

## **World Cleanup Day 2023: Uniting Communities for a Cleaner Future**

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The World Cleanup Day event organized by the School of Engineering, UOW Malaysia and supported by IEM Engineering Education Technical Division (E2TD) was successfully held on 20 September 2023. With the collective efforts of 211 enthusiastic volunteers, the event managed to remove a staggering 4450 kg of waste from various locations around our campus and nearby industry.



Figure 1. The face of World Cleanup Day 2023 volunteers including E2TD committee representatives, IEM student chapters and UOW Malaysia students and staffs.

This event witnessed an impressive turnout of volunteers hailing from diverse backgrounds, including students, faculty, staff, and local community members. Their unwavering dedication and tireless efforts were instrumental in the event's triumph.



Figure 2. (a) Waste collection from Vita Health; (b) Waste collection around Glenmarie U1 area

We are grateful for the support and collaboration received from the nearby industry partners and the Municipal Council of Shah Alam (MBSA). Their contributions were pivotal in ensuring the event's smooth execution and in extending the positive impact of our cleanup efforts.



Figure 3. Volunteers collecting the various types of waste.

The waste collected during the cleanup exhibited a diverse range of materials. Notably, plastics, including bottles, bags, and packaging, constituted a significant portion of the total waste collected. Additionally, the volunteers retrieved electronics waste, papers, old clothes, tires, boxes, and various items.





Figure 4. Collecting the recycled materials around UOW Malaysia, Glenmarie Campus and surrounding.

The generous support extended by the nearby industry and MBSA was invaluable. Their contributions included logistical assistance, waste disposal facilities, and the provision of necessary equipment. Their involvement not only facilitated the practical aspects of the cleanup but also emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships in environmental initiatives.





Figure 5. RORO bin provided by MBSA.

The success of World Cleanup Day 2023 is a testament to the power of community engagement and collaboration. It serves as a springboard for future initiatives aimed at environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. The School of Engineering at UOW Malaysia is committed to continuing this important work and invites all stakeholders to join us in our efforts.





Figure 6. Volunteers clean up the trash collection.



Figure 7. Sending off the waste to the waste management company (Glow Trading).



Figure 8. A portion of the waste collected by volunteers.

The World Cleanup Day 2023, organized by the School of Engineering at UOW Malaysia and supported by E2TD IEM, was a resounding success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of 211 volunteers. With the removal of 4450 kg of waste, we have taken a significant step towards a cleaner, healthier environment. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers, nearby

industry partners especially to Vita Health, Unipac and Glow Trading, and MBSA for their invaluable support. Together, we have demonstrated the impact that collective action can have on our community and the planet. We look forward to future endeavors in the pursuit of a more sustainable future.