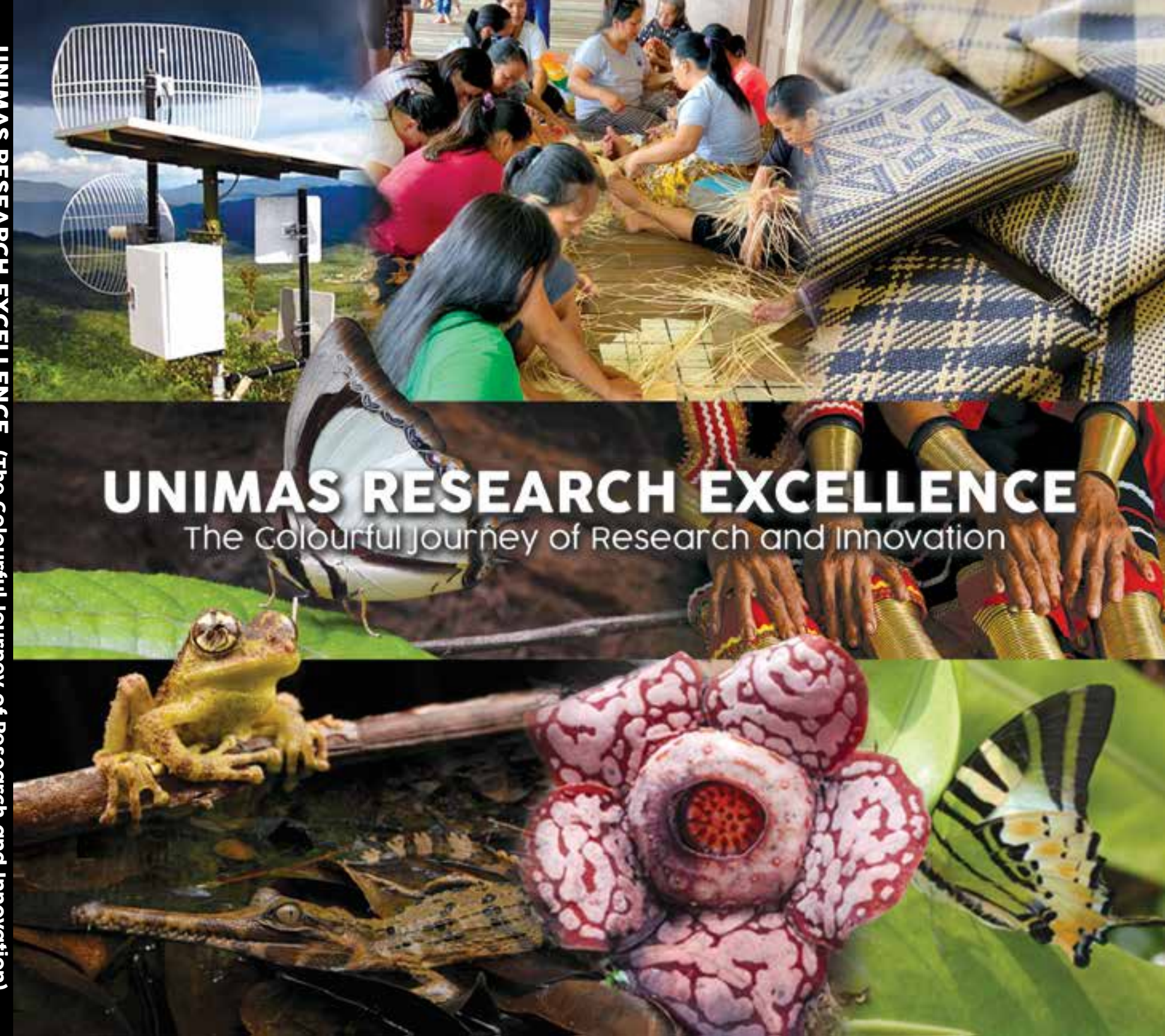




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# **UNIMAS RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

**The Colourful Journey of Research and Innovation**





An aerial photograph of a large university campus. The campus features several modern, multi-story buildings with blue-tinted roofs. A central pond is surrounded by greenery and walkways. In the foreground, there is a large green sports field and a red running track. The background shows a hazy city skyline under a clear sky.

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A composite image featuring a green tree monitor lizard in the upper half and an orangutan in the lower half, both in naturalistic settings. The lizard is coiled on a branch, and the orangutan is sitting on a wooden structure.

# INTRODUCTION

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Malaysia's eight public university, was officially incorporated on 24th December 1992. A university that is contemporary in character and forward-looking in outlook, it is committed in providing the nation with leaders, managers, scientists, and technical specialists, as well as thoughtful citizens who are capable of handling the complex challenges of our common future's confidently, competently, and creatively.

UNIMAS has a total of 96 academic programmes on offer (47 undergraduate programmes, 28 research postgraduate programmes, 18 postgraduate coursework and 3 foundation) and a total student population of 15,882 consisting of 716 pre-university students, 13,517 undergraduates, and about 2000 postgraduates.

Since its founding in 1992, UNIMAS has accomplished excellence, striving closer to its vision to be of internationally acknowledged stature. In the Times Higher Education (THE) University Rankings 2020, UNIMAS ranked fifth and 11th in Malaysia in the University Impact Rankings and World University Rankings, 201 in the world in the University Impact Rankings, 351 in the world in Young World University Rankings, 401 in Asia University Rankings, 501 in the world for Business & Economics, 801 in the world for Engineering & Technology, and 1001 in the world.

The knowledge discovery initiatives at UNIMAS are premised partly upon the abundance of natural resources and diverse socio-cultural make-up of the State of Sarawak. While UNIMAS is strong in biodiversity studies, a majority of the research activities are based firmly on contemporary technologies.





The cultural diversity and social uniqueness of Sarawak communities offer opportunities for studies in health and medicine by offering a look at the influence of environmental factors and socio-cultural practices on the interactions of various pathogens as well as other issues related to community health.

UNIMAS' commitment to research is unparalleled. Its commitment to research has been recognised by the stakeholders and partners in the industry as well as being acknowledged by peers in at least three niche areas of research, namely Sustainable Community Transformation, Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation and Information, Communication, and Creative Technology.







The Fairy Rock Gecko (*Cnemaspis paripari*) is a vibrant inhabitant of Bau's Wind and Fairy Caves [Institute of Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation]



Our researchers in the lab





Left: An image of a newly discovered lizard, *Subdoluseps samajaya*, described in the year 2019 from the Sama Jaya Nature Reserve, Kuching

Bottom: The Bornean Horned Lizard (*Harpesaurus borneensis*), as discovered by our researchers, is indeed a rarely seen forest lizard. Unusual among members of its family, it shows a prehensile tail, that can coil up, horns on its nose and the females produce live young, rather than eggs





The Collared Slug Snake (*Pareas nuchalis*) is non-venomous and widely distributed in Borneo





The Brilliant Rasbora (*Rasbora einthovenii*) is a ray-finned fish found in the Malay Peninsular and Borneo [Institute of Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation]



A bottom-dwelling goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) from the hill streams of Sarawak





The Asiatic Softshell Turtle (*Amyda cartilaginea*) encountered in Sarawak's large rivers and blackwater swamps [Institute of Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation]







The Painted Terrapin (*Batagur borneoensis*) inhabits river estuaries and mangrove swamps





The Matang narrow-mouthed frog (*Microhyla nepenthicola*) is found in the Matang Range in Sarawak, Borneo. It is one of the world's smallest frogs [Institute of Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation]





## COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

Through the University's collaborations and partnerships, UNIMAS has moved closer to its vision to become an exemplary university of internationally acknowledged stature. In addition, by forging bonds with industry players, UNIMAS creates a quicker path to translating their research for the betterment of the community.











Various publications on biodiversity in Sarawak

