

UPMKB team's Nanning trip highlights focus on agro-vocational education

BINTULU: The technical and vocational education and training (TVET) education has always been a key agenda in national education, as a viable platform to produce highly-skilled workers, in line with the needs in the increasingly-evolving economy.

In this aspect, Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu Campus (UPMKB) through its Faculty of Humanities, Management and Science, recently arranged a visit to Nanning in Guangxi, as an effort to further drive innovation in agricultural vocational education.

The China trip also meant to explore potential collaborations, short-term mobility programmes, and the promotion of postgraduate programmes offered by the UPM campus here.

The UPMKB delegation, led by the Faculty of Humanities, Management and Science dean, Assoc Prof Dr Wong Tze Jin, also met up with the representatives of several universities in Nanning, where the discussions were



Representatives of UPMKB and Guangxi Vocational University of Agriculture seen during a session to discuss potential bilateral collaborations.

about introducing UPMKB as an institution of higher learning (IPT) focused on agriculture.

"These discussions not only focused on vocational education in Nanning, but also opened opportunities for us to present Malaysia as a good destination for their students to pursue post-graduate education," said Dr Wong in a statement.

The universities visited by the UPMKB representatives were Guangxi Vocational University of Agriculture, Nanning Vocational

and Technical University (NVTU), Nanning University, Guangxi Minzu University, and Guangxi University of Finance and Economics (GXUFE).

It is informed that these universities in Nanning started out as vocational IPTs before evolving into key institutions offering a wide range of comprehensive undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

In addition, the UPMKB delegation also held discussions highlighting short-term mobility

programmes that would enhance UPMKB's visibility.

"These programmes are expected to provide opportunities to the students and staff in gaining international experience and expanding their professional networks.

"The UPMKB consistently supports efforts to drive collaboration between international IPTs to support Sarawak's aspiration of becoming a globally respected hub for higher education," said Wong.



Photo shows the high-tech greenhouse at Guangxi Vocational University of Agriculture in Nanning.

Moreover, the Bintulu visitors also emphasised UPM's focus as a university dedicated to food security, particularly in increasing agricultural productivity and innovation.

Throughout their visit,

the UPMKB representatives got to tour around the high-tech greenhouses and other infrastructures located at these universities, where they got to learn more about the research and learning facilities available.