

FOREWORD

BY THE PREMIER OF SARAWAK

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and warmest greetings.

With great pleasure, I welcome you to the **1st International Conference on Biotechnology, Smart Farming, and Entrepreneurship for Food Security (BioSFE 2023)**. This gathering of brilliant minds from across the globe represents our shared commitment to addressing the crucial issue of global food security through the lens of biotechnology, smart farming practices, and entrepreneurship.

Aligned with Sarawak's vision of transforming its digital economy, the agriculture sector in the state is going through dynamic changes by progressively adopting smart farming practices.

Hence, as the primary food-producing sector, agriculture needs to integrate advanced technologies through smart farming practices to enhance production efficiency and the quality of agricultural produce.

BioSFE 2023 aptly serves the means for these necessary transformations by providing a platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and forging partnerships by bringing together leading scientists, researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and industry experts at the forefront of revolutionising the agricultural sector. Our collective goal is to explore innovative approaches and practical solutions that will enhance food security, improve agricultural productivity, and ensure sustainable and resilient food systems in Sarawak.

Thank you to all participants, organising committees, and the management team of BioSFE 2023 for your unwavering dedication and commitment to making this event a success. I hope that this experience enriches further our knowledge and perspectives in life. Let us march together towards a brighter and more sustainable future.

Thank you.

Yang Amat Berhormat
Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang
Haji Openg
Premier Of Sarawak

FOREWORD

BY THE MINISTER OF FOOD INDUSTRY, COMMODITY, AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF SARAWAK

Salam Sejahtera and greetings to all.

With great delight, I extend my warmest welcome to everyone to the **1st International Conference on Biotechnology, Smart Farming, and Entrepreneurship for Food Security (BioSFE 2023)**. I am immensely pleased with this gathering of intellectuals and industry experts converging to explore the transformative potential of biotechnology, smart farming, and entrepreneurship in our agricultural landscape.

In the rapidly evolving world today, the intersection of biotechnology and smart farming has opened unprecedented opportunities to revolutionise the way we produce food, conserve resources, and tackle global challenges such as food security and climate change. Moreover, entrepreneurship is vital in harnessing these innovations and translating them into sustainable and impactful ventures.

The need to revolutionise agriculture has become more urgent in the fourth industrial revolution era. The advent of technology has launched new possibilities and challenges, requiring us to bridge the gap between technologists and entrepreneurs. I am glad BioSFE 2023 is dedicated to this purpose, aiming to foster collaboration and exchange of ideas between key stakeholders.

The conference coincides with **Sarawak Agrofest 2023**, an event that celebrates and showcases the achievements, innovations, and developments in Sarawak's agriculture sector. The Agrofest takes place for ten (10) days from 22 September to 1 October 2023. It provides farmers, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders an avenue to share knowledge, promote products, and foster agricultural advancements. Join us for a day of fun and learning and experience the best agriculture and farming Sarawak has to offer.

Best wishes to all participants. Have a fruitful and inspiring conference ahead.

Thank you.

Yang Berhormat

Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Anak Utom

Minister Of Food Industry, Commodity, and Regional Development of Sarawak

FOREWORD

BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh dan Salam Sejahtera. Greetings to everyone.

It is an honour to welcome you to the **1st International Conference on Biotechnology, Smart Farming, and Entrepreneurship for Food Security (BioSFE 2023)**. By integrating the three (3) key pillars namely **Biotechnology, Smart Farming, and Entrepreneurship**, we can unlock the potential of scientific advancements, technological innovations, and entrepreneurial initiatives to address the complex dynamics of food production, distribution, and access, in our quest to achieve food security.

Aligned with its vision of achieving status as a **Globally Renowned University by 2025**, UiTM aims to make significant contributions to knowledge, innovation, and socio-economic progress. As the Vice-Chancellor, I am glad that UiTM gets the opportunity to contribute to Sarawak's vision and growth. The state still has much to explore, and UiTM will always be ready to assist.

I encourage all participants to take part actively in the conference sessions, workshops, and networking prospects. Seize the chance to foster meaningful collaborations, forge partnerships, and contribute to the collective knowledge to drive positive change in agriculture and food security.

Together, we can pave the way for a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable food system that nourishes our global community and preserves the well-being of our planet.

May you have an enjoyable and rewarding experience at BioSFE 2023.

Thank you.

Yang Berbahagia Professor Datuk Dr Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor
Vice-Chancellor
Universiti Teknologi MARA

FOREWORD

BY THE CHAIR OF BioSFE 2023

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and warmest regards.

Welcome to **BioSFE 2023**! This highly anticipated event is a global platform for policymakers, scientists, academicians, practitioners, and stakeholders from worldwide agro-based industries. The conference brings together individuals dedicated to advancing the productivity, quality, and sustainability of food production in the face of our growing global population.

The conference theme "**Bridging technologists and entrepreneurs towards Agriculture Revolution 4.0.**" conveys our commitment to exploring the intersection of technology and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector. We bring you a gathering of experts and innovators in related fields with the mission to promote transformative advancements that will shape the future of agriculture.

BioSFE 2023 is fortunate to have been given the opportunity to collaborate with **Sarawak Agrofest 2023**. This partnership aims to promote modern agriculture practices in the region by showcasing innovative advancements and providing valuable business opportunities for exhibitors from Malaysia and neighbouring regions. By combining the expertise and resources of both events, we seek to foster a vibrant ecosystem that nurtures innovation and entrepreneurship in agriculture.

As we gather at BioSFE 2023, let us embrace the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and sustainability. Let us explore groundbreaking ideas, forge meaningful partnerships, and unlock the immense potential of **Agriculture Revolution 4.0**. Our collective efforts will propel the agricultural sector into a future that ensures food security, boosts economic prosperity, and nurtures a sustainable planet for future generations.

Our deepest gratitude to all collaborators namely the Sarawak Government; the Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity, and Regional Development (M-FICORD); and the National Chung Cheng University of Taiwan. Our most heartfelt thanks to all participants, sponsors, and especially the organising committee members for their untiring support and dedication to this transformative cause. May BioSFE 2023 be a resounding success and a catalyst for positive change in agriculture worldwide. To all participants, let us begin our mission of bridging technologists and entrepreneurs towards Agriculture Revolution 4.0.

Thank you.

Yang Berbahagia Professor Dato Dr Haji Jamil Haji Hamali
Chair

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