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FRIM to document forest resources digitally

KUALA LUMPUR: The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) is carrying out a digital documentation project on forest plants as a measure to sustain the conservation and management of resources.

The project has begun at the FRIM area in Kepong, Selangor spanning 512 hectares, of which 5.6 hectares have already been documented, said FRIM director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod.

Through cooperation with a MSC status company, Cube Global Sdn Bhd, with its expertise in forestry and digital mapping, information and data collected using the system would help monitor forest resources and prevent illegal logging.

“This information is vital for a

more efficient resource conservation and management as well as to encourage carbon stock trading,” he said after inking a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Cube Global chief executive officer Azman Ali M.Habib Rahman yesterday.

Abd Latif said the three-year project will collect information on species of trees, their size, flower characteristics and fruits which will be easily accessible to the public, especially researchers and students.

Meanwhile, Azman said FRIM was Malaysia’s first tropical management institution to use the forest digital documentation system which Cube Global hopes to introduce to other countries that sought forest resource management services. - Bernama