

INTEGRATED GREEN GARDEN



A systematic drip irrigation method to water the plants which helps us to manage the water usage wisely to fulfil the SDG 6 Goals of 2030

In Collaboration with:



Gelugor, 07 August 2019 - Water plays an important role as it is a basic requirement to sustain life. Water is used for personal needs, irrigation in agriculture, and also in industry to produce various products. Water not only affect organisms directly, but also affect the economy and the environment globally. According to United Nations World Water Assessment Program (WWAP, 2015), safe and clean water is an important element in sustainable development as it contributes to the reduction of poverty, the growth of economy, environmental sustainability and to improve the overall aspect of an individual such as health aspect and food supply.

Realising the need to provide greater exposure on the concept of water education and food security to the masses, the Regional Centre of Expertise Penang (RCE Penang) based at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has embarked on a collaboration with the UNESCO IHP Malaysia to conduct a project on Empowering Teachers and Students Leadership in SDG 6 via Integrated Green Garden.

The project in general aimed at strengthening the leadership qualities in teachers and students in water education especially on water saving, water reuse, water recycle in order to ensure water is sufficient for future generation. In this project, teachers were exposed to hands-on and minds-on activities in providing experiences about the sustainability of water use. The development of the Integrated Green Garden took about 2 weeks to finish. The Integrated Green Garden system was introduced by RCE Penang@USM used several sophisticated techniques which are rain-water harvesting system, '*batas apungan*' technique and irrigation system. Interestingly, for the school project, we used the water from air conditioner to water the plant.

From the project, we were able to provide awareness to teachers and students that we could do something to save the water by using our own creativity and ideas. We also instill the leadership quality in teachers and students by providing guidance on how to maintain the garden. The vegetables from the garden will be sold to the canteen to cook for the students. By doing this, we also inculcate the entrepreneurship skills to teachers and students as well as the awareness on food security. We hope this project will be able to be implemented in the school throughout the country especially in Penang.

