

EMPOWERING SUSTAINABILITY, ADVANCING INNOVATION: THE UNIVERSITY'S ROLE

YH Taufiq-Yap

Catalysis Science and Technology Research Centre, Faculty of Science, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia.

Universities play a pivotal role in driving sustainability and fostering innovation through education, research, and community engagement. As hubs of knowledge and interdisciplinary collaboration, they are uniquely positioned to address global challenges by developing cutting-edge solutions, promoting sustainable practices, and inspiring future leaders. This lecture explores how higher education institutions integrate sustainability into curricula, advance green technologies, and partner with industries and policymakers to create systemic change. By examining case studies and best practices, we highlight the transformative potential of universities in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while cultivating a culture of innovation. The findings underscore the need for continued investment in academic research, cross-sector partnerships, and student-led initiatives to accelerate the transition toward a sustainable future.