

| | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Headline | Certification for all forest reserves in Sabah: Dept | | |
| MediaTitle | Daily Express (KK) | | |
| Date | 07 Apr 2016 | Color | Full Color |
| Section | Nation | Circulation | 25,055 |
| Page No | 3 | Readership | 75,165 |
| Language | English | ArticleSize | 374 cm ² |
| Journalist | Mardinah Jikur | AdValue | RM 1,927 |
| Frequency | Daily (EM) | PR Value | RM 5,781 |



Certification for all forest reserves in Sabah: Dept

Mardinah Jikur

SANDAKAN: Sabah Forestry Department aims to issue certification to all forest reserves in Sabah by 2025 for better sustainable forest management (SFM).

Its Deputy Director Frederick Kugan said the department would give such certification based on their system for SFM purposes in terms of monitoring, protecting and giving the best forest management.

"This is one of the initial steps that we have taken since the SFM concept was introduced in 1997 which protects the forests in Sabah that we can all be proud of until now.

"Apart from this, the department has another vision, which is to achieve 30 per cent of the forests totally protected with a high total acreage in hectares," he said.

Kugan, who was representing Forestry Director Datuk Sam Mannan, said this in his speech when officiating at a workshop on drafting Social Forestry Roadmap for Sabah 2017-2026 and National Direction of Development on Social Forestry in Sabah held at the Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC) at Mile 14, here.

The department organised the three-day workshop with support of the Natural

Resources and Environment Ministry (NRE), Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), Asean Social Forestry Network (ASFN) and Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (Searca).

The workshop was also jointly organised with Sabah Social Forestry Working Group (SASOF), Non-Timber Forest Product - Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP), Partners of Community Sabah (Pacos) Trust, Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia (JOAS) and Ridge To Reef.

The main objective of the workshop was to draft a definition and development of

the Social Forestry Roadmap for Sabah 2017-2026.

Results from the workshop would be combined by FRIM that has been given the responsibility by the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry and it will be streamlined with the direction of Sarawak and the peninsula's social forestry to form one social forestry direction in Malaysia.

Kugan said the department has also implemented the concept of a competent community in which a certain forestry area would be identified to be given li-

cence to a long-term licence holder together with villagers to carry out reforestation and managing the forests.

So far, he said the department has identified 20,000 hectares of land in Sabah for such purposes that could generate good productivity and is one of the mechanisms for the local communities living in the forested area in harmony.

He said the department has provided allocation to carry out various forest conservation, apart from providing basic infrastructures like houses to the local communities living in the forested area.

Kugan said about 400 villages in Sabah in which the local communities living within the forested area are involved in forest conservation efforts, including reforestation. "The department is in the midst of establishing Kampung Taukey whereby the villagers are given a contract to carrying out reforestation as well as giving RM27 million to several licence holders to do the same effort (reforestation).

"We hope through such cooperation between the licence holders and villagers it would develop more people to possess entrepreneur skills on reforesting forests," he said.

| | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Headline | Certification for all forest reserves in Sabah: Dept | | |
| MediaTitle | Daily Express (KK) | | |
| Date | 07 Apr 2016 | Color | Full Color |
| Section | Nation | Circulation | 25,055 |
| Page No | 3 | Readership | 75,165 |
| Language | English | ArticleSize | 374 cm ² |
| Journalist | Mardinah Jikur | AdValue | RM 1,927 |
| Frequency | Daily (EM) | PR Value | RM 5,781 |



Kugan (10th right, standing second row) posing with participants and other officials in the workshop.