

Borneo Bulletin

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, SABAH AND SARAWAK

Sabah forgoes natural resource revenue to protect environment

on: April 19, 2017 In: News In Image, Southeast Asia

KOTA KINABALU (Bernama) – Sabah has taken a bold move to forgo substantial revenue from its natural resources, especially timber, in order to uphold its commitment towards environment protection.

However, Sabah Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Musa Aman, said the step proved fruitful when the state achieved 26 per cent of total protected areas (TPAs), or 1.87 billion hectares (ha) of greenery.

“This is to ensure Sabah’s ecosystem is resilient in supporting our needs and that of the world.

“We (Sabah) aspire to achieve 30 per cent of TPAs, or 2.2 billion ha, by 2025 and this shows our strong commitment to the conservation of biodiversity and environment,” he said at the opening of the three-day Second Satoyama Initiative Workshop starting yesterday.

The text of his speech was read by State Special Tasks Minister Datuk Teo Chee Kang.



Sabah Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Musa Aman (C) during the launching ceremony. – BERNAMA

Musa also hoped the international community recognised the state’s commitment and lend support by contributing more funding to natural conservation in Sabah.

He also said the state welcomed the Japanese concept of ‘satoyama’, which meant living in harmony with the environment, and the state government was working hard in ensuring socio-economic activities in the state adhered to good practices of natural resource development.

“We believe that by enhancing the resilience of our ecosystem with sufficient protected areas and by embarking on a green economy, we can become a developed state with a sustainable society,” he said.



Borneo Bulletin Serving Brunei Darussalam since 1953

