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FRIM to offer expertise globally

KUALA LUMPUR: The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) is optimistic about providing the best input through research and development for sustainable management of forest resources in the country.

FRIM director-general Dr Ismail Parlan said efforts would be made to continue expanding its expertise at the global level, especially in tropical countries, by offering its services through collaborative partnerships.

“The areas of expertise offered include forest biotechnology, herbal processing, furniture testing and forest carbon stock calculations. FRIM plans to include training in those fields to foreign agencies this year,” said at his office in Kepong in conjunction with the International Day of Forests (IDF).

“FRIM holds the chair of the Asia-Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions for the 2021-2024 term. We will use the platform to promote our services. With such programmes, we can assist countries that

need our services and expertise.”

Ismail said the national-level celebrations for IDF will be held at Tanum Forest Reserve in Kuala Lipis, Pahang on March 26, organised by the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia. He added that the community should appreciate the role of forests, namely in economic development, such as in the timber industry, environmental stability, climate change control, water supply as well as socio-economic and cultural development.

“Malaysia is committed to maintaining at least 50% of its land area under forest cover (to honour its pledge made during the Rio Earth Summit in Brazil in 1992). Malaysia’s forest cover is currently at 55.3%, or 18.3 million hectares of our total land area.

“This shows our commitment to conserve forest area under the Malaysian Forestry Policy, launched on March 21 last year.”
- Bernama