

**1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE – GROUP 3 WORKSHOP OUTCOME (589 WORDS)  
GROUP THEME: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS)**

Shamzani Affendy Mohd. Din  
Kulliyah of Architecture & Environmental Design,  
International Islamic University Malaysia

The working group 3 on environmental management under sustainability campus has been attended by 15 participants. The workshop started by an input lecture on environmental management system (ems) for 20 minutes with the purpose to make participants with initial knowledge on ems. All the participants came with the background from various institutes from schools, colleges, and universities level in Malaysia and Philippines. There are students, teachers, researches and lecturers.

Later the workshop continues with knowledge sharing session on local experiences with the objectives to gauge ems knowledge by all participants. It can be acknowledged that the ems practices in the Philippines are more advanced than in Malaysia especially the participations and collaboration of the institutions with the local people and authorities.

All aware that in order to implement EMS in any institutions, it will involve all participations and understanding by the top management, executive and technical and non-technical groups. This reflect to the amount of budget need to be provided by the institutions in getting the ISO 14001 and implementing ems as a whole and also to sustain the professional certification in the future. Besides, without financial support the initiatives will be lot difficult and may not be materialized. However, there are always options in getting the certification application on a small scale for example focusing in one particular scope like solid waste management, air pollution, energy conservation, etc. or it can be as the whole package as one.

The workshop has divided the participants into 3 groups to discuss and come up the ideas in supporting ems applications in all level in relation to cost of implementation as follows :-

- I. No cost initiative
- II. Low cost initiative
- III. High cost initiative

Among all groups, under the no cost initiative such as planting trees, reusing, reducing and segregating wastes, zero waste management policy, paperless note-taking, and also dining-in instead of taking out. Another group also suggested it can be achieved by enforcement of switching off electricity during lunch hour, to increase earth hour from one hour to 2 hours and also to apply rain water harvesting for the purposes of gardening and cleaning.

Meanwhile some of the low cost initiatives suggested are waste composting, reconditioning computers and printing on both sides of paper, increasing the air conditioning at 24 degree celsius. As for the high cost initiatives suggestions are seminars, competitions, road shows, recycling and also green refurbishment in building renovations.

As for the conclusion, the participants also has managed to work out initiatives from high cost to low cost and low cost to no cost initiative which is quite profound. Among recommendations are as follows:-

- I. Tree planting; with the aims to plant mother trees where investment on the seed for now and when they become mature, later the seeds can be harvest and use the methods to produce new plant seeding from them.

- II. Turning seminars into webinars and by choosing this option, the organiser could cut more on the organising cost for the seminar.
- III. Making online competitions instead of making the event to be held in one place
- IV. Low composting to no cost composting through digging composite pits for example the use of vermi worm for composting practices in Philippines.
- V. Shifting current energy sources to renewable energy sources and develop more technology on energy-efficiency appliances.