

56 Science students participate in STEM awareness programme

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KUDAT: A total of 56 Form Four and Form Five Science stream students from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Lok Yuk were given early exposure to the field of oil and gas engineering through the STEM Awareness: Next Gen Oil and Gas programme held at the school recently.

The programme was part of the STI 1003 initiative, a collaborative effort that encourages the active participation of 100 local scientists with 100 schools over 100 days for each implementation cycle, aimed at strengthening the culture of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) among students.

Activities began with an interactive Energy Quest session, designed to create a relaxed and engaging learning environment while fostering closer interaction between participants and facilitators.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Oil and Gas Engineering Programme head Dr Norfazlana Abdullah said early exposure to the discipline was important in helping students understand the scope of study, learning opportunities and potential career pathways within the rapidly evolving energy industry.

"Oil and gas engineering not only contributes to national development, but also offers



Participants and organisers pose for a group photo at the end of the programme.

opportunities for innovation and sustainable engineering solutions. Programmes like this can spark students' interest to explore STEM fields more seriously," she said.

One of the programme's highlights was the Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Innovation Competition, which challenged students' creativity and critical thinking in grasping basic concepts related to improving oil production through innovative and sustainable approaches.

The activity also exposed participants to real-world

engineering solutions applied in the industry.

The programme further featured the Energy4 Me Career Pathway Sharing session, delivered by Regional Sales Manager of SGS Malaysia, Petrotechnical Inspection (M) Sdn Bhd, Khairre Mad Saad, and Head of Quality Assurance at Kolej Vokasional Kudat, Mohd Fadzli Morad.

Both speakers shared their professional experiences, industry skill requirements, as well as educational and career pathways in technical and

engineering fields.

The session was attended by 700 students and teachers from SMK Lok Yuk, extending the programme's impact to the wider school community.

Implementation of the programme was supported by facilitators comprising students from the UMS Faculty of Engineering's Oil and Gas Engineering Programme, as well as instructors and students from Kolej Vokasional Kudat, who guided activities and encouraged active participation throughout.