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FRIM, Bumi Armada to collaborate in carbon conservation programme

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia will pursue its first carbon offset conservation programme involving the conservation of carbon at a biologically diverse forest site within the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) campus here.

The programme, a collaboration between FRIM and Bumi Armada Bhd, would involve the conservation of carbon stored at Field 11, a 5.6 hectare of rich, biologically diverse forest site within FRIM's 544 hectare campus.

The signing of the collaborative effort was signed yesterday by FRIM Director-General Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod and Bumi Armada's Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer Hassan Basma, and witnessed by the Chairperson of Malaysian Forestry Rehabilitation and Development Board Hajah Nancy Shukri.

Dr Abd Latif said Field 11 had the capacity to store the equivalent of 3,938.6 tons of carbon dioxide annually and Bumi Armada's RM107,000 contribution would cover the carbon credits from the conservation of the forest within the project site for over a period of five years.

Carbon offsets enable individuals, companies and countries to reduce their carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by offsetting, reducing or displacing CO₂ in another place.

"Reduction of CO₂ is an integral effort in mitigating the potential devastating impacts of climate change facing the global community today.

"As such it is everybody's responsibility to reduce CO₂ emissions and address climate change," he said.

Dr Abd Latif said carbon offsets typically included renewable energy, energy efficiency and reforestation projects.

"However there is an increasing global recognition on the importance of forest conservation and sustainable forest management in reducing CO₂ emissions," he said. - Bernama