

# Sharifah helps society through UMS club

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HER INTEREST in the environment and in helping the community are the factors that led to Sharifah Aziah Jasmine Sharif Jakaria's involvement in Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS)'s Enactus Club.

The 22-year-old UMS student who is also the club's president won the Enactus Malaysia National Competition held in Kuala Lumpur last week and will represent Malaysia at the Enactus World Cup in London in September.

To actualise her desire and interest, she initiated two UMS Enactus Club community projects last year – Mulberry



Sharifah

Leaf Tea Project in Kampung Tudan Tuaran and Artificial Reef Project at Pulau Sepanggar Kota Kinabalu.

Currently undergoing industrial training at Sepilok Rainforest Discovery Center (RDC)

here, she described her involvement in the projects as worthwhile when they bore fruit and benefitted residents in the two villages in terms of income.

In the mulberry leaf tea project, 65 participants managed to increase their earnings from RM500 to RM700 a month.

The artificial reef project carried out off Pulau Sepanggar managed to boost fish catch and earnings of the 23 fishermen involved.

"I am doing what interests me, that's why I could divide my time conveniently between studying and carrying out club activities when I was at UMS.

"And although I am doing my practical training at RDC now, I am still very much committed to the club in preparing for the Enactus World Cup in London from Sept 24-25," she told Bernama here.

Sharifah Aziah who is an only child said her mother, Fauziah Binti Abdul Rahim, a teacher at Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Tinoso Jaya Sandakan, and father Sharif Jakaria Sharif Ali, a teacher at SK Sungai Anip 2 Sandakan, were the pillars behind her motivation in community activities and education.

"When the results of the national Enactus competition was announced, they rejoiced with me as they could see that the challenges I faced in that one year were all worth the effort," said Sharifah Aziah who is studying for a bachelor's degree in Marine Science.

She is also the Marine Science Exco chief in the UMS Students Committee and a Malaysian Youth Climate Change Education and Empowerment (Power-Shift Malaysia) member.

A former student of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Muhibbah Sandakan, she is grateful to her ex principal Lim Li Li for 'sharpening' her potential as a speaker particularly by giving her the opportunity to participate in the Asian Wetland School Network Exchange Programme in 2011 at Sepilok RDC.

She was in Form Four at the time.

She said Sepilok RDC instilled much awareness in her about the environment, hence why she chose to do her industrial training at the centre.

At the recent national Enactus competition, Sharifah Aziah was among four presenters who represented UMS. The other three were Suganya Subraniam, Nimmalan Gaijandren and Isabella Check Ying Chen.

Nine others in the team were Sarah Nafisa Rosli, Shahrul Danial Haikal Mohd Saidi, Muhammad Adlin Saufi Mohd Zamri, Muhammad Luqman Mohd Firdaus Sugumar, Muhammad Atif Drani, Mohammad Azizan Junit, Anis Rohayu Zulkiflee, Muhamd Amirrul Ariff Ariffin and Mathan Ganasan.