. It also involves instilling values of responsibility, sustainability, and social awareness among our students and staff. This beach cleaning initiative reflects our commitment towards nurturing not only skilled talents but also responsible citizens who care for the environment and the community."

The programme also served as a platform to strengthen the relationship between Sarawak Skills and the Kampung Santubong community while encouraging greater awareness of the importance of preserving natural resources for future generations.

Through initiatives such as this, Sarawak Skills remains committed to supporting sustainable development goals and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship among its community.



The collected waste was weighed and gathered at a designated collection point.



Mr Benjamin Anak Martin

Technical Process Specialist,
ES Foundry, in South Carolina, United States

Class of 2015:
Electronic Product Development (Malaysian Skills Diploma, Level 4)

Personal Motto:
"Rise Stronger, Grow Wiser and Never Stop Pursuing Your Goal."



Mr Luke Diri Anak Gerald

Consultant Mechanical/Piping Drafter
Tuah Energy Kenyalang Sdn. Bhd. in Miri, Sarawak

Class of 2023:
Industrial Automation Engineering System Support (Malaysian Skills Diploma, Level 4)

Personal Motto:
"Learn Boldly, Grow Continuously and Succeed With Confidence."



Group photo:
Participants were exposed to the floating solar project at Sarawak Skills Kuching as part of the training activities.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME STRENGTHENS MALAYSIA'S ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY WORKFORCE

KUCHING - The GE Vernova Energy Industry Skills Scholarship – Electrician Low Voltage Chargeman (L1) Programme was conducted at the Sarawak Electrical Industry Training Institute (SEITI), a subsidiary of Sarawak Skills. The programme was a joint initiative by the Federation of Malaysian Skills Development Centres (FMSDC) and the GE Vernova Foundation, with Sarawak Skills serving as the implementing institution under the FMSDC network.

A total of 42 participants enrolled across two batches, with Batch 1 conducted from 14 February to 12 July 2026 and Batch 2 from 28 February to 19 July 2026.

The six-month scholarship programme was designed to address the growing demand for skilled low-voltage electrical professionals by providing competency-based training in electrical installation, maintenance, troubleshooting, and safety compliance. It also supported workforce readiness for the electrical, industrial, and renewable energy sectors through industry-aligned practical training and work-based learning opportunities.



Theoretical session was conducted at SEITI.

Participants comprised experienced technicians, maintenance personnel, and individuals from underprivileged backgrounds, reflecting the programme's commitment to inclusive talent development.

The initiative demonstrated the strong collaboration between FMSDC, GE Vernova Foundation, and Sarawak Skills in developing a competent, industry-ready workforce while supporting the long-term growth of Malaysia's electrical and energy industries.



Highlights of CORPORATE TRAINING SHORT COURSES



AutoCAD Level 3

6-8 April 2026



MS Excel Intermediate (In-House Murata)

8-9 April 2026



Emergency Response Team Training with Fire Fighting (In-House Plaza Merdeka)

13-15 April 2026



Creating Infographics Using Powerpoint

20-21 April 2026



Developing Your Supervisory Skills

20-21 May 2026



Mastering Design with Canva (In-House Jabatan Premier)

23-24 June 2026

Sarawak Skills

CORPORATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

SCAN HERE

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