



A visitor trying out the new water-efficient taps at a surau in UM.

Water-efficient taps installed in varsity

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SIX surau in Universiti Malaya (UM) have been installed with water-efficient taps.

The National Water Services Commission (SPAN) converted 120 conventional taps to make them water-efficient at a cost of RM46 each.

The new taps limit water flow to a maximum of two litres a minute compared to conventional ones that typically release eight to 12 litres.

A SPAN study revealed that water consumption can be saved by a minimum of 50% using the new taps.

UM's Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences director Professor

Dr Sumiani Yusoff thanked SPAN for choosing the university as its partner.

"In 2018, UM spent over RM3.9mil a year for water with over 30,000 on-campus users.

"From January to September, UM managed to reduce its water consumption by 9%," said Prof Sumiani at a ceremony at the university campus to mark the partnership.

Another surau at the University Malaya Medical Centre is expected to introduce the amenity by next month.

Prof Sumiani said UM was fortunate to have an advocacy group known as the UM Water Warriors.

"The group has played an important role in enhancing water

conservation efforts and will also be directly involved in this SPAN partner project," said Prof Sumiani, adding that UM wanted to reduce wastage of clean water in public areas.

SPAN chief executive officer Datuk Ahmad Faizal Abdul Rahman said it was one of its corporate social responsibility initiatives to reduce water usage.

"This is in line with the Water, Land and Natural Resources Ministry's aim to reduce water consumption per capita from 201litres per person to 180litres," he said.

Besides UM, SPAN had also initiated similar programmes with Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi Mara.