

on 11 October 2013

MoU inked to facilitate effort in renewable energy



GOOD PARTNERSHIP: Kadim (second left) and Raja Azwane (third right) exchanging the signed MOU in the presence of (from left) Azhaili, Peter, Hashim, and Kamarullzaman.

KUCHING: The Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy (CoERE) Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) and Golden Circle Venture Sdn Bhd (GCVSB) yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enable them to cooperate in the field of renewable energy.

Each party will endeavour to take necessary steps to encourage and promote cooperation in joint consultancies, jointly seek for funds and support to assist the local community and local government in the area of renewable energy, collaborative research projects and any other areas of cooperation to be mutually agreed upon by each other.

Unimas vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Kadim Suaidi, who signed on behalf of the university, hoped the strong collaboration between private and public sectors would lead them on the path to promoting research and development activities with innovative ideas which would contribute towards the improvement of society.

“On behalf of CoERE, I would like to welcome any collaboration research with any government and private agencies in our research development. I hope the fruit of this partnership with Golden Circle Venture will reach out to the masses and will contribute towards shaping a better Malaysia,” he said.

On CoERE which was established in 2009, he said it is a designated centre located at the Faculty of Engineering, and led by associate professor Dr Azhaili Baharun.

The faculty has numerous laboratories that include energy laboratory, solar laboratory, mechanical workshop, material testing workshop and others that are able to assist the research and development (R&D) works by this centre.

He also said knowledgeable educators and researchers would be needed to inspire ingenuity in the next generation and encourage public understanding in regards to energy issues.

Thus CoERE endeavours to be a key player in facilitating this transition, through current and future activities relevant to Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE).

To strengthen the position and visibility of Unimas as a major contributor to the research and development of SCORE and also to take advantage of the rapid development in SCORE, he said Unimas would build a research centre in Mukah.

“The centre will be a major focus on research activities that contribute directly to the progress and development of SCORE as planned,” he said.

GCVSB executive chairman Raja Datuk Azwane Raja Ariff, who signed the MOU, said the main reason for them to make Unimas their technical partner is because CoERE is well-known for its renewable energy research, and they believe the partnership would help them to develop the abundant source of energy in the state.

“We hope the partnership will benefit both parties and this will be a turning point for our collaboration in our business relationship,” he said.

Established in 2005, GCVSB had invested in various sectors; notably in real estate, construction, trading, tourism, oil and gas and the latest venture is in renewable energy.

Also present were director of CoERE Assoc Prof Dr Azhaili Baharun, Unimas deputy vice-chancellor Prof Dr Peter Songan, GCVSB executive director Kamarullzaman Mat Jusoh and dean of Faculty of Engineering Prof Dr Wan Hashim Wan Ibrahim.

Source: The Borneo Post