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## NEWS

### Space for young entrepreneurs in agribusiness

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YOUNG entrepreneurs have a potential role to play in agribusiness and the development of the Brunei Premium Halal Brand, according to officials of the Agriculture Department of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources (MIPR).

This was stated in a dialogue meeting between the Young Entrepreneurs Association of Brunei (YEAB) and the Agriculture Department yesterday.

This dialogue was part of a series of dialogues organised between MIPR and YEAB as a step towards boosting public and private sector cooperation in Brunei.

The meeting, chaired by Assistant Director of the Agriculture Department, Haji Mohd Sufri Abdullah, discussed the number of business opportunities available in agribusiness, including commodities and livestock.

The Brunei Premium Halal Brand is a project initiated by MIPR along with the Brunei Islamic Religious Council, and is created in line with Brunei's efforts towards developing a diversified, competitive and sustainable economy.

The dialogue began with a brief presentation of the roles and functions of the Agriculture Department as well as an explanation of the department's strategic plan.

Topics covered included functions of the department, projects, procedures and activities related to the agriculture sector.

The dialogue was concluded with a discussion on the next steps to be taken to continue increased private-public sector cooperation.

Among those present at the meeting were members of the YEAB, relevant representatives from the department as well as representatives from Asia Inc Forum.

Lisa Dato Paduka Haji Ibrahim, president of YEAB, stated that the dialogue was extremely beneficial to the association members who have gained valuable information from the meeting.

"These dialogues are a positive step to demonstrate MIPR and YEAB's mutual willingness to encourage open and productive public-private sector cooperation," she said.

YEAB, in its efforts to provide its members with more access and opportunities to a network of entrepreneurial experience and facilities, has revealed plans to hold dialogues with the Resource and Standards Centre under MIPR, as well as other relevant government ministries soon.

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