

# UMS conference to improve quality of life from Jan 24-27

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and the Sabah State Health Department will be organising the first International Borneo Quality of Life (BQOL) Conference 2018 from January 24 to 27.

The conference aims to improve quality of life and will bring together people from diverse areas of interest, including academia, the arts, health, education, business, politics, justice, religion and the environment.

The conference will include workshops, whereby participants from different backgrounds will work together to produce a set of resolutions, to help improve quality of life in the region.

Conference chair Dr Helen Lasimbang said that Malaysia was successful in achieving the World Health Organisation's Millennial Development Goals.

The Sustainable Development Goals came into effect in January 2016 and these are much more wide reaching. These include goals related to poverty, health, education, the environment, work and social justice to be achieved by 2030.

This conference hopes to create collaborations which will allow these goals to be met. Another aim of the confer-

ence is to consider how progress towards better quality of life can be measured.

The current indicators of development, such as economic growth and death rates, do not measure many things that people consider to be important.

The conference will be opened by State Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Datuk Masidi Manjun.

Plenary lectures will be delivered by distinguished international speakers, including world renowned experts on quality of life Emeritus Professor Robert Cummins and Professor Liz Eckerman of Deakin University in Australia; Dr Hume Field and Dr Jonathan Epstein of the Eco Health Alliance; and Professor Tan Sri Dato' Zulkifli Razak, the first Malaysian President of the International Association of Universities.

The conference organisers would like to invite registration from members of the public, academics, organisations and anyone else who is interested.

Registration details and other information can be found on the website: <http://spu.ums.edu.my/BQOL/2017/05/08/borneo-quality-of-life-conference/>.