

Environmental Scanning of the Palm Oil Industry in the Philippines: Status, Problems and Challenges

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The Philippines is greatly affected by the presence of different industries. These industries may have a positive or negative impact on the country's economy. One of them is the Palm Oil Industry.

This budding industry in Philippines has been a major contributor to the economies of Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand. Although a lot has been written about the negative effects of it on the environment, the other countries continue to expand their plantation areas, considering it to have a positive impact on their economies.

This paper presents the status, problems and challenges facing the industry as it helps propel the country to economic recovery as shown by environmental scanning. An analysis of the different external environmental factors affecting the industry shows that the socio-cultural and demographic factors are the most dominant factors. The result of the environmental scanning study carried out on the four provinces in the Mindanao area, namely, Agusan, Cagayan de Oro, Kidapawan Cotabato and Bukidnon may be used as the basis for developing macro policies which could be advanced to protect the industry's sustainability.