

Indonesian Companies Keen To Joint Venture With Malaysian Counterparts
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By Ahmad Fuad Yahya

JAKARTA, July 31 (Bernama) -- Several Indonesian companies have expressed interest to team up with Malaysian companies to penetrate the construction sector of several third countries.

Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) Deputy Chief Executive Officer Dr Wong Lai Sum said they want to partner Malaysian companies in Algeria, Northern Africa, the Middle East and Asean countries.

"I believe this is the first time they are saying they want to come together with us to enter these countries," she told Bernama here Sunday.

Dr Wong, who is here for the Matrade Specialised Marketing Mission on Construction and Related Services, said the companies were discussing with their Malaysian counterparts to venture into the construction of roads, buildings and malls, commercial properties and housing.

"They are also interested in working together in other parts of Asean, as it progresses towards realising its objectives of being a common market, a common place for everybody to live, it has to be very seamless," she said.

A 20-member delegation comprising Malaysian companies specialising in the construction sector are participating in the marketing mission.

"The mission is actually in the spirit of growing linkages within Asean and Indonesia being such a close neighbour, we would want to increase the linkages and connections between the two countries," Dr Wong said.

Dr Wong said Malaysians have been coming to Indonesia for a long time but due to certain complications, access to the market has been rather limited.

However, in recent years, Indonesia changed its regulations and laws which helped lure investors to its shores.

Now, the Malaysian companies are here to explore business opportunities in Indonesia.

Dr Wong said the Indonesian government had proposed a land acquisition reform bill in Parliament to facilitate land acquisition.

"If this land acquisition bill is hastened, than opportunities for Malaysian companies to come in for infrastructure projects will be much faster," she added.

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