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Boost for plantation-grown timber

KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah Timber Industries Association (STIA) is making headway in getting the commercial use of plantation-grown *acacia mangium* in Sabah to become a reality. This is made possible through the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's Community Innovation Fund with a recent RM500,000 allocation.

The document exchange for the collaboration between STIA and the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (Frim) was held in Kota

Marudu early this month. It was witnessed by Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Johnnity Ongkili.

Frim was appointed as the technical consultant to STIA in the collaboration.

Association president Datuk James Hwonh You Chuaang said the cooperation formed part of the efforts by STIA in assisting their members to make use of local plantation-grown *acacia mangium* for the production of higher value-added product for export.