

Impact Report Cohort 1.0

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In collaboration with



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Kementerian
Pendidikan
Malaysia (KPM)



**“Working with
local teachers to
build Zero Waste
schools.”**

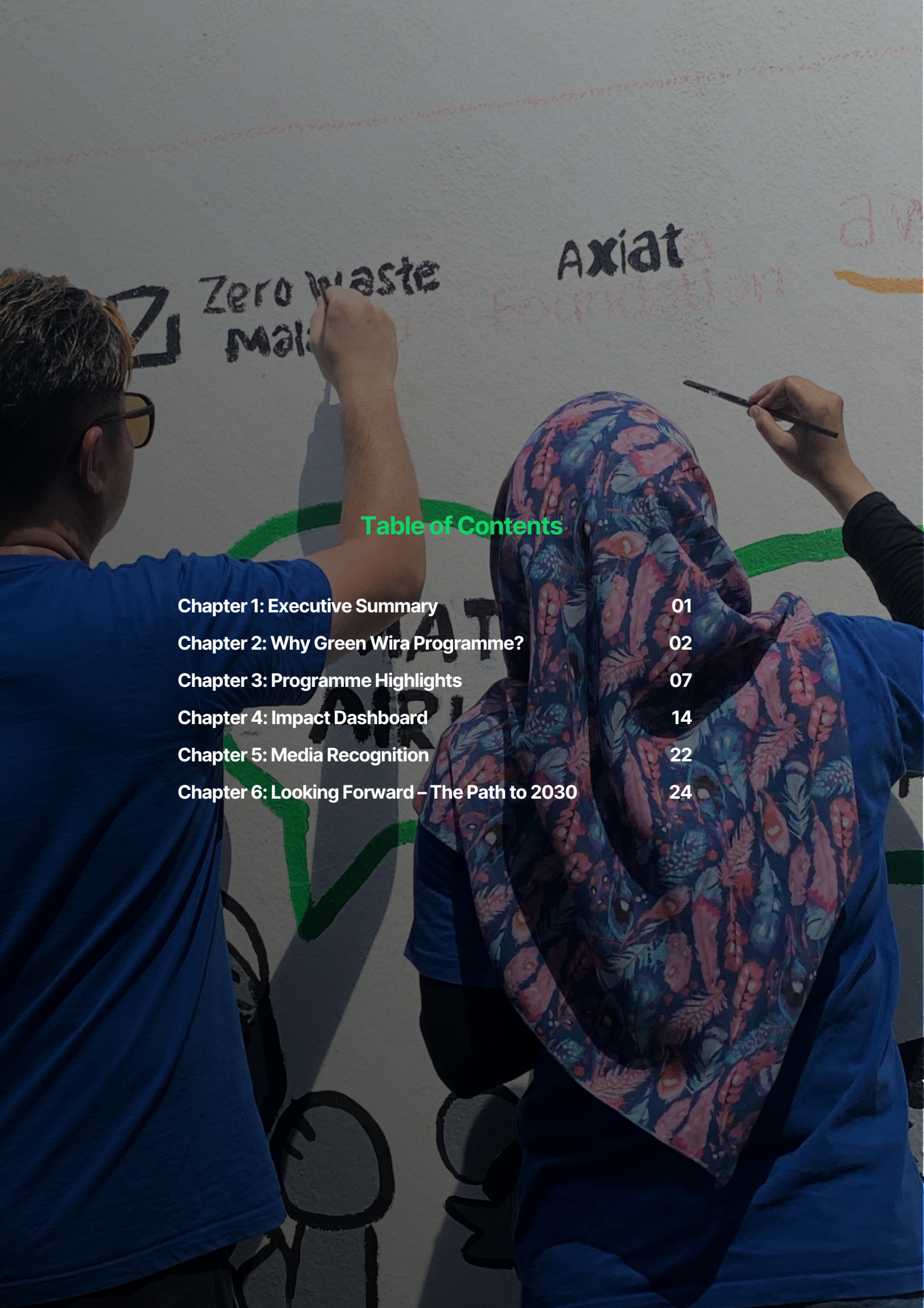
The background image shows two individuals from behind, engaged in painting a wall. On the left, a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a blue t-shirt, is painting the words 'Zero waste' and 'Malaysia' in black marker. On the right, a woman wearing a blue hijab with a colorful floral pattern and a blue t-shirt is also painting. The wall is white and has several other markings, including 'Axiat' in black, 'Foundation' in red, and a large green circular graphic. The overall scene suggests a community or environmental project.

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Our Mission

To empower educators to drive sustainable change in schools through the Zero Waste Principles, reshaping the future of education in Malaysia.



What if solving the climate crisis started in a classroom?

The Green Wira Programme (GWP) reimagines education as a launchpad for environmental transformation — one that empowers teachers, engages students, and inspires communities to take meaningful climate action based on the Zero Waste Principles

In our pilot cohort, we trained **50 educators** from across Malaysia, supported **3 Zero Waste school projects**, and impacted **33,000 teachers and students**. The ripple effects resulted in **over 1,000,000 programme reach**, proving that schools can be powerful engines of change- when teachers are given the right tools, trust and support. With the support of our corporate partners, schools and friends from the media, we have successfully launched Cohort 2.0 with a third cohort in the works.

It's serious

but that
program,



but keepers
by the join?

H.

tech

Education can change
a person, so it is important
keep educate the PRACTICAL
action, instead on theoretical
way! cheers mate!

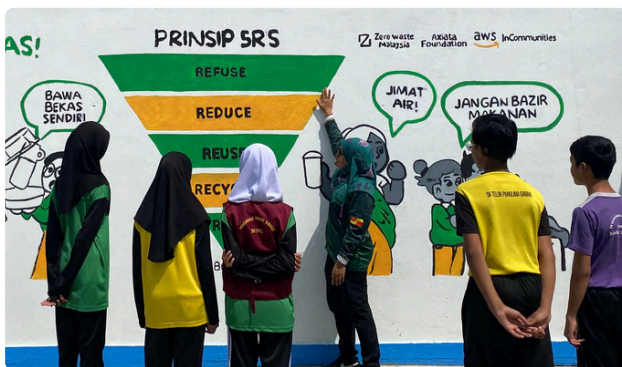
CHAPTER 2

WHY GREEN WIRA PROGRAMME?

ACTUAL PLAUSIBLE
ACTUAL

About Zero Waste Malaysia

Established in 2016, Zero Waste Malaysia (ZWM) is a non-profit organisation that champions sustainability through education and action. We aim to raise environmental awareness and empower Malaysians to adopt zero waste lifestyles.



Why Focus on Schools and Educators?

Educators are ready to lead, but without structured support, schools remain untapped engines of change. With rising public demand for sustainability, classrooms must now become catalysts for Malaysia's zero waste future.

The Waste Crisis in Malaysia

Malaysia's waste issue isn't just visible — it's measurable.

Waste is now the third largest contributor to national carbon emissions¹, making it a critical target in our climate response.

63%

of surveyed individuals called for more environmental campaigns and school-based education from Zero Waste Malaysia².



1. Malaysia. Biennial update report (BUR). BUR 4

2. Zero Waste Malaysia's Public Survey 2022



How Green Wira Was Born

In response to rising environmental concerns and community feedback, ZWM launched the Green Wira Programme in 2023 — a focused initiative to empower educators as sustainability leaders.

We began by equipping **50** passionate educators with the knowledge, skills, and support needed to bring real-world zero waste practices into their schools and communities.



Schools and educators are the vital seeds of change; by empowering them, we cultivate a generation that inherently understands and practices zero waste, creating a ripple effect across Malaysian communities."

Khor Sue Yee,
Co-founder & Director, ZWM

Programme Overview

1. Empower Educators as Catalysts for Environmental Change



We begin by building a strong foundation of support through:

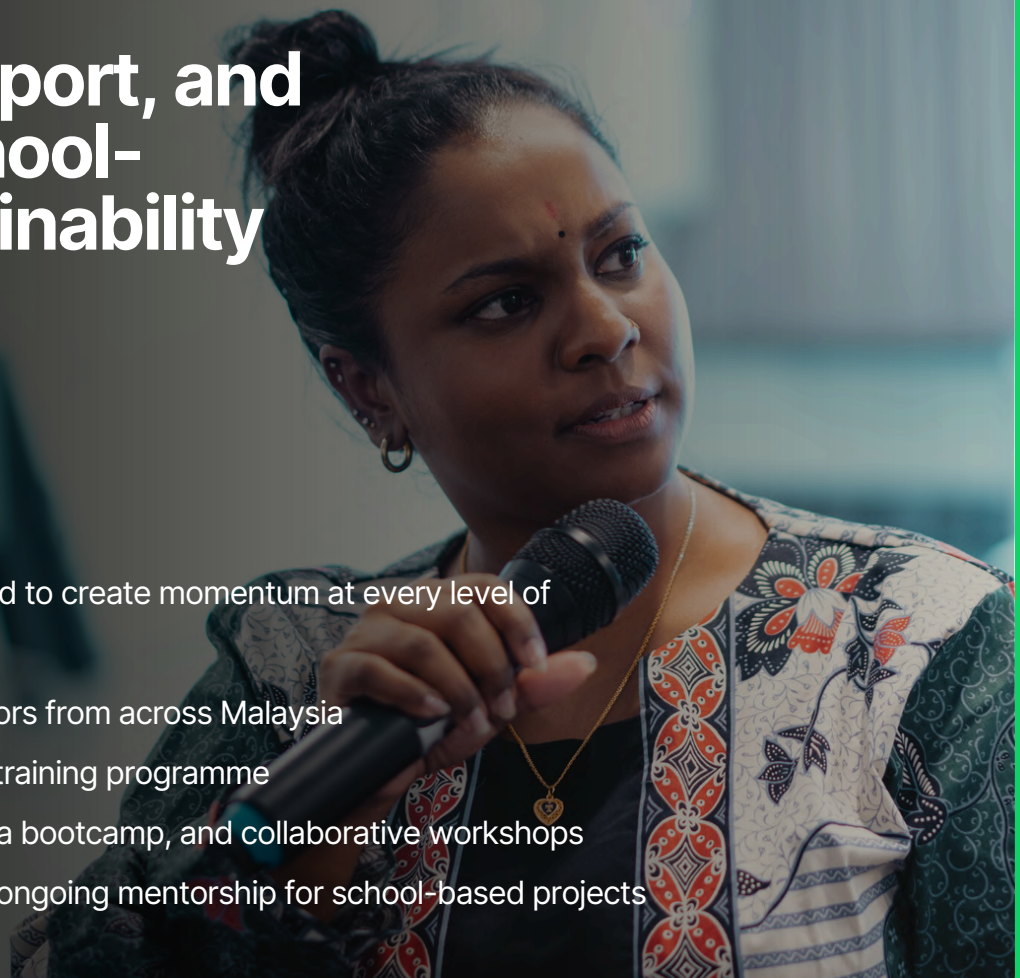
- 1 The Green Wira Programme team, mentors, and partners
- 2 Expert-led Zero Waste education modules
- 3 Funding and strategic support from Axiata Foundation (AF) and Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- 4 Endorsement and outreach support from the Ministry of Education Malaysia and State Education Departments



2. Train, Support, and Activate School-Based Sustainability Leaders

Our core activities are designed to create momentum at every level of the educator experience:

- 1 Recruit passionate educators from across Malaysia
- 2 Deliver a 5-module online training programme
- 3 Facilitate live discussions, a bootcamp, and collaborative workshops
- 4 Provide seed funding and ongoing mentorship for school-based projects



3. Grow a Network of Educators Driving School-Wide Environmental Action

By the end of each cohort, we see powerful results taking root:

- 1 Educators emerge as confident sustainability leaders
- 2 Three Zero Waste school projects successfully implemented
- 3 Students participate in environmental actions and campaigns
- 4 The programme gains visibility through media features and public showcases

4. Transform Education into a Driver of Environmental Change

Our long-term vision is systemic and deeply values-driven:

- 1 Schools begin integrating Zero Waste practices into operations and culture
- 2 Educators become sustainability role models in their communities
- 3 Students grow into informed, environmentally conscious citizens
- 4 A nationwide shift toward environmental education begins to take shape



A strong foundation is laid for a future where Zero Waste Principles are embedded in Malaysia's education system.



A journey of activation, learning, and collective impact — driven by educators, powered by partnerships.

CHAPTER 3

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

3.1 Recruitment & Selection – Building the First Wave of Changemakers

Registrations opened in September 2023 to Malaysian educators teaching at primary, secondary, government, private, and international schools in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, and Putrajaya. 53 enrolled, with 50 educators accepted into the programme and stepping into their role as the inaugural Green Wira Programme cohort.

Educators came from diverse backgrounds — spanning three states, various school types, and roles. We looked for qualities like passion, community commitment, adaptability, and the drive to bring sustainability into everyday education.



78%
of teachers

...were based in Selangor, which could indicate that Selangor schools have a higher awareness of sustainability education.

48%
of teachers

...enrolled in GWP taught STEM subjects. This is in line with the current Malaysian education syllabus, where most sustainability topics are ingrained in STEM subjects.

What made you apply for the Green Wira Programme?

“

Bagi saya, alam sekitar merupakan khazanah yang wajib dijaga oleh

kita. Justeru, melalui akar umbi iaitu dengan mendidik murid untuk menyemai sikap cinta alam sekitar, saya terpanggil untuk menyertai dan terlibat bersama GWP kerana saya juga seorang yang cintakan alam sekitar yang bersih dan ceria.”

Ahmad Aiman Bin Mohd Kamaruzaman,
SK Dato Keramat 2

“

School-based zero waste project is this amazing idea of combining a

teacher's idea of recycling and student/ classroom usage to their day-to-day meals in the school. This program can help the school be a greener school and educate the students through their habits in and out of school. GWP can facilitate me building leadership and network, to understand the needs of the school and continue to build a green awareness school and society.”

Simon Tiew Hung Liang, Sunway International School (Sunway City Kuala Lumpur)

“

Making a difference for the environment, learning useful skills, growing my network, becoming involved with my community and school, and finding personal fulfilment are all possible through the Green Wira Programme. I've been working with ECO-related programmes at my school, and I believe that by doing this, I will have a better chance to pursue my enthusiasm for ECO and initiatives that are relevant to sustainability.”

Thinoshaa Prem Krishnan Murty, Nexus International School Malaysia

3.2 Training & Capacity Building – Equipping Educators to Lead

Over the course of several weeks, educators completed a 5-module Zero Waste curriculum in English and Malay, covering topics like Zero Waste and Sustainable Solutions, design thinking and stakeholder mapping.

Modules	Content Overview
Module 1: Introduction to Zero Waste	An overview of climate change in the global and local context and a brief introduction to Zero Waste principles.
Module 2: The What, Why, Where, How of Waste	An introduction to the gravity of the waste issue globally and locally, methods of waste disposal, and the dangers of waste mismanagement.
Module 3: Zero Waste and Sustainable Solutions	A deep dive into Zero Waste principles enhanced with case studies on implementing the Zero Waste 5Rs in schools
Module 4: Design Thinking	A detailed lesson on how to apply the Design Thinking process to their environmental sustainability project.
Module 5: Project Sustainability and Monitoring	A module dedicated to inspiring educators to find their Why, encouraging behaviour change to embrace long-term projects, and teaching them to use the Plan-Do-Check-Act framework to enhance their project.

Active learning was powered by live discussions, bootcamps, real-time feedback, and peer community. Highlights included our networking meal session, educator-led sharing circles, and the Green Wira Bootcamp, where top educators received coaching to enhance their project proposals.



3.3 Mentorship— From Ideas to Impact

Mentorship in Green Wira wasn't just about guidance — it was about growing confidence, building community, and translating knowledge into action. Throughout the programme, mentorship was provided through two key channels: peer support and expert-led coaching. At every touchpoint, educators were empowered to reflect, iterate, and lead with clarity and confidence.

Expert Mentorship Through Webinars

Educators engaged with experienced speakers across 5 expert-led webinars, each aligned with a module:



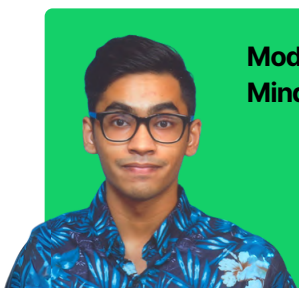
Module 1: Introduction to Zero Waste

Tina Yap
Zero Waste Malaysia volunteer,
Social Worker and a private
university lecturer



Module 2: The What, Why, Where, How of Waste

Chee Lee Yoon
Co-Founder of Hara Makers Initiative



Module 3: Developing Sustainable Mindsets Through Gardening

Surendran Sivasubramaniam
Ground Control



Module 4: Design Thinking for School Projects

Sharaf Guna
Axiata Foundation



Module 5: Project Sustainability and Monitoring

Sharmaine Kaur
Co-Founder EcoGarage

Hands-On Coaching from the Core Team

Across the programme, educators received project-focused coaching from the GWP team, addressing project feasibility, challenges, strengths, and alignment with zero waste principles.

This was deepened during the three-day Green Wira Bootcamp, where workshops focused on:

- Goals Alignment
- Design Thinking
- Waste Management
- Emotional Resilience

The Bootcamp also featured **one-on-one coaching sessions** to receive feedback on their school-based project proposals prior to the submission for seed-funding.

“

I learned how to manage the sustainability of a project. It's not just about the grant, but it is also about how you manage

the proposal and documentation; how you manage your emotion... (even if) other people do not stand together with you, you can convince them to take care of the environment together.”

Khuzaimah Binti Zaaim, SK Telok Panglima Garang

“

The most valuable lesson that I gained from GWP is Design Thinking. I have a

problem where I have a lot of ideas, they keep growing into new ideas and sometimes I don't know where to focus. With the Design Thinking process, it really helped me to be more focused and realistic in my project planning.”

Rozilawati binti Abdul Hamid,
Tenby School Setia Eco Park

3.4 Cross-Sector Partnerships – Powering a Shared Vision

The Green Wira Programme is only possible because of collaborative action across sectors — funders, government, civil society, and individuals all playing a part in scaling environmental education.

Axiata Foundation and Amazon Web Services provided funding and strategic guidance.

The Ministry of Education Malaysia offered formal endorsement and legitimacy, enabling outreach to over 1,400 schools.

These partnerships didn't just support the programme — they amplified its credibility, reach, and potential for long-term impact.

“

Through our Environmental Pillar, Axiata Foundation is

committed to building a healthier planet through educating and collaborating with our youth. This Green Wira programme is an important initiative to raise the awareness and knowledge level of our children in schools so that they are able to actively and effectively contribute to planetary health. We are proud to be part of this movement in creating awareness and promoting positive actions towards the environment among our school communities.”

Kamal Nawawi (CEO, Axiata Foundation)

“

At AWS Malaysia, sustainability is integral to our mission. We are

proud to support initiatives like Zero Waste Malaysia's Green Wira Programme, which aligns with our commitment to reducing environmental impact and empowering local communities. Through programmes like this, we aim to foster a sustainable future for Malaysia while nurturing the next generation of eco-champions.”

Amazon Web Services Malaysia





One programme. One cohort. Nationwide ripple effects.

CHAPTER 4
IMPACT DASHBOARD

3

zero waste schools

50

**educators
empowered**

33,000

**students and
teachers
impacted**

RM45,000

seed funding awarded

1,000,000

total programme reach

“

GWP has given me a practical guide to realising my dreams. Through the webinars and workshops conducted by experts in the field, I learned how to successfully implement my project at school. I believe more teachers should participate in GWP because we have a unique position of influence on young minds. This programme will give you the skills to help students develop a sense of environmental responsibility.”



Cikgu Rosmira was awarded the SDG Inspirational Teacher Award because of the EcoSmart Energy Project.



SCAN HERE
to watch a video
about Eco Smart
Energy.

Eco Smart Energy SMK Taman Melawati

Cikgu Rosmira Ramlee

The EcoSmart Energy project reduces electricity and water waste through smart infrastructure upgrades and environmental education. With support from the GWP, the school installed 180 LED lights, photocell spotlights, and a 1,200-litre rainwater harvesting system to water two gardens using a timed sprinkler system.





What We've Achieved: SMKTM

450kg

CO₂e reduced through
smart lighting ecosystem

RM800+

saved on electricity bills in 5 months

2,124

students engaged in energy and
water-saving activities

Rainwater harvesting system scaled
— **second unit built** after success

5Rs campaign **inspired replication**
in a neighbouring school

What's Possible Next?

With continued implementation, the Eco Smart Energy initiative could achieve over 1,000 kgCO₂e in annual reductions, building on the 450 kgCO₂e already saved in just 5 months.

“

GWP provides teachers with an opportunity to enrich their knowledge on environmental sustainability and waste recovery. The programme also adds value and complements PDPc by incorporating global issues such as waste recovery, climate change, and the environment.

GWP also provides guidance and support in implementing sustainable initiatives at school. So, my fellow agents of change, don't miss out on a chance to join GWP!"



Cikgu Khuzaimah's project has been featured in local newspapers and she has mentored fellow teachers to follow in her path.



SCAN HERE
to watch a video
about Green
Recycle House.

Green Recycle House SK Telok Panglima Garang

Cikgu Khuzaimah Zaa'im

The Green Recycle House (GRH) established a functional Materials Recovery Facility on campus to process recyclables and organic waste, while educating students on sustainable waste recovery. Within a month, GRH doubled the school's landfill waste diversion rate through structured sorting and awareness campaigns.





What We've Achieved: SKTPG

827kg

CO₂e reduced in 5 months

1,800+kg

of waste diverted from landfills

1,200kg

of valuable recyclables recovered

School community trained in 5R practices and recycling systems

Green Recycle House (GRH) established as an **on-campus sustainability hub**

What's Possible Next?

The Green Recycle House initiative has already reduced 827 kgCO₂e in 5 months. At its current pace, it could achieve nearly 2,000 kgCO₂e in annual reductions. As the project expands to the wider community under Puan Khuzaimah's plan, its impact is expected to grow even further.

“

GWP is a well-planned programme with a solid support team. I started learning from scratch in this GWP course, and the instructors constantly guided me on how to write a good proposal. From the online modules, I learned a lot of methods to conduct lessons systematically. Finally, I successfully obtained seed funding to carry out my Snacky Box project. If GWP opens classes again, you must not miss this opportunity again.”



Cikgu Joshua Lee has been entrusted with leading his school's sustainability transformation programme and is already planning on expanding the Snacky Box to other schools.



SCAN HERE
to watch a
video about
Snacky Box.

Snacky Box

SJKC Serdang Baru 2

Cikgu Joshua Lee Kin Wai

Snacky Box addresses single-use plastic waste by introducing a container rental system in the school canteen's snack section. The initiative combines student-led behaviour change with canteen staff training, transforming everyday consumption habits.





What We've Achieved: SJKC SB2

2,250

students reached with awareness
on single-use plastic alternatives

200

student leaders onboarded to
champion the Snacky Box project

99%

student buy-in achieved after
pilot rollout

1.3kg of single-use plastics eliminated
from the canteen in 5 months.

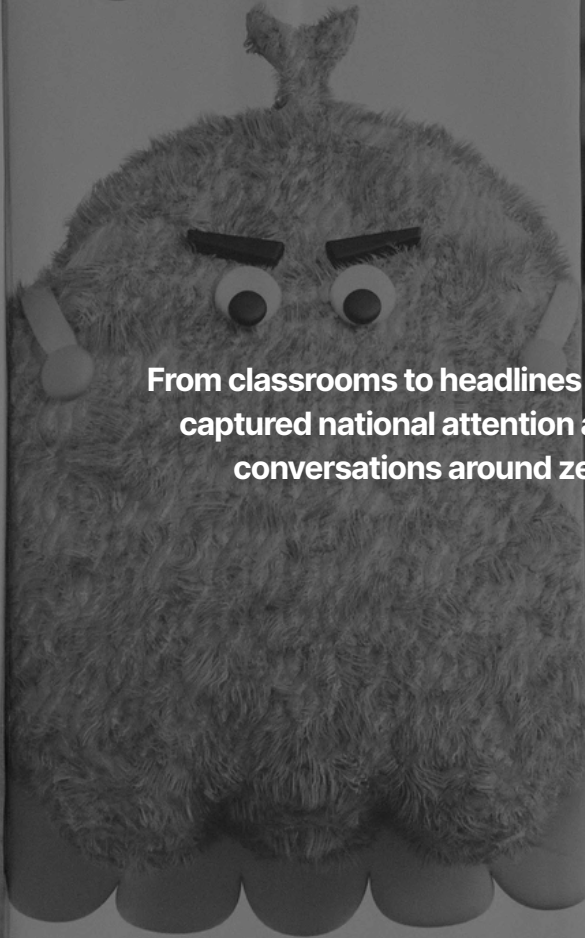
**Canteen staff trained and a dedicated
Snacky Box counter established**

What's Possible Next?

In just 5 months, the Snacky Box initiative reduced 3.38 kgCO₂e with 200 student participants. If scaled school-wide to all 2,250 students, it could achieve over 91 kgCO₂e in annual reductions — with even greater impact expected as more snack options are introduced and adoption grows.

Zero Waste Malaysia Green Wira Programme

THE GREEN WIRA *Showcase*



From classrooms to headlines — Green Wira Programme captured national attention and sparked community conversations around zero waste education.

ZEROWASTEMALAYSIA.ORG

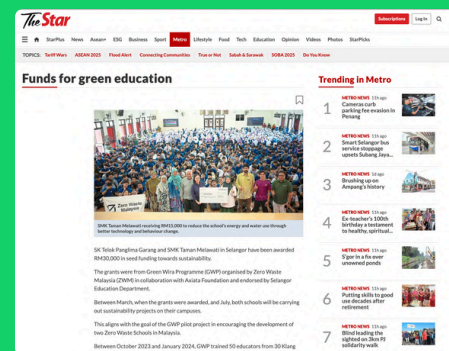
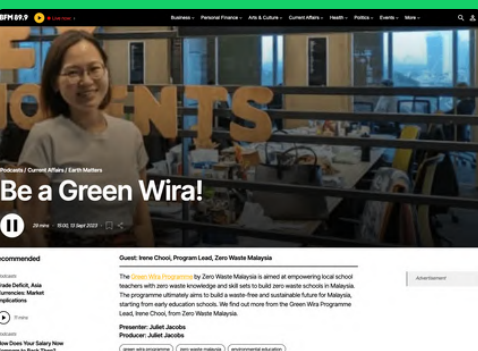
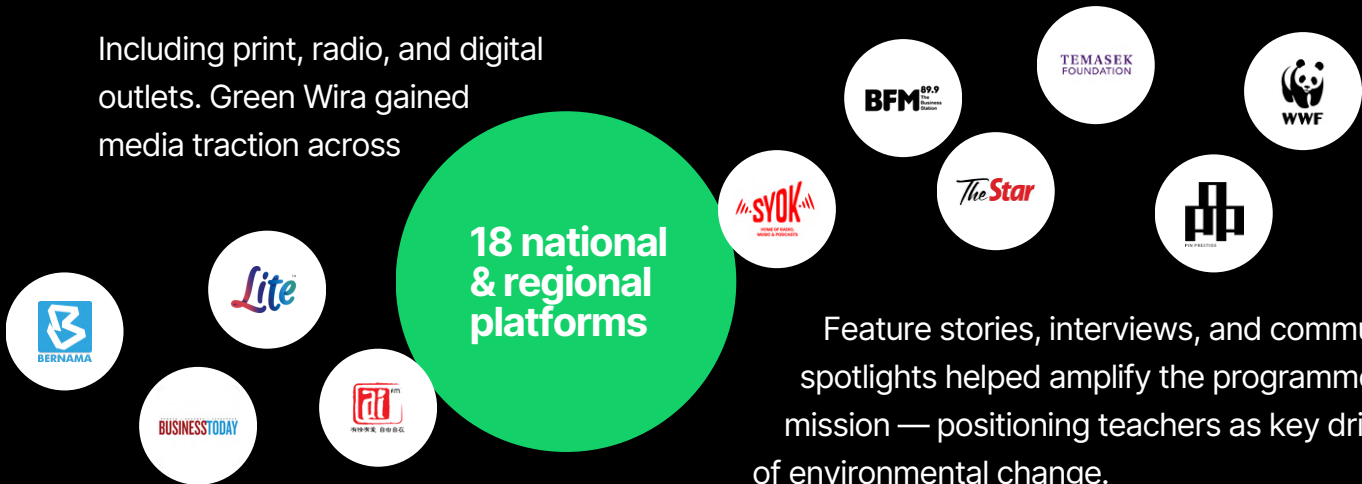
CHAPTER 5 MEDIA RECOGNITION

5.1 Media Recognition – National Coverage, Local Impact

Including print, radio, and digital outlets. Green Wira gained media traction across

18 national & regional platforms

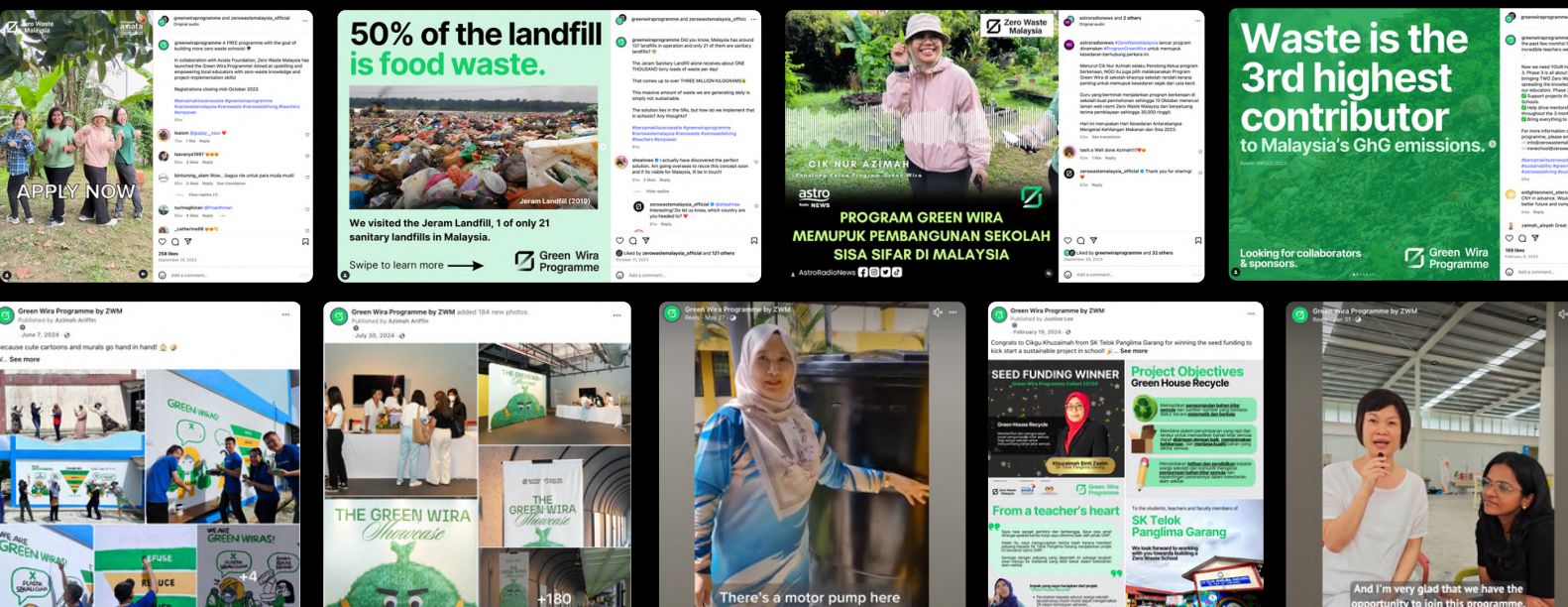
Feature stories, interviews, and community spotlights helped amplify the programme's mission — positioning teachers as key drivers of environmental change.



5.2 Social Media Highlights – Sparking Public Engagement

Across Facebook and Instagram, Green Wira sparked meaningful engagement from teachers, youth, and the general public. From Showcase highlights to educator stories, the programme inspired a wave of digital interaction around sustainability in schools.

#bersamakitazerowaste #greenwiraprogramme #zerowastemalaysia





Green Wira is more than a programme — it's a movement to embed sustainability into the heart of Malaysian education.

CHAPTER 5

Looking Forward – The Path to 2030

6.1 Our Vision for 2030

By 2030, Green Wira aims to:

Build
100

Zero Waste Schools
as living models of
sustainable
education in action

Empower
10,000

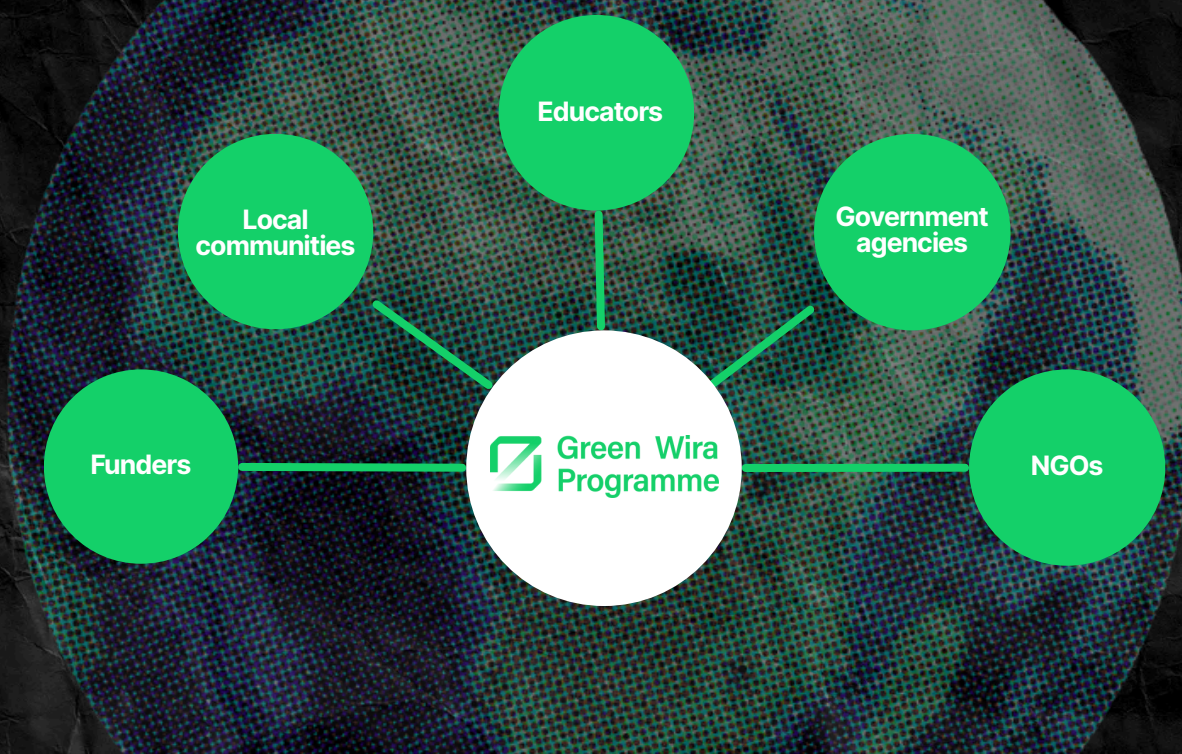
educators to lead
change in their
schools and
communities

Impact
1,000,000

students through
hands-on, values-
driven environmental
learning

6.2 Our Strategy to Scale

Our path to 2030 focuses on enhancing our collaborations with cross-sector stakeholders and multiplying our impact through stakeholder-discussion-led expansion.





Help us scale the Green Wira Programme to the next 1,000 schools. Your support can fund training, seed projects, and empower educators across Malaysia.

You are the spark. Join our next cohort and bring Zero Waste education into your school — with training, mentorship, and a nationwide community behind you.

Whether you're a student, parent, policymaker, or business leader — you have a role. Together, we can nurture a generation of environmentally conscious citizens and schools that lead by example.

The GWP Pilot is brought to you by Zero Waste Malaysia in collaboration with Axiata Foundation and Amazon Web Services, and endorsed by the Education Ministry of Malaysia.

To find out more about the programme, visit our website at zerowastemalaysia.org

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