



Seminar on nature tourism at UMS

KOTA KINABALU: Three working papers will be tabled and discussed at the seminar on nature tourism at Universiti Malaysia Sabah, here, Wednesday.

This day-long event is being organised by the UMS' Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ITBC).

UMS in a statement stated that the institute's director Datin Dr Maryati Mohamed will be presenting a paper on '*ITBC and nature tourism*' while lecturer Kueh Boon Hee will be tabling a paper entitled '*Aurans tourism: A potential nature tourism product hopping into the picture.*'

The third paper '*A decade of nature tourism development: The myths and facts behind its conservation*' will be presented by another ITBC lecturer Robert Francis Peters.

The seminar, the third organised by ITBC, will be participated by representatives from State agencies, tour operators, tourism bodies, tourism institutes, non-Governmental organisations, hoteliers, tourism researchers, tourist guides and tourism students.

Objectives of the seminars are to provide a platform for constructive knowledge and opinion exchanges pertaining to nature tourism in Sabah and also to enable sharing of novel nature tourism ideas and products.

It is also aimed to review the current status and future direction of nature tourism as well as to establish networks for nature tourism in the State.

ITBC will also be compiling the various ideas and recommendations made during the seminar for future reference.

Nature tourism is one of the four research thrusts under the IBTC since it was established on June 1, 1996.

UMS through the institute has so far built up a pool of lecturers and researchers who are actively conducting nature tourism related researches in Sabah as well as trained numerous Master of Science and Bachelor of Science graduates in nature tourism associated disciplines.



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