

## UMS Visits Small Islands in Semporna

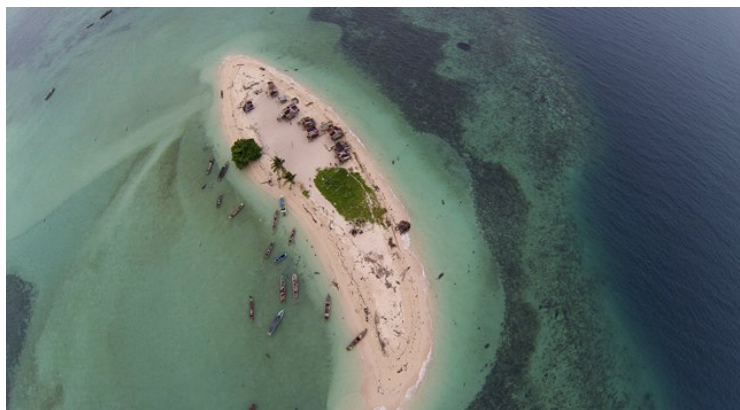
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**WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST** - A group of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) staffs, led by UMS new Deputy Vice-Chancellor Student Affairs and Alumni, Associate Prof. Dr. Ismail Ali made a special trip to the small islands in Semporna for the Small Island Research Centre (SIRC) research studies recently.

A group of eight staff went to visits Omadal Island, Denawan Island, Gusungan Island and also Menampilik Island.

According to Dr. Ismail, the expedition is intended to identify the facilities available in the islands beside of taking footage materials for research and education.

He also mentioned that the research will be divided into two cluster, which are Science and Engineering cluster and also Social Science cluster.

“The research that will be conducted by SIRC will involve small islands and micro islands as term of reference, while for the research limitation, SIRC will focus on small islands in Sabah waters including Federal Territory of Labuan,” he explained during the two days expedition.

The establishment of SIRC as a research centre is to dignified the research and writing in various knowledge fields based on islets in Sabah. In addition, the research centre will be mapping to collect information and also identifying the island potentials for tourism economy and strategic (security) purposes. -JA-

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