Caltex Fuel Your School's 3rd return to Kedah

The campaign will spark an interest among students in coding applications and technology-based competitions and exhibitions

THE Caltex Fuel Your School (FYS) community campaign, now in its eighth year, returns to Kedah to enhance the learning of science, technology, english and mathematics (STEM) among local youth.

This year's programme, starting in November 2019, will utilise robotics and coding to make the learning of STEM fun, interactive and creative with a potential to impact some 16,000 students state-wide.

Caltex FYS, a collaboration between the retail brand Caltex and MyKasih Foundation, has set aside almost RM285,000 for the programme, in collaboration with renowned global toy maker the Lego Group and educational publisher Sasbadi Holdings Bhd.

Chevron Malaysia Ltd's corporate affairs manager Mokhtar Ali Ismail said each school will receive a comprehensive robotics mechanism set from Lego and this will be accompanied by tutorial and consultation sessions which they will animate alongside Sasbadi.

"The sessions will equip 54 teachers to guide their students in creating codes and programming robots," he said.



From left) Chevron retail district manager Faizah Abdul Samad, Mokhtar, Kedah State Education Department co-curriculum unit head Mohd Hafiz Mohd Salleh, MoE planning and school management deputy director Cyril Christopher Singham and MyKasih Foundation MD Jeffrey Perer at the Caltex FYS 2019 Jaunch

MyKasih Foundation, the reputable non-profit organisation helping less fortunate Malaysians, has been entrusted by Caltex with the role to ensure end-to-end integrity in carrying out the campaign.

MyKasih Foundation chairman and co-founder Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat said: "We are grateful to Caltex for choosing MyKasih Foundation as its partner in Malaysia to implement the FYS campaign since 2012. Education is a key focus area of MyKasih's work and the collaboration on FYS is a natural extension of our Love My School programme.

"Beyond providing underprivileged students with cashless bursaries, we furnish schools with computer labs, robotics equipment, aquaponics edible garden projects, sports development programmes, English proficiency classes, music and financial literacy." Mokhtar added that the campaign from Nov 1 to Dec 31, 2019, in Kedah will welcome participation from 27 pre-selected schools identified by Kedah State Education Department, as having an interest in the learning of robotics technology.

He explained that the move to focus on robotics is in line with the government's Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR4.0) drive.

"We hope the campaign will

spark an interest among students in coding applications and help them prepare for technology-based competitions and exhibitions locally and even globally.

"Caltex fuels innovation and eight years on, we're happy to be able to continue to do so in Malaysian public schools, nurturing young innovators with great potential to lead Malaysia into the IR4.0 era," he said.

The programme's impact also extends to building capacity of local educators. Endorsed by the Ministry of Education (MoE), the Caltex FYS campaign since its inception in 2012 has been committed to helping government schools enhance public education facilities by giving underprivileged students a chance to experience good quality classroom learning.

This is the third time the Caltex FYS campaign has reached the state of Kedah — includes direct beneficiaries to date.

Aside from Kedah, the other states that have successfully executed Caltex FYS are Penang, Johor, Terengganu, Melaka, Negri Sembilan, Kelantan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. The Caltex FYS has benefitted over 100,000 students collectively. The signature FYS community programme is part of Chevron's overall support for education, which has totalled over U\$\$480 million (RMI.99 billion) worldwide since 2013.