

UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia (UPM) is now in the 101-200 band of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2020.

The second edition of the rankings saw the research university move up from the previous year's 201-300 band.

The rankings assess institutions globally on their commitment to the United Nations (UN) 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

UPM ranked 19 in SDG 4 (Quality Education), 96 in SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 98 in SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals) and 201-300 for SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

The ranking provide a measure of the extent to which varsities have a positive social and economic impact on the planet. It is the first varsity ranking to use this criteria, rather than traditional metrics, such as reputation and research prestige.

UPM recently developed a web-based risk management application to determine if their staff and students are susceptible to Covid-19.

Through this application, called UPM ERTCOVID-19 Risk Management System (PutraRISK - ERTCOVID19), UPM staff and students are required to fill in information on any Covid-19 symptoms such as difficulty breathing, cough, sore throat and fever.

The system will then display

# M'sian varsities making an impact



**Proud achievement:** Prof Aini attributed the success to UPM's strong commitment and drive.

their risk assessment which is categorised into high risk (red), medium risk (yellow), and low risk (green). Each risk level has its own specific measures to control the possible spread of the virus.

The risk management report is presented daily at a daily emergency action committee meeting which enables the varsity to carry out an immediate, effective action plan within the university to break the chain of infection.

Its vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Aini Ideris said the varsity's THE achievement was a result of the "UPM family's strong commitment and drive" in implementing sus-



**Leaving a mark:** University of Cyberjaya makes it into the global THE Impact Rankings 2020 for the first time.

tainable development initiatives on campus.

The ongoing support of everyone in adopting a culture of excellence, sustainability and integrity on the campus, she added, also contributed to this international recognition.

"This achievement is consistent with UPM's excellent record in various international ratings over the years and with our vision of becoming an internationally renowned university," she said, adding that the success was an important and significant benchmark in drafting the varsity's 2021-2025 strategic plan.

Joining UPM in THE Impact

Rankings 2020 is University of Cyberjaya (CU).

Aside from an overall ranking of Top 601+, the CU ranked top 200 in SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), top 600 in SDG 4 (Quality Education), top 401+ for SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and top 600 in SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals).

SDG 3, the varsity said, highlights its contributions towards increasing health and well-being for people of all ages and improving sanitation and hygiene through its community health awareness programmes both locally and across Southeast Asia. This is reflected in the varsity's international humani-

tarian and volunteerism programmes, said the varsity in a press release.

"I'm proud of our newly achieved rankings and for producing over 3,000 healthcare professionals who are at the forefront of the healthcare industry.

"Our quest is to deliver the very best and we will continue to focus on setting new standards in our education," CU vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Abd Razak said, adding that the varsity was proud to be a part of the rankings as it shows how much of a difference learning institutions make in the world we live in.