KULAP LUMPUR: Kanger International Bhd and the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) will jointly work to develop the Malaysian bamboo industry. This follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the FRIM to jointly expand research and development, manufacturing and production of bamboo products, bamboo plantations and development of the bamboo industry in Malaysia.

Executive Director Syed Hazrin Jamalullail said currently the bamboo industry in Malaysia is still mainly related to agriculture or cottage industries, with low returns. "Kanger has 13 years experience in the relatively new global bamboo market and production of high value bamboo products. Combined with FRIM’s agricultural and technical expertise, we aim to develop the bamboo industry in Malaysia to serve as a sustainable material for the replacement for timber," he added.

Kanger is now able to replicate traditional hardwood timber products using sustainable bamboo.

FRIM recognises the need for Malaysia to change to more sustainable materials such as bamboo as replacement for timber. —Bernama