

The impact of palm oil growing on the socio-economic welfare of the people in Kalangala district: a case study of Mugoye Sub-County

Namirimo Josephine

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Introduction

The study was about the effects of palm oil growing on the socio-economic welfare of the people of Mugoye Sub-County in Kalangala District.

Objectives

The study was based on the following objectives;

1. to identify the socio-economic benefits of palm oil growing on people,
2. to examine the socio-economic challenges of palm oil production,
3. to examine the environmental effects of palm oil growing, and
4. to identify solutions to the challenges associated with palm oil growing in Mugoye Sub- County, Kalangala District.

Methodology

The study used a case study design and employed both qualitative and quantitative research approaches. A sample of 300 respondents was selected to participate in this study. The study used questionnaire and interview methods to conduct the study and collected data using self-administered questionnaires and an interview guide, as data collection instruments. Quantitative data were analysed using frequency counts, means and percentages while qualitative data were analysed by tallying the numbers of similar responses.

Key findings

The study found palm oil growing resulted in easier access to credit facilities for farmers to grow palm oils and the availability of a ready market for their produce.

In terms of the socio-economic challenges associated with palm oil growing on the environment and the people of Mugoye sub-county in Kalangala district, the study revealed that the majority of the respondents were in agreement that they are various socio-economic problems associated with palm oil growing in Kalangala District

Key recommendations

1. The study recommended that the local community should form solid farmers' groups/unions so that to advocate for fair prices of the fresh fruit bunch from the buyers.
2. It also recommended that government should not force the people to participate in the project but rather entice them with good price offers and land preparation tools like power saws, slushier, tractors among others.
3. Last but not least, the study recommended that farmers should grow food crops to avoid shortages of foodstuffs on the Island.

Key references

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