

UNIMAS MESRA GRANT

Multidisciplinary Engagement for Sustainable Research Application

The MESRA grant aims to foster high-impact, multidisciplinary research aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Sarawak's strategic priorities.

Program Structure

Consist of 3 interrelated research projects	Designated Program Leader will coordinate the program	Total maximum funding per Research Program RM 240,000.00	Max. allocation per individual project RM 80,000.00
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Thematic Focus

- Green Technology
- Zero Waste and Circular Economy
- Agriculture and Agrotechnology
- Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability
- Digital Economy
- Renewable Energy
- Bioeconomy and Biodiversity

Eligibility & Application Mode

- Applications must be submitted through UNIMAS Institutes and/or Research Centres, not individually.
- Mentorship-based model: Each program must include a mentoring structure, i.e., linking senior and early-career researchers.
- Priority will be given to collaboration between S&T and Non-S&T and problem-solving research

Duration

Each research program must be completed within
24 months (2 years)

Research Output & Key Indicators (KPI)

- Min (3) publications in indexed SCOPUS or Web of Science (WoS) journals.
- Supervision and graduation of three (3) Master's (MSc) students
- Minimum one (1) Intellectual Property (IP) (e.g., patent, copyright).



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MESRA Grant Criteria

The MESRA grant aims to foster high-impact, multidisciplinary research aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Sarawak's strategic priorities. It supports large-scale research initiatives that address key national and global challenges through multidisciplinary collaboration. The grant encourages collaborative efforts across UNIMAS platforms, particularly Faculty Research Centres, the Research Mentor Program, and Research Institutes. The criteria for application are as follows:

1. Program Structure

- Each Research Program must consist of **three (3)** interrelated research projects.
- A designated Program Leader will coordinate the program.
- Total maximum funding per Research Program: **RM240,000**.
- Maximum allocation per individual project: **RM80,000**.

2. Thematic Focus

Research must align with the **Sarawak State Priority Areas**, including (but not restricted to):

- Green Technology
- Zero Waste and Circular Economy
- Agriculture and Agrotechnology
- Bioeconomy and Biodiversity
- Renewable Energy
- Digital Economy
- Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

In addition, as Sarawak prioritizes several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that align with the state's development agenda and Post-COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030, applications should prioritize the following SDG-related areas:

1. SDG 2: Zero Hunger

- Focus on sustainable agriculture, food security, and agrotechnology.

2. SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

- Emphasis on healthcare innovation, telemedicine, and rural health access.

3. SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

- Clean water access and water management in rural and indigenous communities.

4. SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

- Development of renewable energy sources (hydropower, solar, biomass).

5. SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- Digital economy, smart manufacturing, and R&D in industrial biotechnology.

6. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

- Urban planning, heritage preservation, and sustainable transport.

7. SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

- Emphasis on zero-waste technologies and circular economy practices.

8. SDG 13: Climate Action

- Research on carbon emissions reduction, climate resilience, and ecosystem restoration.

9. SDG 15: Life on Land

- Biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, and indigenous knowledge integration.

3. Eligibility & Application Mode

- Applications must be submitted through **UNIMAS Institutes and/or Research Centres**, not individually.
- Mentorship-based model: Each program must include a mentoring structure, i.e., linking senior and early-career researchers.
- Priority will be given to collaboration between S&T and Non-S&T and problem-solving research.

4. Duration

- Each research program must be completed within **24 months (2 years)**.

5. Research Output & Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Minimum **three (3)** publications in indexed SCOPUS or Web of Science (WoS) journals.
- Supervision and graduation of **three (3)** Master's (MSc) students.
- Minimum one **(1) Intellectual Property (IP)** (e.g., patent, copyright).

6. Application Process

All proposals must be submitted via the iRIS system during the official call period. The research grant will be open for **one (1) month** from **15 May 2025** until **14 June 2025**.

Submissions must include a consolidated proposal outlining the program goals, project interlinkages, budget justification, and expected outcomes.