

FUTUREPROOFING LIBRARIES THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Malaysia

COUNTRY REPORT

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Universiti Brunei Darussalam Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam 22-24 July 2025

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Core Aspirations:

Inclusivity: Emphasizes shared progress and aims to ensure no one left behind.

Sustainability: Focuses on sustainable growth, and resilience, addressing social and economic inequalities, improving living standards and driving climate resilience and long-term prosperity









Profiles MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

	UNIVERSITI MALAYA	UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA	UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA The National University of Malaysia	Universiti Utara Malaysia	UPM UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA DER IL MU DER BAKTI
STUDENT POPULATION	20,542 (U) 19,439 (P)	20,740 (U) 15,892 (P)	26,189 (U) 15,464 (P)	21,079 (U) 2,731 (P)	18,602 (U) 12,118 (P)
ACADEMICIAN	2,446	1,921	2,023	1,195	1,807
FACULTY	14	44	14	20	15
PROGRAMME	249	402	246	117	171



Conclusions

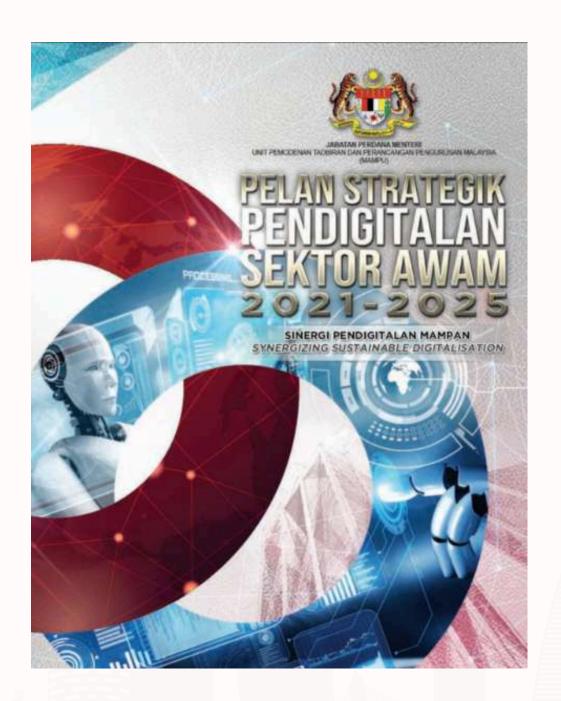
Profiles MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

	UNIVERSITI MALAYA	UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA	UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA The National University of Malaysia	Universiti Utara Malaysia	UPM UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA DER IL MU DER DA KTI
NUMBER OF LIBRARY BRANCHES	11	4	8	2	4
NUMBER OF LIBRARIANS	45	46	50	25	56
PHD HOLDER	1	3	1	1	1
TECHNOLOGIST (Ts.)	_	_	1	-	1
DATA STEWARD	17	12	10	2	10
MENDELEY ADVISOR	_	12	3	_	1



Conclusions

Dasar DIGITAL NEGARA



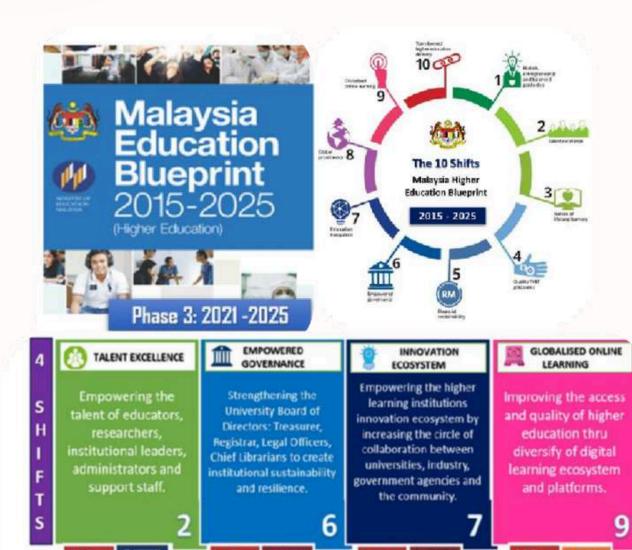
Public Sector Digitalization Strategic Plan 2021-2025

The Public Sector Digitalization Strategic Plan (PSPSA) 2021–2025, formerly known as the Public Sector ICT Strategic Plan (PSICTSA), outlines the strategic direction for digitalization in the Public Sector in alignment with the nation's vision and mission for the next five years.

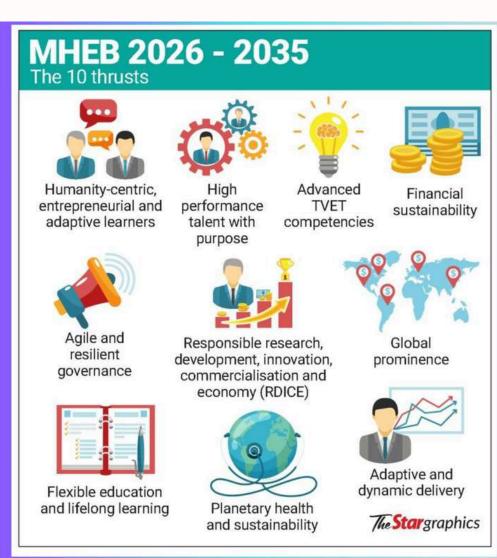
Source: https://www.malaysia.gov.my/portal/content/31286



Strategies & Initiatives at National Level: MALAYSIA HIGHER EDUCATION BLUEPRINT







Source: https://thesun.my/malaysia-news/higher-education-development-plan-2026-2035-charts-holistic-direction-for-local-institutions-zambry-HG13375367









Malaysia Research Universities: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiatives 2025











Al in Medicine

Early disease detection, improved health outcomes, cancer research

Al Semiconductors

Al Powered chip design

Faculty of Al

First dedicated AI faculty and research hub

Malay Language Al

Malay Large Language Model (LLM-BM)

AI in Cybersecurity

Malaysian Cryptology Center, focus on Al & quantum computing security



Five Key Elements for FUTUREPROOFING ACADEMIC LIBRARIES THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

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Digital Transformation and Flexible Infrastructure	Robust Digital Infrastructure and Access	Digital Infrastructure and Cloud-First Architecture	Strategic Digital Collection Development and Universal Access	Digital Infrastructure and Services
Sustainable and Green Practices	User-Centered Design and Services	Data Management and Digital Scholarship Services	Advanced Technology Integration and AI- Driven Services	Data Management and Analytics
Openness, Accessibility, and Inclusion	Digital Literacy and Information Skills Development	Flexible Physical and Virtual Learning Spaces	Evolving Physical and Virtual Learning Environments	Staff Digital Capabilities
Community Engagement and Collaboration	Sustainable and Smart Building Practices	Sustainable Digital Collections and Open Access	Cultivating a Future- Ready Library Workforce	Collaborative Partnerships
Ongoing Skills Development and Agile Management	Open Science and Knowledge Equity	Staff Development and Emerging Technology Integration	Embracing Holistic Sustainability and Community Resilience	Sustainable Operations

Initiatives by MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

1

DIGITAL INNOVATION ACTIVITIES

3

CAPACITY BUILDING & STAFF UPSKILLING

2

SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

4

COLLABORATIONS & CONSORTIUM EFFORTS





"Lead the Change:
Change:
As Digital
Librarians
Innovators

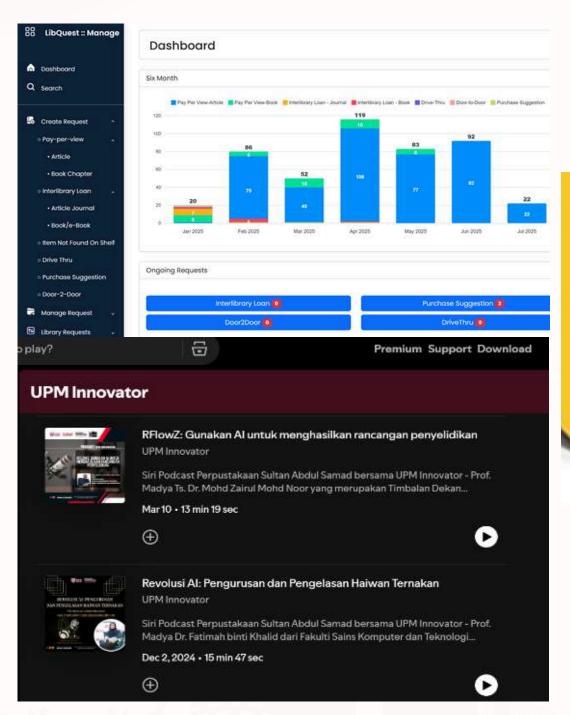




Digital INNOVATIONS



Digital Innovations MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES





Challenges and

Opportunities

UKM LibQuest is a comprehensive online platform developed by the library to streamline and centralize essential library services. The system integrates key offerings such as Pay Per View access, interlibrary loan requests, material acquisition services, and a range of convenient delivery options.

UPM Innovator (Podcast) is an informal platform for researchers to share their work, making complex topics understandable and relevant to a wider audience.

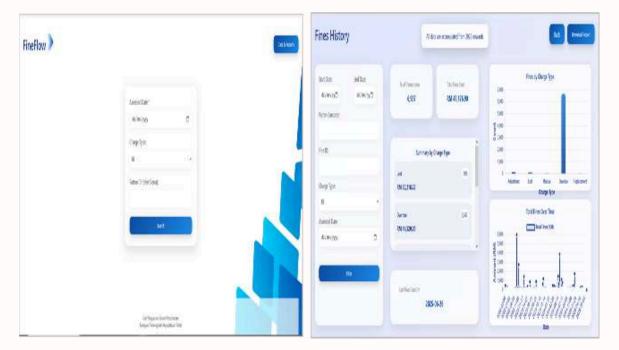
GOVR by USM Library connects library users to the full spectrum of the library's online resources through the innovative VR Discovery Service. With a single search, patrons can seamlessly explore and access e-books, full-text articles, local collections, 3D models, and a wide array of digital content.

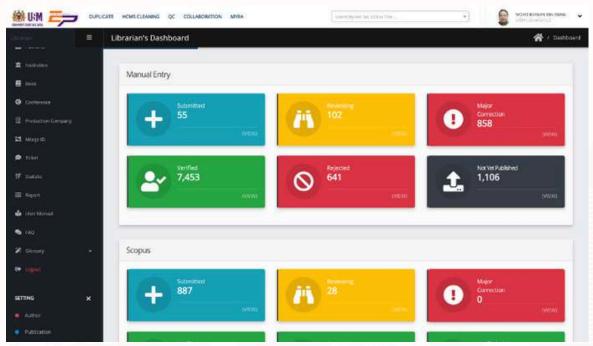






Digital Innovations MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES





UUM FineFlow is an integrated system that facilitates the seamless transmission of fine data from the library's computer system to the university bursar's financial system. This real-time connectivity allows users to instantly access up-to-date information regarding their outstanding fines.

E-Publication USM is a centralized, integrated system developed by USM Library to addresses key challenges in USM's academic publication data management such as scattered data submissions, manual verification, and duplicated reporting efforts.



Challenges and

Opportunities







Sustainability ACTIVITIES



Sustainability Activities MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES





UKM Energy Saving Campaign promoted efficient energy use among staff through educational activities. It increased awareness and encouraged daily energy-saving habits, supporting UKM's target of becoming a low-carbon campus by 2050.

UKM A Day as A Librarian

This program provided an opportunity for 44 participants aged 10 to 14 to experience the unique role of being a librarian. Through a variety of engaging activities such as Smart Info Search, Info Hunt, DIY Notepad, and Exploring the World of Knowledge.

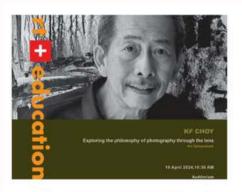
UPM Green Library Activities includes Creating Recycle Corners, creative recycling ideas, solar energy, CSR in Sg Judah (A) Primary School, Pulau Carey, water saving campaign.



Sustainability Activities MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES













UM Gender Equalities activities were held in conjunction with International Women's Day and was officiated by Her Royal Highness the Raja of Perak. This activities highlighted the importance and recognition of women's achievements in various fields.

USM Library involvement in **USM Green Office Rating** 2024. The library successfully received the Five Leaf Rating in the Universiti Sains Malaysia Green Office Award Ceremony 2024 which was officiated by the Vice-Chancellor of UniversitiSains Malaysia, YBhg. Prof. Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, FASc. held at the USM Cultural Hall on 30 October 2024.

UM Various Themed Exhibitions were held in conjunction with SDG 11 - Preserving Culture and Expanding Access such as Art + Education, Artconomics: Ali Nurazmal Yusoff 8th Solo Art Show, Enjoy the 15th Years of Art, Visionary Journeys, and Reclamation Vol. 1









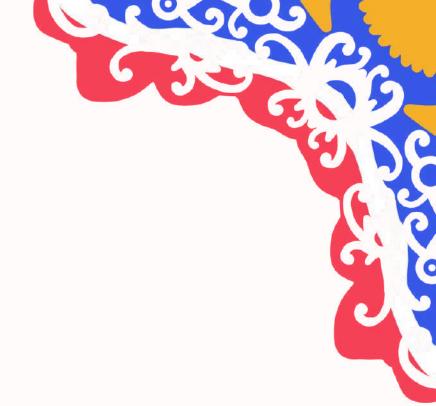




Capacity Building & STAFF UPSKILLING



Capacity Building & Staff Upskilling MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES







UKM Professional Development Program Library organized a Leadership program aimed to sharpen leadership skills, foster self-awareness to strengthen personal identity, and reinforce values of unity and collaboration.

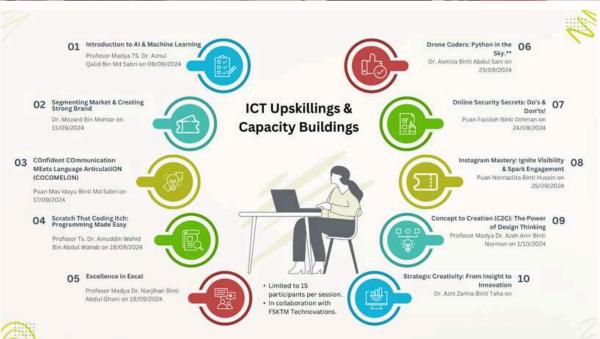
USM Librarian along with International Mobility & Collaboration Centre (IMCC) USM officer get the opportunity to join **International Staff Week, Universidad De Sevilla** (19 – 23 May 2025).

Course on **USM Library Collection Management** (14 May 2025) gathered 30 support staffs from all USM Library branches.









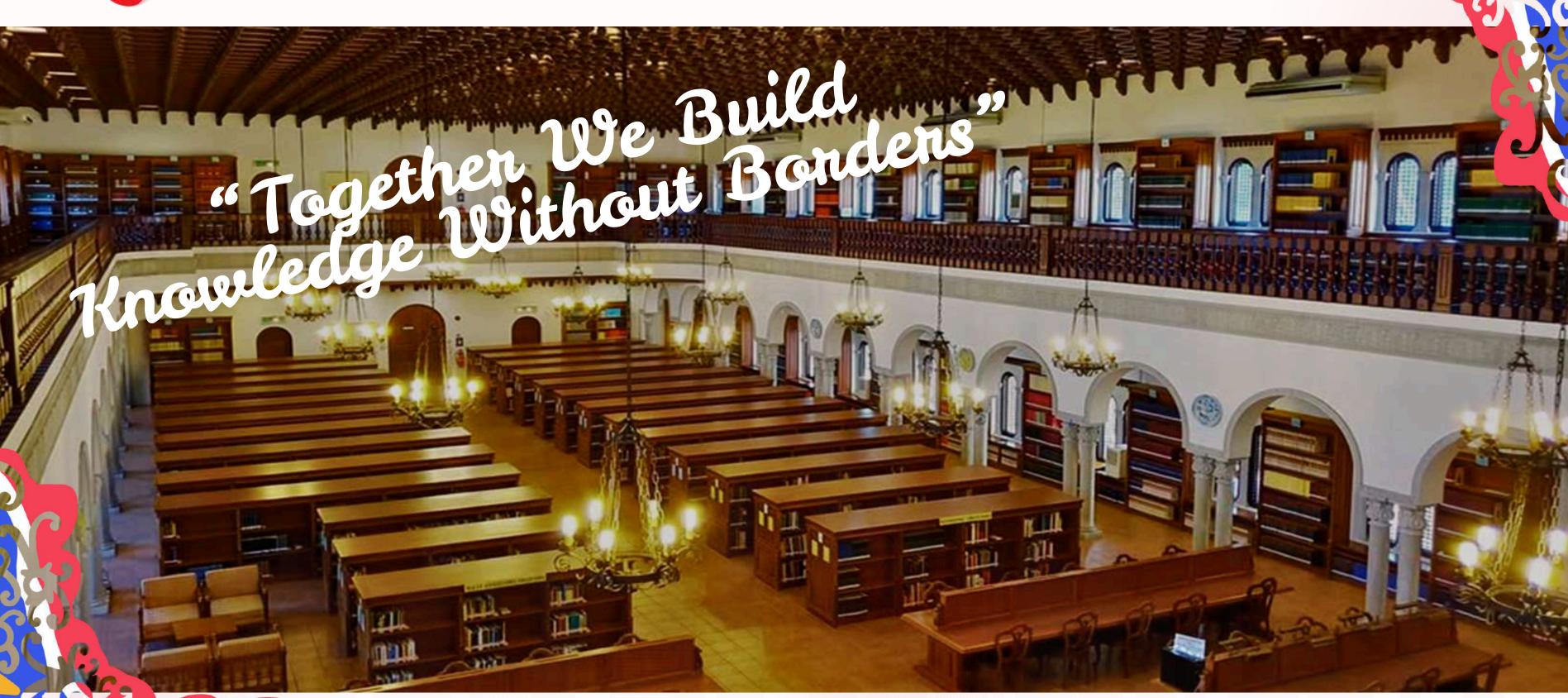
UPM participation in **Transforming University Libraries: Library Leadership & Innovation** Programme (TULLIP) organized by NUS Libraries from 6 to 10 January 2025.

UUM Cultivate awareness of Artificial Intelligence (A.I) among librarian, generate ideas on what project can librarian do to incorporate this technology into library services and deliver better service.

> **UM ICT upskillings and capacity building** collaboration with faculty (FSKTM Technovations)









Collaboration & CONSORTIUM EFFORTS



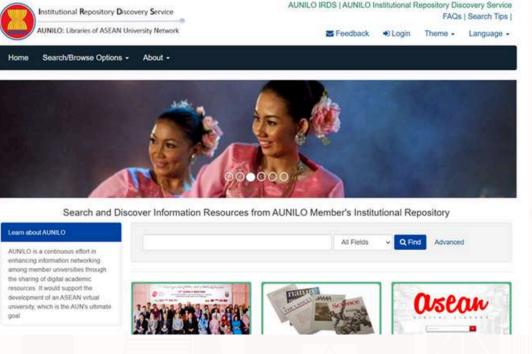
Collaboration & Consortium Efforts MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES Malaysia on

MALAYSIA LIBRARIES E-RESOURCES DATABASE (MyLED)









Challenges and

Opportunities

Malaysia Online E-Resources Consortium (MOLEC)

is a strategic collaboration among Malaysian academic and research libraries, established to collectively subscribe to and negotiate access to electronic resources, including academic journals, databases, and e-books. MOLEC enhances costefficiency and broadens resource availability across member institutions, thereby supporting Malaysia's higher education and research communities with comprehensive digital scholarly content.

MLG-TMLA Benchmarking Visit

A total of 12 delegates from the Medical Libraries Group (MLG) and the Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA) conducted a benchmarking visit to three main libraries under the Faculty of Medicine and Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz (HCTM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

SIR Corner is a CSR initiative by YBR, established as a Bank Rakyat Digital Library with a composition of 80% digital and 20% physical resources. It offers access to over 100,000 digital materials across seven databases covering business, economics, finance, and general topics.

ASEAN University Network Inter-Library Online - (AUNILO-IRDS). Online shared platform that aggregates research output like theses, articles, and academic papers from AUNILO member universities, making 940,353 documents searchable in one interface.





Challenges & Opportunities

MALAYSIA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

SUSTAINING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Maintaining consistent community interest in cultural exhibitions and heritage programs.

SLOW UPTAKE ON OPEN SCIENCE

Misconceptions about open access & data sharing and the absence of reward structures for Open Science.

BUDGET CONSTRAINTS

Many libraries face funding limitations that hinder digital transformation

TECHNOLOGICAL OBSOLESCENCE

Rapid changes in tech can make systems and tools outdated quickly. Libraries must continuously upgrade infrastructure and software.

DIGITAL DIVIDE

Not all users have equal access to devices or internet connectivity. Bridging this gap is essential to ensure equitable access to digital resources.

DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Digital platforms must safeguard users' personal and usage data.

POSITIONING THE LIBRARY AS A CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL HUB

Exhibitions, oral histories, and outreach programs can reinforce the library's role in community building.

OPEN SCIENCE CAN BOOST THE VISIBILITY & IMPACT OF RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

By promoting scholarly output of the university, the citation potential discoverability, and societal relevance of research university output can be increased

UPSKILLING & LIFELONG LEARNING HUBS

Libraries can become key centers for digital literacy, coding, and sustainability education

INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY AND REACH

Digital platforms allow libraries to serve broader, remote, and diverse communities

COLLABORATIVE PLATFORMS

Libraries can partner with institutions globally via digital repositories and open-access initiatives.

RESILIENCE AGAINST DISRUPTION

Virtual services ensure continuity of access during crises (e.g. pandemics, natural disasters).

Strategies & Initiatives at National Level

Initiatives by
Malaysia Academic
Libraries

Challenges and Opportunities

A Libraries







"Modern library development relies on robust digital infrastructure, sustainability, and inclusive access to knowledge."

"Strong community engagement, continuous skills development, and adaptable learning environments enhance user experience and collaboration"

"Effective data management and digital services further support research and informed decision-making, forming a resilient and innovative library ecosystem"









Thank you

