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DBKU plans to create mini-forests in city

KUCHING: Fancy seeing a belian (iron wood) tree or a pepper vine without having to leave the city?

Well, it may just be possible as Kuching North City Commission (DBKU) is planning to grow clusters of mini-forests within its area of jurisdiction such as in big roundabouts.

DBKU Datuk Bandar Datuk Abang Abdul Wahap Abang Julai revealed that the commission hoped to collaborate with Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) to come up with a thorough plan for the project.

He admitted that the idea came suddenly while he was attending the National Conservation Symposium 2013 here yesterday.

"As you know, DBKU has its Clean, Beautiful and Safe (CBS) Enhancement Plan and I believe that having little clusters of forests around the city will fit in perfectly into it," he told reporters here yesterday.

He said the city would have green lungs made up of various species of trees and other plants found in the jungles of Borneo.

Abdul Wahap also believe this would in turn draw visitors as it

would make the city unique.

The people, he said, would also be educated about the species of plants and trees which Sarawak had in its jungles.

"It will also encourage the people to see how important it is to conserve our forests for the future generation," he said.

He said there were some vacant lands in DBKU area which would be perfect for creating mini-forests.

He was confident the government would back the plan and provide money for it.

He aimed to start the project this year.