

CIDB and BRE, UK to Cooperate In Benchmarking National Green Rating Tool

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 5 (Bernama) -- The Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) and the Building Research Establishment (BRE), United Kingdom, have signed a memorandum of understanding in the area of sustainable construction, marking the start of a partnership to strengthen technical cooperation and knowledge sharing.

Works Minister Datuk Fadillah Yusof said the MoU was crucial as the construction industry must actively build strategic alliances with the construction sector in more mature and advanced economies to gain feedback and learn from their experiences.

"This is especially important as the Malaysian Government is currently in the midst of formulating the 11th Malaysia Plan, the last five-year plan that will bring Malaysia to its goal of becoming a fully developed nation by the year 2020.

"We are also in the midst of developing our Second Construction Industry Master Plan, which is essentially a blueprint for the construction industry to leapfrog its performance and transform to meet the challenges of the future," he said when speaking the MoU signing.

The MoU was signed by CIDB chief executive Datuk Seri Dr Judin Abdul Karim and BRE chief executive officer Dr Peter Bonfield.

The signing ceremony was held in conjunction with the Ecobuild London, the foremost international exhibition and conference on sustainability.

Among pertinent projects to be carried out under the MoU is the benchmarking of the national green rating tool, which was developed by the CIDB, before the tool is introduced to measure the sustainability of government buildings.

The BRE will assist CIDB in advising and streamlining elements of the green rating tool to benchmark against the BRE Environmental Assessment standards.

The BRE will also advise CIDB in the formulation of baseline data and standards for the rating tool and module development for the training of Green Rating assessors.

The collaboration between the CIDB and the BRE will also look into developing a green rating tool for infrastructures and embarking on pilot assessments during the development of the tool.

The MoU also includes collaborations between the CIDB and the BRE on the establishment of an Innovation and Sustainability Centre for the Built Environment in Kuala Lumpur.

The establishment of the innovation park, which is still in its idea stage, will be built to demonstrate low-to-zero carbon construction and technologies for building and infrastructure construction, as well as clean energy solutions.

Other areas of cooperation are health and safety and support risk management, innovation and development for civil engineering and infrastructure projects in Malaysia through the BRE tools, and the establishment of CIDB as a Strategic member of the International Sustainability Alliance.

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