



The participants of the Global Innovation Competition: ACE WAR.

# UMS hosts international innovation competition

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) successfully hosted the Global Innovation Competition: ACE WAR, a two-day international event at the UMS Postgraduate Hall that brought together students from Malaysia and abroad to showcase innovative solutions in STEM.

Organised by the Academic and Career Exco of the Kingfisher International Residential College Student Welfare Committee (JAKMAS KKAKF), in collaboration with CEDEC UMS and the Sabah Creative Economy and Innovation Centre (SCENIC), the programme aimed to nurture young talent and promote collaboration between academia, industry and the community.

Deputy Minister of Higher

Education, Datuk Ts. Mustapha Sakmud, expressed strong support for the student-led initiative, noting its alignment with sustainable development goals through STEM.

Participants from Malaysia and Indonesia took part, with Danuja A/P Anmbalagan of Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin crowned the overall champion. The EAI Team from UMS was the first runner-up, while Sandi Pamungkas from Universitas Pertamina placed third.

The event also welcomed school-level participants, including 33 students from SK Topokon, 11 from Maahad Tahfiz Sulaimaniyyah, and nine from Maktab Nasional.

Two keynote addresses were delivered:

"Innovation: From Idea to

Impact" by Muhd Fariq Nordin (SCENIC) and "STEM for Sustainable Future" by Ar. Ivan James Soo (Chumbaka Sdn. Bhd.)

An interactive technology exhibition was held alongside the competition, featuring partners such as CelcomDigi, EINSTRONIC, Robot Wisdom, Politeknik Kota Kinabalu, and Popular Book Co. (M) Sdn. Bhd., giving students a chance to explore current technologies and potential career paths.

Programme Director and Head of the Academic and Career Exco of JAKMAS KKAKF, Siti Nur Fatimah Masrom, thanked all involved and described ACE WAR as a catalyst for innovation and cross-border collaboration to build a future-ready, tech-savvy generation.