

One of the schools showcasing their recycling efforts at the green exhibition held in conjunction with the launch of the Recyling@U campaign at Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Recycling programme reaches out to all varsities

TWO organisations are taking their four-year-old eco-partnership to a bigger stage by extending their recycling programme to universities all over peninsular Malaysia.

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) leads the "Recycling@U" programme that will aid Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (Selangor), Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (Perak), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (Negri Sembilan) and Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (Johor) in operating their own on-campus recycling centres run by the student body.

The programme aims to instill the

end goal of minimising waste through habitual recycling, including e-waste.

Supervised by UPM over the period of two years, the project will see the construction of recycling centres in all participating universities and organising of awareness campaigns to instill the recycling habit.

Funded by The Coca-Cola Foundation, this latest programme will bring the total grant amount to more than RM1.6mil since the partnership began.

"Recycling@U" comes after UPM's "Recycle to Cycle" programme launched in 2013 with Coca-Cola, in

which students are encouraged to recycle PET bottles and aluminum cans in exchange for the use of bicycles and safety helmets to get around campus.

From its original fleet of 200 bicycles, "Recycle to Cycle" acted as a catalyst to propel UPM to become an even greener campus with some 7,000 bicycles now owned by students in the Serdang campus through an installment payment scheme.

This collaboration between the public and private sectors effectively reduced carbon emissions as the use of private motor vehicles on campus.