

UMS-SIFE-Wynetech maiden organic farm project

By MOHD.RIDZAL AB-DULLAH & MIZRON MARALANG

ridzal@newsabahtimes.com.my

mizron@newsabahtimes.com.my

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) together with the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) and Wynetech Holding Sdn Bhd have successfully set up an organic farm.

"We will also be jointly hosting this project in a few identified communities by educating them on Systematic Rice Intensification (SRI) and organic composting system to create a more sustainable and higher standard of living to the community," said the CEO of Waynetech Holdings Sdn Bhd, Datuk CK Tan during the opening ceremony of SIFE organic farm here yesterday.

According to Tan, the SRI system can achieve 50 per cent reduction in water usage and at the same time boost yield by 50 per cent.

"With the support of Kota Kinabalu City Hall, Waynetech will be allocated a promotional booth at the Gaya Street Fair during the upcoming Sunday to promote our products especially the organic fertilizers," Tan said.

He thanked Prof. Dr. Victor Lee, founder of Agro Ecologies Sdn. Bhd. for explaining the SRI techniques to the audience during the official launching of the maiden organic farming project at UMS yesterday.

Tan also extended his appreciation to finalists of



Tan (second from right) and Dr Kasim (left) at the SIFE organic farm opening ceremony

Miss Earth Sabah 2011 Beauty Pageant for their assistance in promoting the green initiative to create awareness on the importance of sustaining the environment.

"We truly support the 'Go Organic' move in educating and exposing Malaysians on the World Food Security programme," he said.

He said Sawit Kinabalu Sdn. Bhd is one of the main partners which supplies Empty Fruit Bunches (EFB) and Palm Oil Mill Effluent (POME) in their projects.

Meanwhile Deputy Vice Chancellor of UMS, Prof. Madya Dr. Hj. Kasim bin Hj Md. Mansur said: "We want to produce stu-

dents who are capable of serving the community and in doing so they are actually being exposed to the real world".

SIFE is an international non-profit organization that works with leaders in business and higher education to mobilize university students to make a difference in their communities while developing their skills to become socially responsible business leaders. They also develop outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need.

SIFE's Malaysia National Cup will be held on July 24-26, 2011 and SIFE World Cup will be hosted by

Malaysia on Oct. 3-5, 2011.

The competitions provide a forum for teams to present the results of their projects, and to be evaluated by business leaders serving as judges.

In terms of the community aspect of the programme, SIFE's leadership and career initiatives create meaningful opportunities for learning and exchange among the participants as well as the placement of students and alumni with companies in search of emerging talent. SIFE is actively organising programmes in more than 42 countries, with the motto 'A Head for Business, A Heart for the World'.