

'Greening' event sees 147 saplings planted at Jelalong 3 Estate

Yunus Yussop

BINTULU: A total of 147 tree and fruit saplings were planted at Jelalong 3 Estate, Glenealy Plantations Sdn Bhd (GPSB), recently.

The planting method was based on medium-density planting, which is suitable for the soil conditions at the degraded planting site.

Around 100 environmental enthusiasts from eight different government sectors, higher-learning institutions, industrial players, and local communities took part in the nurturing nature event.

The event was coordinated by GPSB with a joint effort by Bintulu Development Authority (BDA); Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu campus (UPMKB); Department of Environment (DoE) Bintulu branch; Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) Bintulu; Department of Agriculture (DoA), Bintulu; and Sebauh district office.

Some of the local communities of Jelalong were also invited to be part of this environmental conservation effort.

GPSB assistant general manager Mohan R. Ramasamy said the tree-planting event signifies the industry is serious about conservation of nature within or surrounding their areas.

"The programme is aligned with two of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 13 (Climate Action), and Goal 15 (Life on Land).

"In addition, it also supports the Sarawak initiative to plant



Mohan (fifth left) and Lydia (fourth right) cut the ribbon to officiate the tree-planting event.

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Mohan R. Ramasamy

35 million trees as in line with the '100 Million Tree-Planting Campaign 2021-2025' initiated by the Malaysian government," he said.

BDA Safety and Health manager Lydia Soloma Jalong, who jointly graced the event, said cooperation between the government, higher-learning institutions, industry, and local communities in environmental

conservation and nurturing nature is a crucial aspect of addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainability.

"Such collaboration often involves various initiatives, policies and programmes aimed at preserving natural resources and reducing the pressure of anthropogenic activities on the environment.

"This greening programme is in line with BDA's 2024-2030 strategic plan theme 'Towards Low Carbon Industrial Hub', to generate a holistic society and balanced future development," she said.

The Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, UPMKB, which is one of the main collaborators, also expressed their in-depth appreciation to GPSB and BDA for their endless support and partnership in this event, which commenced two years ago.

The collaboration, with the theme of 'Building a Vibrant and Resilient Community', strives to promote a culture of sustainability to benefit future generations in Sarawak.