



(From left) Zuraiti, Renuganth, Cheng and Mohd Ali showing the use of biodiesel to power vehicles such as buses at Biorefinery@UPM. — Photos: ROHAIZAT MD DARUS/The Star



Mohd Ali demonstrating how the used cooking oil should be collected and dropped off at Biorefinery@UPM Complex.

Bank in tie-up with UPM to buy used cooking oil from public

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MOST are unaware of the proper way to dispose of used cooking oil and that it can be recycled into fuel.

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and CIMB Foundation are collaborating to educate the public through a BioDiesel From Used Cooking Oil Programme.

The project encourages the public to drop off their used cooking oil at one of three collection centres in UPM where it will be processed

into biodiesel.

The used cooking oil should not have been used more than three times, and must be chilled and put into a container before being brought to UPM.

RM1 will be given for each kg of used cooking oil contributed.

The collection centres are the University Community Transformation Centre, Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences Faculty (FBSB) and Biorefinery@UPM.

CIMB Bank UPM branch manager Zuraiti Zakaria said CIMB

Foundation is contributing RM45,000 in support of the programme.

"Giving back to the community is part of CIMB Group's DNA. We launched CIMB Foundation in November 2007 with funding of RM100mil.

"This foundation undertakes corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities that are long-term, sustainable and effective.

"This project is part of our Community Link which has implemented about 800 projects in Malaysia since 2008," she said at

the launch.

Also present were UPM Industry and Community Relations deputy vice-chancellor Prof Dr Renuganth Varatharajoo, UPM FBSB Process and Food Engineering Department and Environmental Biotechnology Research Group leader Prof Dr Mohd Ali Hassan and CIMB Foundation project manager Eugene Cheng.

UPM senior lecturer Dr Ahmad Muhaimin Roslan said before this, UPM would give a kilogram of compost in return for 1kg of cooking oil.

"With CIMB Foundation's contribution we will be able to pay those who drop off their used cooking oil.

"One of the best ways to dispose of used cooking oil is to reuse it as biodiesel.

"By mixing 90% pure diesel and 10% biodiesel, we can use it like normal diesel to power vehicles such as buses.

"For now, the biodiesel produced is for internal use, but we encourage industries to meet us to discuss how this technology can be adapted on a larger scale," he said.