## IEM-WE on Bandwagon to Dabong School Which was Affected by Floods

WOMEN ENGINEERS SECTION



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he team from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia's Razak School of Engineering and Advanced Technology, made a commitment to contribute back to the society. The success of the first project undertaken in March 2015 was a catalyst for the team to continue with the second initiative, which was the development of a Fun Learning Toy Library for pre-school students in the rural Sekolah Kebangsaan Kuala Geris, Dabong. In particular, this project was a follow-up action to assist victims of the 2014 flood in Kelantan.

The team had the support of several NGOs and groups of people who contributed in cash and kind. IEM-WE seized the opportunity to jump on the bandwagon for the trip to Dabong on 26 February, 2016.

## **FUN LEARNING TOY LIBRARY**

A Fun Learning Toy Library is useful in many ways to the target audience. It provides a conducive environment for pre-school children to develop an interest in science and technology and to

understand its basic concepts at a very young age. With this in place, these young rural children will be motivated to develop a deep interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

The fun learning approach to understanding "difficult" subjects like science and mathematics will, hopefully, overcome or reduce the trauma of the natural disaster that the students experienced. It was reported that many of these young children had lost their homes and found it difficult to go to school. Some were fearful of being separated from their families. With a toy library in school, these children became excited and were motivated to go to school. Additionally, the intanaible benefit of this project was the networking and bonding that developed among the volunteers, partners and the local community. The teachers who participated to implement relevant activities, proved to be of great help.

The team is planning a third visit to the school to monitor and follow-up with several other activities and IEM-WE will take part again.