



PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

UCSI University demonstrates its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through active collaboration with government agencies, international organisations, NGOs, industry partners and community stakeholders. The university contributes expertise and research evidence to support the development and implementation of sustainability-related policies and initiatives at national and regional levels. Academic staff and research centres engage with governmental bodies and partner organisations to identify sustainability challenges, support policy strategies and contribute to monitoring and reporting frameworks that inform sustainable development planning.

UCSI also facilitates cross-sector dialogue on the SDGs by organising conferences, policy forums and workshops that bring together stakeholders from government, industry, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and academia to exchange knowledge and develop collaborative solutions. Through international research partnerships and academic networks, the university contributes to global sustainability research, data sharing and the development of best practices for addressing SDG challenges.

The university collaborates with NGOs and community partners through student volunteering programmes, research initiatives and educational resource development. Sustainability is integrated into academic programmes through dedicated courses and interdisciplinary learning opportunities. UCSI also conducts outreach activities for the wider community and evaluates students' sustainability literacy to ensure graduates are equipped to contribute to sustainable development.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

1. MASTERCLASS ON SCIENCE DIPLOMACY: COMMON INTERESTS BUILDING

The "Masterclass on Science Diplomacy: Common Interests Building" was co-hosted by Ingsa-Asia, the International Science Council Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific, Malaysian-Industry Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) and UCSI's International Institute of Science Diplomacy and Sustainability from 2 to 3 September 2025 at the MIGHT Partnership Hub, Cyberjaya. The event aimed to strengthen the integration of scientific evidence in policymaking and diplomacy to tackle global sustainability challenges, equipping participants from academia, government and industry with science diplomacy skills for evidence-based decision-making and collaborative solutions, which advances SDG 17.



2. HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON MALAYSIA'S JOURNEY TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The forum Malaysia Towards a Circular Economy: The Critical Role of Research and Technology was held at UCSI University to address the challenge of advancing a circular economy in Malaysia, where limited collaboration between government, industry and academia slows the translation of research into practical solutions. The event aimed to foster multi-stakeholder partnerships to accelerate sustainable production, resource efficiency and technological innovation, supporting SDG 17.



3. MALAYSIA REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO SCIENCE DIPLOMACY AT UNESCO GLOBAL MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE

Malaysia participated in the Unesco Global Ministerial Dialogue on Science Diplomacy on 28 March 2025 in Paris, France, to strengthen international collaboration in addressing global sustainability challenges. The Malaysian delegation was led by Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Chang Lih Kang, with representatives from Malaysian-Industry Government Group for High Technology, including UCSI International Institute of Science Diplomacy and Sustainability director Distinguished Prof Tan Sri Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid and Rushdi Abdul Rahim. The dialogue aimed to enhance partnerships between governments, scientific institutions and industry to tackle issues such as climate change, technological advancement and public health, advancing SDG 17.



RESEARCH AND DISCOVERY

UCSI University demonstrates a strong collaborative research ecosystem aligned with SDG 17, supported by externally funded grants and multi-institutional partnerships with leading universities, government agencies, and industry partners. These collaborations span key research areas including renewable energy, environmental sustainability, biomedical sciences, and policy development, contributing to national and global sustainable development priorities. These projects were secured between 2023 and 2026 and remain actively ongoing in 2025, reflecting sustained engagement in partnership-driven research.

In renewable energy, the National Algae Culture Collection for Renewable Energy led by Distinguished Professor Dr Phang Siew Moi (RM724,218), funded by Petronas Research Sdn. Bhd., supports microalgae-based energy solutions and biodiversity resources. The project involves Universiti Malaya, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, and Universiti Sains Malaysia, strengthening national capacity in bioresource innovation.

In biomedical research, Asst Prof Dr Low May Lee (RM49,000) collaborates with Université Toulouse III – Paul Sabatier (France), Monash University Malaysia, and International Medical University on antibacterial and anticancer compounds. Asst Prof Dr Cheong Kok Whye (RM137,250) works with Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Institute for Medical Research Malaysia, and AGTC Genomics Sdn. Bhd. on cancer research, while Assoc Prof Dr Baskaran Gunasekaran (RM104,200) partners with National University of Singapore, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and IMU University on cardiovascular and liver health.

In environmental sustainability, Asst Prof Dr Chew Li Lee (RM103,274) collaborates with Monash University (Australia), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and Universiti Malaya on marine ecosystems, while Assoc Prof EUR ING Ir Ts Dr Yeap Swee Pin (RM90,600) works with Universiti Malaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman on hydrogen energy materials for low-carbon innovation.

In the social sciences, Prof Dr Chan Nee Nee (RM128,472) collaborates with Universiti Utara Malaysia, Sunway University, and the Free University of Berlin (Germany) on cyberbullying interventions. Distinguished Professor Tan Sri Dr Zakri Bin Abdul Hamid (RM184,000) leads transdisciplinary research involving Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Sunway University, and Multimedia University, supporting policy and nation-building.

Through these externally funded, multi-partner projects, UCSI advances knowledge co-creation and innovation-driven solutions, reinforcing its role in advancing sustainable development through SDG 17 partnerships.

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIP

1. CYBERJAYA CONVERSATIONS SUMMIT 2025

The Cyberjaya Conversations Summit 2025 was organised to advance multi-stakeholder collaboration in science, technology and innovation, addressing the challenge of fragmented engagement across government, industry, academia and civil society. The summit aimed to strengthen cross-sector partnerships that support inclusive, future-ready development aligned with national and Asean STI agendas, directly contributing to SDG 17.

Participants included representatives from MIGHT, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, and the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. UCSI International Institute of Science Diplomacy and Sustainability director Distinguished Prof Tan Sri Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid delivered his keynote, “Bridging Nations through Science: Shaping Future Diplomats for an Interconnected World.” Key outputs included the identification of the Malaysia-Indonesia Grand Challenge as a pilot model for partnership-driven innovation. The event strengthened networks, improved alignment between policy, research and industry priorities as well as promoting knowledge exchange, while advancing SDG 4 through capacity-building and lifelong learning opportunities across diverse stakeholders.



2. MIGHT LAUNCHES INNOVATION CENTRES TO BOOST RAIL AND SMART CITY TECHNOLOGIES

The Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology, under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, hosted the official launch of the Industrial Technology Innovation Centre (and Smart City Experience and Next Generation Innovation Centre) to advance local technology development in rail and smart city sectors. The initiative addressed the challenge of deploying home-grown solutions for operational efficiency, infrastructure safety and sustainable urban development, with a keynote by UCSI International Institute of Science Diplomacy and Sustainability director Distinguished Prof Tan Sri Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid, emphasising multi-stakeholder collaboration in innovation and policy alignment, supporting SDG 17.



3. MTCP COURSE ON SCIENCE DIPLOMACY FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH

The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) - sponsored by the Ministry of Finance - in collaboration with UCSI University, launched the Science Diplomacy for the Global South course. This programme brought together 15 participants from various countries including Angola, Croatia, Guinea, Indonesia and Morocco, advancing SDG 17. The programme addressed the need to integrate scientific knowledge into international policy and diplomacy, focusing on areas such as climate negotiations, biodiversity diplomacy and strategic leadership. UCSI International Institute of Science Diplomacy and Sustainability director Distinguished Prof Tan Sri Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid and UCSI founder and executive chairman Dato' Peter Ng contributed to the programme.



Participants gained insights into science-informed diplomacy, strategic leadership and sustainability policy, fostering cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange. The course strengthened negotiation skills and produced actionable recommendations for global challenges. At a broader level, it also supports SDG 4 by enhancing inclusive learning and leadership capacity, equipping emerging leaders to apply science-based solutions for complex sustainability issues.





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UCSI GROUP SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS