

S'wak to host two major agriculture events

October 16, 2018, Tuesday Jacob Achoi



Sagah (fourth right) pointing at the event banner after the announcement of the Sarawak Agrofest 2018 and ACAAS 2018 events.

KUCHING: Two major events — Sarawak Agrofest 2018 and International Conference on Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Sarawak 2018 (ICAAS 2018) — which are related to the development of agriculture in the state will be held this month.

In announcing this, Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas said the Sarawak Agrofest 2018 will be held from Oct 20 to 28, while the ICAAS 2018 will be held from Oct 23 and 24. Both events will be held at Penview Convention Centre (PCC) in Demak.

“The state will organise two major events related to transform our agriculture sector... While the Sarawak Agrofest aims to actively promote agriculture agro-based industry in the state, the ICAAS 2018 will be a fitting platform to share knowledge and experience on new approaches and mechanisms that have been proven to be successful in other parts of Malaysia and other countries, which can be adopted in the state,” Uggah, who is Minister of Modernisation of Agriculture, Native Land and Regional Development told reporters today.

He was represented by Assistant Minister of Native Land Development Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn.

Uggah pointed out that Sarawak Agrofest 2018 is the re-branding of 'Hari Peladang, Penternak and Nelayan', giving it a new image to position and transform the agricultural sector, and would become an annual event.

On the ICAAS 2018, he said the event is expected to draw 1,500 delegates from local and international agriculture and agro-business sector, academic and research institutions and public sector in particular from the Asean region.

The ICAAS 2018 will also see 30 speakers from throughout the country as well as Australia, Thailand and Indonesia to share on the success stories and knowledge on precision farming, investment incentives for commercialisation, best practices and models for private- public sector partnership and business models of farmers' organisations, Uggah added.

"In line with the economic transformation initiatives of the state government, there is a continuing need to identify effective policies, development strategies and approaches as well as innovative business models that can significantly boost the growth of the agricultural sector," he stressed, adding that the sector contributed 13.3 per cent of the state gross domestic product (GDP) worth RM15 billion last year.