Awareness on remote sensing still low

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KOTA KINABALU: Remote sensing is a relatively new field in the country and awareness on its usage is still low.

Geomatika Technology Sdn Bhd geospatial manager Mainozalawati Mohd Nor told the Borneo Post yesterday during a break at the Google Earth Training and Discussion on Forest Cover Analysis held at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) near here that even though the technology has been around for several years, its usage in Malaysia is not well developed.

She claimed that those working in related fields would benefit from the use of remote sensing technology, particularly if they were to combine its use with conventional methods.

"The use of such a technology in the planning of development in a country for instance will result in a more orderly development. One is able to see the ground elevation and is able to better predict the types of development that are suited," she explained.

Unfortunately, not many agencies are aware of its capability.

"We strive to increase awareness on this technology," she said.

One of the most accessible means to members of the public who are keen on learning about remote sensing is via Google Earth.

Yesterday, participants comprising mainly members from n o n - g o v e r n m e n t a l organisations as well as media members were taught how to use Google Earth.

The half-day event allowed participants to have the knowledge to derive data from the online application.