

Sarawak's Forest Community Service Unit Plans Socio-economic Projects

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KUCHING, May 16 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak Forest Department had created a new community service unit to plan and coordinate the implementation of socio-economic projects and activities in collaboration with local communities and timber industry since early this year, its director Ali Yusop said today.

He said the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)-assisted Lanjak Entimau project, which would come to an end by year's end, had laid a solid foundation for the continued protection of the biodiversity area known as Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary.

"This will help to forge cooperation and bring mutual benefits to stakeholders, including local communities and timber licensees," he said in conjunction with the launch of two books - "The Lanjak Entimau Story: Changing Landscape In Biodiversity Conservation" and "Birds of Bario and the Kelabit Highlands" - published by the department in collaboration with ITTO here.

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