THE IMPACTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF SALCRA PLANTATION TO THE LANDOWNER’S SOCIO – ECONOMIC AND LABOUR SUPPLY: A CASE STUDY OF SALCRA ESTATES IN SARATOK DISTRICT

Evie Sendi Ibil

Master of Environmental Management
(Development Planning)
2015
DECLARATION OF ORIGINAL WORK

I declare that the work in this dissertation has been carried out in accordance with the regulations stipulated by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS). This is the original work and is the result of my study, unless otherwise stated or recognised as referenced work. The writing of this dissertation has never been documented in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) or submitted to any academic or non-academic institutions for any other masters or qualification.

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THE IMPACTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF SALCRA PLANTATION TO THE
LANDOWNER’S SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LABOUR SUPPLY: A CASE
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by

EVIE SENDI IBIL

A graduate research paper submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
Master of Environmental Management (Development Planning).

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UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK (UNIMAS)

19TH JUNE 2015
This study titled “The Impacts and Opportunities of SALCRA Plantation to the Landowner’s Socio-economic and Labour Supply: A Case Study of SALCRA Estates in Saratok District” is written by Evie Sendi Ibil and submitted to the Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) as a full-time coursework MASTER DEGREE student.

Received and checked by:

____________________________________________
(PROF. DR. SPENCER EMPADING SANGGIN)

Date:

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DEDICATION

To my parents: Papa and Mami,
siblings: Yen and Piuk, and
grandparents: aki Nyamok, inik Laie and inik Simek.

For their love, sacrifice and patience over the last 18 months.

&

My friends:

Chil, Ebon, and Dodo
Whose friendship is irreplaceable and from whom I learnt

“Love ALL, trust A FEW, do wrong to NONE”

- William Shakespeare -

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Lastly, to the participants of SALCRA from whom the findings of this study were derived, I convey my very special thank you.

“In life, surround yourself with those who light your path” - Anonymous

ESI
UNIMAS
February 2015.
“The indigenous people’s participation in the oil palm schemes had gradually decreased over the years. In fact, most of the harvesting works in the SALCRA oil plantations have been taken over by foreign workers, mainly from Indonesia.”

- SPENCER EMPADING SANGGIN & NEILSON ILAN MERSAT
ABSTRACT

THE IMPACTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF SALCRA PLANTATION TO THE LANDOWNER’S SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LABOUR SUPPLY: A CASE STUDY OF SALCRA ESTATES IN SARATOK DISTRICT

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Plantation agriculture remains an important sector of the Malaysian economy. However, it faces problems of labour supply especially from the local population, which led to the recruitment of foreign labourers. This study, therefore attempts to assess the degree of local labour participation in the plantation sector based on the case study of landowners who participated in Sarawak Land Consolidation And Rehabilitation Authority’s (SALCRA) plantations at Roban-South and Saratok Oil Palm Estate in the Saratok District, Sarawak. The specific objectives are to determine participants’ demographic characteristics; to examine how agro-economic diversification, festive and cultural activities, and various forms of non-farm employment influence the labour supply in the estates; to assess the attitude of the participants’ participation towards the project, the regimented working style and foreign workers – “Tenaga Kerja Indonesia” (TKI); and to evaluate the level of participants’ participation on the implementation of the project, such as engaging as a small time contractors. Data for the study were collected mainly through face-to-face interview using an interview schedule to 74 respondents. The study revealed that 39.19 percent of the respondents or landowners’ household supply labour to the plantations. Landowners’ labour participation in SALCRA plantations is influenced by the household size and land participating in SALCRA’s plantations. Larger household has positive relationship with labour supply, i.e. the larger the household the more they would supply labour. On the other hand, the size of land involved in the plantations has a negative relationship with labour supply, which mean the bigger the size of land surrendered for SALCRA plantations, the less they would supply labour to the plantations. It was also found that landowners are not solely dependent on SALCRA for employment. The labour issue in SALCRA is not due to number, but how regular the local people would turn-up to work. A two-stage cluster random sampling was used to select the respondents. As the sample of the study is small and confined to only two estates, its significance is only to provide an insight understanding of local labour supply characteristics of the Roban-South and Saratok estates and cannot be taken to reflect the whole of SALCRA. To understand the whole picture of local labour supply characteristics in SALCRA a further study with expanded sample and wider coverage is needed.

Key words: SALCRA plantation, landowner’s socio-economic, labour supply.
ABSTRAK

IMPAK DAN PELUANG DALAM LADANG SALCRA KEPADA SOSIO-EKONOMI PEMILIK TANAH DAN BEKALAN BURUH: KAJIAN KES PADA LADANG SALCRA DAERAH SARATOK

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Kata kunci: Perladangan SALCRA, sosio-ekonomi pemilik tanah, bekalan buruh.
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<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Colonial Development Corporation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPU</td>
<td>Economic Planning Unit</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FELDA</td>
<td>Federal Land Development Authority</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFB</td>
<td>Fresh fruit bunch</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOS</td>
<td>Government of Sarawak</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>IADP</td>
<td>Integrated Agricultural Development Program</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>JLPS</td>
<td>Jawatankuasa Pembangunan Ladang SALCRA</td>
<td>82</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCDA</td>
<td>Land Custody and Development Authority</td>
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<td>LNG</td>
<td>Liquefied Natural Gas</td>
<td>44</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
<td>Letter of Consent</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIER</td>
<td>Malaysian Institute of Economic Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRLD</td>
<td>Ministry of Rural and Land Development</td>
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<td>NCR</td>
<td>Native Customary Rights</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPP</td>
<td>Outline Perspective Plan</td>
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<td>PDD</td>
<td>Participant Development Department</td>
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<td>SALCRA</td>
<td>Sarawak Land Consolidation and Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDFC</td>
<td>Sarawak Development Finance Corporation</td>
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<td>SEB</td>
<td>Sarawak Energy Berhad</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEDC</td>
<td>Sarawak Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHDC</td>
<td>Sarawak Housing Development Commission</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLDB</td>
<td>Sarawak Land Development Board</td>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Sarawak Oil Palm <em>Sendirian Berhad</em></td>
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<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Sciences</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>TKI</td>
<td><em>Tenaga Kerja</em> Indonesia</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPAM</td>
<td>United Planting Association of Malaysia</td>
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### GLOSSARY

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<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bahasa Melayu</td>
<td>The Malay spoken language in Malaysia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bejalai</td>
<td>To go on journeys with the view of acquiring wealth, material goods and social prestige.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bilik</td>
<td>Household</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kampung</td>
<td>A Malaysian enclosure or village.</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kangany</td>
<td>An overseer of labour in Sri Lanka, India and Malaysia.</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kedai kampung</td>
<td>Small grocery shop in the village.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Padi</td>
<td>Paddy</td>
<td>7</td>
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