

**UMCARES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUNDING 2016**

**APPLICATION FORM**

<b>A</b>	<b>Title of project:</b> My voice, my story: A digital storytelling project to empower Orang Asli youth and children in Malaysia.					
<b>B</b>	<b>Details of project leader</b>					
	Name of project leader		Rusaslina Idrus			
	Email address		Rusaslina@um.edu.my			
	Phone number		(office) (mobile) 0122196873			
	Fax number					
	Position					
	Permanent staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contract staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contract end date:	
	Identity card or passport number		730112145066			
	Academy / Faculty / Centre		Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences			
	Department / Section / Unit		Gender Studies Programme			
	Address		Gender Studies Programme Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences University of Malaya			
<b>C</b>	<b>Details of project partners, co-researchers or assistants (add lines if necessary)</b>					
	Name	Identity card or passport number	Academy/ Faculty/ Unit	Highest Academic Qualification	Phone number & email address	Signature
<b>D</b>	<b>Past community engagement projects completed by the Project Leader or Project Partners over the past 3 years (add lines if necessary)</b>					
	Title of Project & Name of Project Leader/ Partner involved	Type of funding	Community partner	Duration of project	Output & Impact of work on community partner	
	Mari Kita Membaca (Project coordinator: Rusaslina Idrus)		30 villages and organisations across	2012-2105	Delivered at least 3500 books to 30 Orang Asal villages and community	

			Malaysia		centres. Funded UPSR workshop for in Kg Buayan Sabah.
	New preschool building for Kg Tekir (Project coordinator: Rusaslina Idrus and RIndu Les)	ECM Libra Founda tion	Tadika Kg Tekir	2014- 2015	A new, more spacious, and suitable for learning, preschool/community learning centre was built and now actively used for the village preschool and community activities. (Previously, the preschool was a in a small leaky shack).

<b>E</b>	<b>Project focal area (select as many as are relevant)</b>																										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Categories</th> <th>(/)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Health</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technology and ICT</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Development of Enviroment</td> <td>/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maintaining the heritage and culture of the country</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Entrepreneurship</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sports &amp; Recreation</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Welfare</td> <td>/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td>/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Risk management and disaster relief</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Special Project</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Special Projects UCTC - RTC</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>School</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Categories	(/)	Health		Technology and ICT		Development of Enviroment	/	Maintaining the heritage and culture of the country		Entrepreneurship		Sports & Recreation		Social Welfare	/	Education	/	Risk management and disaster relief		<b>Special Project</b>		Special Projects UCTC - RTC		School	
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<b>F</b>	<b>Community information</b>																										
	<p>Background information on the community partner or target group that your project intends to work with (maximum 300 words)</p> <p>The problem of high dropout rate among Orang Asli students is a serious one. Between 2000 to 2008, on average about 36 percent of Orang Asli students drop out between year six and form one (JHEOA 2009). In 2008 alone, the dropout rate was 39.1 percent (JHEOA 2009). Similarly, the dropout rate in secondary schools (form one to form five) was between 40 and 50 percent over the same 2000 to 2008 period. In 2008, 50 percent of the students who started out in form one (in 2004) dropped out before reaching form five (JHEOA 2009).</p> <p>Government officials have had a tendency to blame the Orang Asli parents and their children's lack of interest in education. However, according to the Orang Asli leaders, the problem lies instead in the disparity of the quality of education available to the Orang Asli children and that the educational environment does not take Orang Asli culture and needs into account (Rusaslina 2013). Researchers have also stressed that the most critical factor for the poor performance and high dropout is poverty (Nicholas 2006, Rusaslina 2013). There</p>																										



	<p>seems to be a disjuncture between the community's needs and the authority's delivery with regards to Orang Asli education.</p> <p>This project utilizes the medium of digital storytelling to provide an avenue for the Orang Asli children and youth to voice their experiences, needs and aspirations. What are their experiences going to school? What would be their idea of an ideal school? What are their dreams and hopes? How do they relate to their traditional culture? Who are their mentors in the community and in school? What kind of skills do they want to learn? What are the challenges they face?</p> <p>The storytelling process is designed to empower the students in voicing their opinions and needs and allow for their voices to be heard.</p>
	<p>What is the issue, problem or gap that you intend to address? (maximum 150 words)</p> <p>This project utilizes the medium of digital storytelling to provide an avenue for the Orang Asli children and youth to voice their experiences, needs and aspirations. What are their experiences going to school? What would be their idea of an ideal school? What are their dreams and hopes? How do they relate to their traditional culture? Who are their mentors in the community and in school? What kind of skills do they want to learn? What are the challenges they face? The storytelling process is designed to empower the students in voicing their opinions and needs and allow for their voices to be heard.</p>
	<p>How will you ensure that the community partner will be engaged and involved in this project? (maximum 150 words)</p> <p>We will work in Orang Asli villages where we have had previous relationship and engagement. We will work with the teachers, community leaders and elders to ensure community support.</p>
	<p>Please attach documentation of the community partner's prior informed consent, including an acknowledgement that they are aware that they can withdraw from the project with due consideration and notification.</p>
<b>G</b>	<b>Project Information</b>
	<p>What are the objectives of your project? (Please list in point form)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To understand the Orang Asli students' aspirations, needs and interests through the medium of digital storytelling.</li> <li>2) To empower the Orang Asli students by providing space for their voices to be heard.</li> <li>3) To create awareness to the public and relevant stakeholders (eg. policy makers, teachers, curriculum designers, parents) of the Orang Asli students' aspiration, needs and interests.</li> <li>4) To provide recommendations on how to improve the education experience for the Orang Asli based on the students' stories.</li> </ol>
	<p>Please summarise your project plan or methodology (maximum 300 words)</p> <p>In this project, we incorporate digital technology to create participatory narratives with Orang Asli students in selected villages.</p>

	<p>This project uses the collaborative storytelling approach - where the Orang Asli children and youth record their shared experiences, aspirations and dreams. Through an interplay of an audio recording device, still photography, and a digital interface, the edited audio and video digital stories will be presented as photo essays, participatory mapping project and multimedia experiment pieces. The media used may also include very short clips (three seconds or less) of full-motion video with sound or animation which individuals can use to tell a story or present an idea.</p> <p>The final product is a short film, which has been produced and edited by the narrator. The digital interface will include screenings in the community and outside and distributing audio or visual productions online and on CDs. There will be an interactive component, where viewers can also response to the stories in digital form.</p> <p>A short film with selected stories from the 4 villages will also be edited for public viewing. We also plan to hold screening with relevant stakeholders, for examples, teachers and policy makers.</p> <p>Lastly, the stories will also be analyzed and a report will be produced with recommendations on how to improve the education experience for Orang Asli students.</p>
	<p>What is the impact of the project?</p> <p>Digital storytelling is both about enabling people to tell stories and enabling others to listen to those stories. The digital storytelling process allows a reflective space that not many people are given, or able to take time for. Beyond that, the act of telling one's story can be healing and empowering because when these stories are shared, it helps provide the narrator the feeling that she/he is being actively listened to. This can be an especially powerful experience for marginalized groups.</p> <p>The act of storytelling gives recognition to the unique experiences of the Orang Asli students, and can be a positive and empowering experience for the whole community. The narratives will raise awareness of the needs and experiences of the Orang Asli thereby promoting a better understanding of the community.</p> <p>In this participatory media project, the participants will themselves determine the stories they choose to transmit, by whom, and in what form they are transmitted. As such, they will essentially tell their own stories in their own voices. They will receive training in using the devices and understanding storytelling and the process of oral interviewing. Guidance will be given on how to edit the interviews for a coherent and cohesive narrative.</p> <p>Additionally, the stories and experiences will be assessed and analyzed to provide recommendations to the relevant stakeholders to provide better education delivery for the Orang Asli community.</p>
	<p>Please attach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gantt chart of project activities</li> <li>▪ Schedule of milestones and dates</li> <li>▪ List of project progress indicators (e.g. number of workshops/ consultation sessions – number of people involved or participating/ physical outputs from each event )</li> </ul>
	<p>The priority areas of the program shall provide the following impact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase revenue</li> </ol>