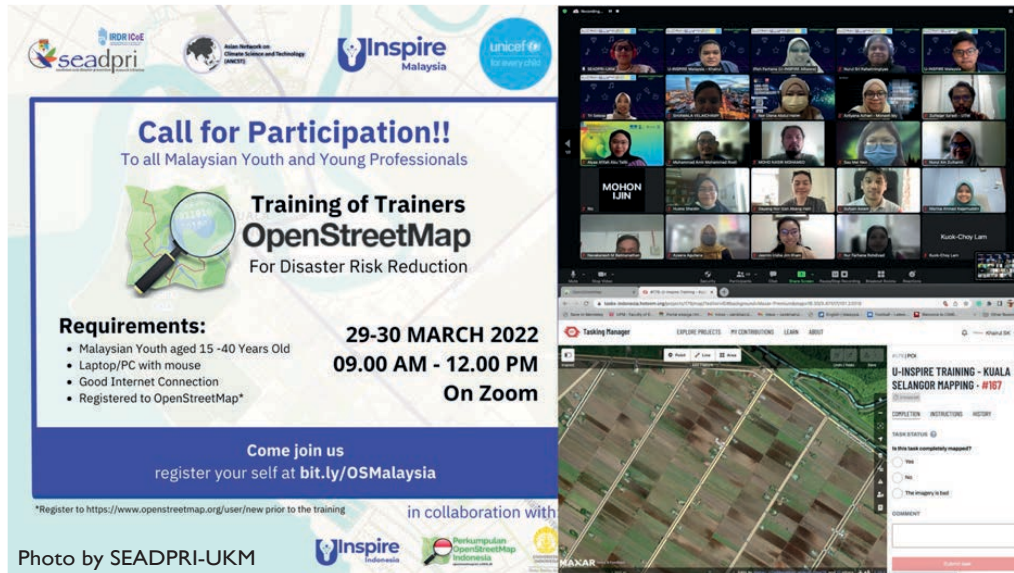


Geological Hazards Programme

Young Professionals as Community Mappers for Disaster Resilience

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The cohort of Malaysian Young Professionals trained as OSM Community Mappers in March 2022

OpenStreetMap (OSM) is an open-source digital world map that is built through volunteered geographic information (VGI). OSM is supported by non-profit organizations and the data is available free of charge for visualization, query, download and modification under an open license. In disaster risk reduction (DRR), OSM is used in various aspects to support informed decision making. Mapping through the OSM platform emphasizes local knowledge of a disaster or hazard situation. OSM is very useful when the data is complete (including all buildings, road network and other points of interest) and detailed (building height, materials, structural information). This is where using youth as community mappers for disaster resilience becomes useful. OSM training will develop the capacity of youths as open-access mappers to train other youth groups in Malaysia to support informed decision making on disaster. An OpenStreetMap Training of Trainers (ToT) was successfully organized on 29-30 March 2022 by the Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative (SEADPRI-UKM) and U-INSPIRE Malaysia. The event was supported by the Asian Network on Climate Science and Technology (ANCST) and UNICEF Malaysia in collaboration with the U-INSPIRE Indonesia, Perkumpulan OpenStreetMap Indonesia and Universitas Indonesia. This type of capacity-building training helps the youth gather local knowledge to develop an open access database. This exercise is expected to

promote a community of mappers who can contribute and maintain data on road networks and physical infrastructures for the purpose of assessing aspects of disasters in a selected area.

The two-day ToT involved 55 participants covering early career scientists, young professionals, undergraduates and postgraduates from various universities in Malaysia. On Day One the theory of OSM data development was elaborated on; this covered everything from registering the OSM account to digitising. Day Two provided hands-on training to all participants for the Kuala Selangor mapping area. During the exit survey of training, a majority of the participants expressed their interest in joining our next OSM experiential-mapping mission in selected areas of Selangor, Malaysia. The interest of participants for future events reflects our success in conducting this ToT; it also reflects the commitment of youth and young professionals (YYPs) in the country on issues of disaster risk, climate change and disaster management.

The ToT goal is to nurture YYPs to contribute in the detailed mapping of information in selected risk areas. With good information and proper understanding, youth as individuals and community, will be better able to improve their lives and make good decisions about the future.