

Project gives clean water supply to Kiulu villagers

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KOTA KINABALU: The mobile clean and treated gravity water supply project at Kampung Rungus Nahaba, Kiulu, Tuaran has helped villagers to enjoy clean and drinkable water supply.

The project is the result of innovation synergy between researchers from University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and industry players from Syarikat Pembinaan Kiawayan Sdn Bhd (PKSB).

It received funding from the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry (MOSTI) through the Malaysia Social Innovation (MySI) grant and involves the local community.

The project took seven months to implement and has begun operating since July.

UMS deputy vice chancellor (Research and Innovation) Professor Dr Ramzah Dambul said that the project was a marriage between engineering technology and social innovations and it enabled 30 houses in the village to receive clean water supply.

"In terms of engineering, the membrane technology and gravity are applied to accumulate



Jahid signs the project's signboard.

and filter water until it is safe for direct drinking from tap.

"This is the type of innovation quality the university is working on to bring to the people of Sabah," he said.

He added that aside from technical aspects, the second innovation by UMS researchers is the creation of a system for the local community through

the creation of a management committee among the villagers.

"This is to empower them in terms of skills to manage the devices that are user friendly so that the technology created is more sustainable and the community involved are able to receive the technology," he said.

Ramzah said this in his speech when launching the transfer of

knowledge on the clean gravity water supply for Kg Rungus Nahaba recently.

The deputy vice chancellor also informed that UMS is carrying out transfer of knowledge and technology to the community such as the project at Kg Rungus Nahaba and this is the priority in the research agenda at UMS within these two years.

"Science, technology and innovation are the socioeconomic driver and the solution to various community problems in Sabah.

"It is also the game changer in various aspects under the Sabah Maju Jaya and 12th Malaysia Plan initiatives. Ramzah said that UMS is collaborating with various parties for such projects for the benefit of the community.

He added that UMS is also implementing the project in Pitas but with distinct technology.

Meanwhile, the project leader, Professor Dr Gaim James Lunkapis said that three main innovations have been introduced in the project. They are the innovation of taking the water supply, gravity flow innovation and green technology filtration house.