MALAYSIA needs home-grown experts to advise sprawling townships and commercial industries on greening their edifices, a process that is currently dependent on professionals from developed countries such as the United Kingdom and United States.

With this in mind, Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) has teamed up with the University of Applied Sciences Rosenheim from Germany (UAS RO) to offer the Master of Engineering Technology (Green and Energy-Efficient Buildings) to students in Malaysia.

The international postgraduate programme — conducted at UniKL’s Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering in Malacca — is the first and only German-Malaysia green building master’s programme in the country.

This course warrants the implementation of an innovative, environmentally friendly-based programme according to the latest German technology in line with Malaysian requirements.

Programmes of the course almost automatically become specialists in green building, energy and management, and they serve as a link between engineers and architects in the local and international construction industry.

The programme features local and German lecturers from both universities extending a wide array of competencies in green building materials and technology, energy efficiency, as well as entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

Over the duration of two years, students will cover subjects including facade and roof constructions, heat and moisture study, cooling, climate and electrical engineering, lightning engineering, energy efficient buildings, simulations technology, building automation, building life cycle analysis, building, construction and environmental law, quality management, operation and construction management as well as administrative and financial management studies.

The fourth and final semester entails a project and a master thesis that will require students to stay in Germany for at least a month to complete their work and a study tour.

The innovative course will also look into understanding the key role of green building technology in the global construction sector.

The first batch of students will graduate in September 2013. Intake is in every January.

UniKL and UAS RO have also jointly introduced the Industrie Meister Craftsman Programme in an effort to elevate the standard of technical and vocational training in Malaysia.

The first batch of 28 UniKL Institute of Product Design and Manufacturing students have already embarked on this programme in Germany after undergoing a preparatory course in the university.

Completion of the programme leads to the award of the Certificate of Foundation in Deutscher Industrie Master Craftsman International, focusing on mechanical and electrical, specialised automotive, locomotive and railway technology and furniture manufacturing.

Endorsement by the German Chamber of Commerce helps to open up a world of opportunities in the technical field locally and internationally.

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The course will provide a better understanding of green building technology.