

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND PLANTATION MANAGEMENT: INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

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Human capital is the greatest asset of the company. With the rapid changes in the plantation and agricultural landscape, the sustainable growth of the industry is depending on the human capital development programmes. Thus, professional education is one of the key avenues in ensuring continuous growth of the industry and providing systematic education programmes for planters at all levels right from field conductors up to regional managers of an estate. With a total planted area of 4,304, 903 hectare of oil palm in Malaysia and in emerging agriculture corridors, the needs to provide systematic professional human capital development are undeniable. The paper focuses on the structure of professional education system in Malaysia, issues and challenges faced in providing professional human capital development programmes and the proposed innovative strategies to promote the professional education and life long learning to the planters in this sector.

No extended abstract received yet