





Education

The number of ongoing
education programmes:

37

The number of
organisations supported
(FY2021):

13

The number of
scholarship and bursary
recipients (FY2021):

504

The amount committed
since inception (1982):

RM373.2 Mil

YSD endeavours to offer wisdom, expertise and assistance at all levels of education to promote and advance what people believe they can achieve, especially the underprivileged. YSD supports initiatives that reduce gaps in accessing quality education between urban and rural societies and improve access to basic education for the marginalised. The Foundation also strives to support national policies with the aim of improving the Malaysian education system.

Relevant SDGs:



Education Pillar

Scholars' Testimonials



Mackenzie Tan Phei Huey
**YSD Excellence Undergraduate
Scholarship Programme**
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy,
Politics and Economics,
University of Oxford

“Yayasan Sime Darby has radically altered the trajectory of my life, as well as the lives of so many other fortunate scholars. It is difficult to attain a position to study at the University of Oxford, the oldest university in the anglosphere, and YSD has helped bridge the last gap I had to cross. Personally knowing friends who have given up similar positions due to financial reasons, I am only able to be here thanks to the YSD Excellence Scholarship Programme. The scholarship has also motivated me to maintain my involvement in super-curricular and extracurricular activities to boost my credentials, including volunteering to do some research for my professors and remaining active in Model United Nations in both the UK and Malaysia.”



Alya Yasmin binti Azmi
**YSD Excellence Undergraduate
Scholarship Programme**
Bachelor of Science in Psychology,
University College London

“Being a YSD scholar has helped me shift my mindset to place importance on giving back to the community. This past March, I was selected to be the emcee for YSD’s annual International Women’s Day event. After doing vigorous research on issues like domestic abuse and sexual harassment, as well as collaborating with a group of inspiring women, I realised that in these discussions about very real hardships that plague women day in and day out, I was playing a role in spreading awareness amongst the hundreds of people watching us live. YSD gave me this inspirational experience, and it has been a catalyst for me to continue volunteering even whilst I’m in the UK, where I’ve begun working with disabled children. The scholarship has thus allowed me to spend some of my time being part of an active cause; putting people first and volunteering.”



Md Nur Afiz Md Nazzir
**YSD Excellence Undergraduate
Scholarship Programme**
Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical
Engineering, University of Malaya

“Throughout my scholarship, I am becoming more aware of current issues such as the importance of empowerment and adapting to difficult circumstances. YSD has provided opportunities to attend many awareness talks in various areas I would previously not be aware of or be interested in. I even participated in the #YSDChooseToChallenge social media campaign because I believe more people should empower women in their daily lives. Additionally, YSD has also provided ways in helping me with my Integrated Design Project. Dyson mentored this project, and our task was to build a surveillance system to help dementia patients to live independently in their homes. Through YSD THRIVE – Future Leaders, YSD provides their scholars with access to the Udemy e-learning platform, which gave me access to courses in programming and machine learning for the project.”



Thibharaj S/O Yuvaraj
**Employees’ Children Education
Programme**
Bachelor of Business Management,
University of Selangor

“The YSD bursary has helped me in developing and growing my thought process, perception of the world, attitudes and behaviour. The financial support has enabled me to focus on bringing out my best abilities in the area I’m studying. I also received valuable information and advice from experienced professionals from various companies such as KPMG, Maybank, PwC, CIMB through YSD’s own FriYAY Talk series. Additionally, YSD has given me the opportunity to acquire new knowledge and skills through the Udemy e-learning platform, where I had access to learning about photography, keyboard piano and more. This variety in learning has given me the confidence to start my own business as well as explore career opportunities. Moreover, YSD scholarship helps me to get special attention from employers whenever applying for a job.”



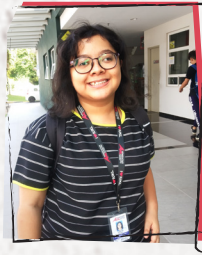
Mohammad Syahril Asyraf Bin Mohd Rozi
Yayasan Sime Darby Special Support Bursary Programme
 Bachelor of Science (Hons.)
 Marine Technology,
 Universiti Teknologi MARA, Perlis

"The bursary is special to me because aside from providing financial support, the scholars have also been nurtured with various programmes like the English Preparation Programme and Nurturing Development Programmes. These programmes have improved my English proficiency and enhanced my communication, presentation, critical thinking and management skills, among others. These programmes have also built my confidence which has driven my appetite for success in my academic career through participating in the International Innovation, Design and Articulation (i-IDEA) competition with my Final Year Project, where I won the Gold and Special Award. I am thankful for YSD for the academic and post-academic opportunities and exposures given to me."



Muhammad Farith Bin Arifin
YSD Special Needs Busary Programme
 Bachelor of Human Sciences
 (Political Science), International Islamic
 University Malaysia (IIUM)

"Getting the YSD bursary nurtured my resilience and persistence in managing my time at university. On top of the financial support as part of the scholarship, we, as YSD Scholars, were privy to a breadth of other areas of support. YSD conducted programmes and provided tips during my bursary tenure to be well prepared to build my career. In particular, a most memorable experience was being selected to be a YSD THRIVE speaker to share inspirational stories with fellow YSD Scholars at the launch of the event. Preparing for and being a recipient of the scholarship has encouraged me to grow in non-academic areas as well, and despite my visual impairment, I have proven to myself and others that I can still excel not only in academics but also in leadership as well as in sports."



Nadiyah Nazurah binti Mohd Fadzil
YSD Special Needs Bursary Programme
 Diploma in English for Professional
 Communication, Infrastructure University
 Kuala Lumpur

"This education bursary has opened many doors of opportunities for me in furthering my studies in tertiary level education. YSD also helped me to participate in many networking sessions. First, I get to meet other remarkable scholars from all parts of Malaysia. Their background stories and present achievements pushes me to further my performance socially and academically. Secondly, the YSD bursary exposes me to various possible career opportunities through their active collaborative events. I feel assured and hopeful about my future with the YSD bursary as it has pushed me to be the best version of myself despite my visual condition."



Maqrah Zurqihan Zulkifly
CFA, Manager, Portfolio Strategy Sime Darby Industrial Employees Education Programme
 MBA for Working Professionals,
 Asia School of Business in Collaboration
 with MIT Sloan Management

"YSD gave me the chance to study chemical engineering at Imperial College London, which is among the most prestigious science and engineering universities in the United Kingdom and globally. This excellent scholarship and degree allowed for many amazing opportunities during my studies and after. My tertiary education continues to open doors for me to this day. Just last year, YSD again paved the way by giving me an opportunity to progress my career with a scholarship to the Asia School of Business in collaboration with the prestigious MIT Sloan. I am currently enjoying my second semester of the MBA for Working Professionals programme. It has been a fulfilling journey as I am constantly learning and exposed to best practices in new disciplines. I will be headed to Boston soon for the MIT trek, which is a core component of this MBA programme."

Relevant SDGs:



Education Pillar

Digital Learning as Experienced by YSD Excellence and Bursary Scholars



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As a final year student, there is plenty of coursework to be completed, and most times, I will have to travel to the city centre for facilities to get a stable internet connection and work on my assignments. Digital learning also lacks physical human interaction. I find it quite demotivating to study without the physical presence of friends and lecturers around me. However, I must persevere and be able to adapt to the new normal.

”

Muhammad Iqhil Hashim
YSD Bursary Scholar



YSD THRIVE - Future Leaders high potential mentoring programme - the scholars meet & greet sessions with Sime Darby leaders



YSD THRIVE - Future Leaders: Knowledge sharing sessions by YSD THRIVE speakers

In an interview with YSD, Muhammad Idhil Hashim, YSD Bursary Scholar and Md Nur Afiq Md Nadzir, YSD Excellence Scholar, discuss their experience in digital learning throughout this pandemic.

YSD offers scholarships and bursaries to deserving Malaysians with excellent academic results and leadership qualities for vocational studies, certificates, diplomas and undergraduate studies.

Since the establishment of YSD, 5,075 scholarships and bursaries worth RM316.5 million have been awarded to students, mostly from middle to low-income families, as of August 2021. In the financial year 2021, YSD offered 504 scholarships and bursaries in various disciplines for individuals from areas where Sime Darby Berhad, Sime Darby Plantation Berhad and Sime Darby Property Berhad operate in.

Besides offering scholarships, YSD is also committed to ensuring the development of scholars. In August 2020, Yayasan Sime Darby (YSD) launched the YSD THRIVE programme, which includes the Scholars' Development Programme (SDP), offering a wholesome learning experience specially designed for YSD Excellence Scholars. The acronym T.H.R.I.V.E. stands for Tailored Soft-Skills Training (T), High Potential Mentorship (H), Resilient Leadership (R), Industrial Internships at Sime Darby Companies (I), Volunteering initiatives (V) and E-learning Platform access (E).

Key Highlights:

- The new YSD "THRIVE – Future Leaders" programme offers a more comprehensive learning experience specially designed for YSD Excellence Scholars
- YSD launched its first e-learning platform in February 2021, where Excellence scholars are given the opportunity to enrol in more than 5,000 courses on the most prominent global marketplace for learning and teaching online, UdeMY
- The YSD THRIVE development programme was further expanded with the launch of "YSD THRIVE – Rising Talent" in July 2021 for bursary scholars offering a comprehensive learning experience to produce high quality and well rounded graduates to prepare them for the real working world
- The Professional Welding Certification Programme by TWI with YSD empowered 50 *tahfiz* and *asnaf* students. Upon completion, the programme provides internationally recognised welding certifications, which also contributes to the students' personal development and soft skills to enhance their job marketability



An online engagement session between scholars and the Sime Darby Berhad Human Resources team

More on the Story:



Relevant SDGs:



Education Pillar

Bridging the Gap of the Digital Divide with CERDIK



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Laptop distribution in SMK Dato' Sagor, Perak

This initiative helps a lot in filling in the digital divide, especially one that concerns learning infrastructure. In a short period, we can see that students are no longer estranged from virtual learning, and it has reduced technology alienation in online learning and how to deal with it. In the long run, this would help in knowledge propagation and fostering students' independence and confidence.

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Shahrizan Zalihan

Assistant Officer, Information Technology,
Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah (PPD), Hilir, Perak

In line with the CERDIK initiative, YSD had recently interviewed Encik Shahrizan Zalihan from Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah (PPD) Hilir, Perak, and Cikgu Shahirah from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Dato Lela Pahlawan, Padang Serai, Kedah to learn more about the challenges of digital learning and how this initiative has benefitted the students.

As COVID-19 had suspended formal classroom learning for 4.9 million schoolchildren nationwide while enabling digital learning, B40 students with no access to equipment and internet are the most affected.

In bridging the digital divides between schools and communities, CERDIK was established as a Corporate Responsibility pilot initiative by GLCs and GLICs to provide digital access to students from lower-income families.

YSD had allocated RM18 million in total for this ongoing initiative starting from February 2021, of which RM16 million was to cover the costs of the contributed computers equipped with the latest software and three years warranty coverage to be given to 7,500 B40 students, and an additional RM2 million to equip another 928 B40 students with brand new laptops with a year's warranty and internet access.



Device handover to SMK Dato' Lela Pahlawan by YSD



Laptop distribution in SMK Dato' Sagor, Perak

Key Highlights:

- The initiative will benefit 8,558 students from 66 primary and secondary schools in 30 districts, 10 states, and 2 federal territories nationwide
- As of 24 September 2021, 4,835 laptops (64% of the 7,500) have been distributed to Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah (PPD)
- Participation of more than 30 YSD Huluran Kasih volunteering employees from the 3 Sime Darby companies in assisting PPDs to execute this initiative
- Devices are produced sustainably by recycling business-grade devices and parts to produce remanufactured laptops, to produce 75% less carbon footprint as compared with new ones
- Together with YSD's technical partner, Rentwise, YSD has also provided technical briefings to ensure troubleshooting processes are handled without a hitch
- To avoid learning disruptions, an additional of 300 units have been allocated at designated PPDs as backup for malfunctioning laptops to ensure minimal lead time

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Prior to this initiative, most of our students did not have the devices and data connectivity to follow online lessons that have been taking place for the past year. The feedback has been really encouraging since they are able to attend and participate in online classes.

Cikgu Shahirah Saadon
Student Affairs Senior Assistant,
SMK Dato' Lela Pahlawan, Padang Serai, Kedah

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More on the Story:



Relevant SDGs:



Education Pillar

Mentoring Students in the Sime Darby Young Innovators Challenge



Matthew Teng Kit Khinn

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If I have committed myself to mentor the students, I will try my best to provide guidance and feedback to let the students consider and think in other perspectives. I would aim to trigger their thinking and not provide them with an immediate solution.

Matthew Teng Kit Khinn

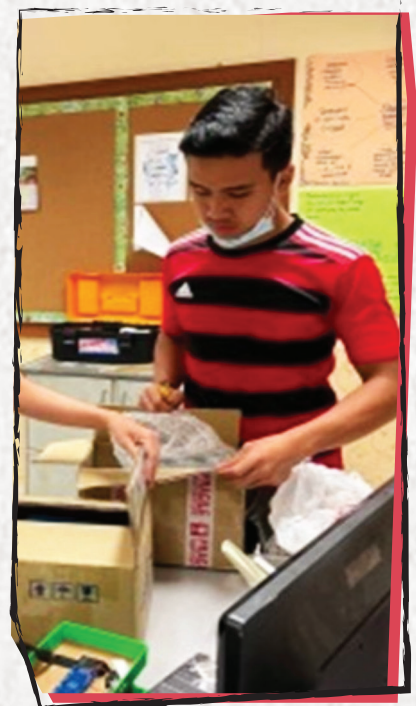
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I want my students to become more confident and face crowds, which I believe I have achieved. I know my students very well. Lokman, Faiz and Atif all had limited exposure outside their communities; they were shy and lacked confidence when speaking. But I am proud now, and they are very different from how they were before. This is personal development, and they achieved this through online competitions.

Shuhaily Yusoff

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Shuhaily Yusoff

In an interview with mentors Matthew Teng Kit Khinn and Shuhaily Yusoff, undergraduate student and teacher, respectively, participating in SDYIC, they explain their motivation and drive in mentoring students to be more innovative.

The Sime Darby Young Innovators Challenge (SDYIC) is a YSD flagship educational programme that promotes the cultivation of an innovative mindset among youth between 13 and 17 years of age in Malaysia. SDYIC participants are given the opportunity to enhance their leadership qualities, learn design thinking and innovative problem solving, as well as prototyping skills while competing against state-level competition winners. The students will produce workable prototypes and actionable innovative solutions in the various areas of their communities.

YSD had committed RM4.88 million since the inception of SDYIC in 2016, with the participation of a total of 11,438 secondary school students, undergraduate students, schoolteachers, and Innovation Officers nationwide.

In 2020, RM750,000 was allocated for SDYIC 2020, and it was the first-ever edition since 2016 to have been conducted entirely online, which was a decision made before the onset of COVID-19. This strategy had eliminated logistical barriers and financial constraints and circumvented the challenges of restricted movement measures due to the pandemic.

Key Highlights:

- The SDYIC 2020 winning prototypes have benefitted 12 schools via the enhancement of SMK Indahpura's invention of an SOP Measurement Device, SMK Mulong's Acrotec, and SMK Tiong Hin's STC Kit
- 18 schools and 15 Health Clinics are also expected to benefit from these winning prototypes
- The participation of rural schools increased by 11% from 138 schools in 2019 to 154 in 2020
- The total number of participating schools increased by 20% from 336 schools in 2019 to 406 schools in 2020, with 8 out of the 15 teams coming from rural areas
- Participation of teachers increased by 63% from 358 teachers in 2019 to 581 in 2020
- SDYIC 2020 maintained the participation of girls in the programme at about 40%



Group Photos of SDYIC Winners

More on the Story:

