

ABSTRACT

The existence of oil palm plantations can influence the social and economic conditions of communities living around plantation areas. PT Perkebunan Nusantara IV (PTPN IV) Kebun Pabatu is one of the state-owned oil palm plantation enterprises whose activities are closely related to the lives of the surrounding community, particularly in Afdeling VI, Desa Pabatu II. This study aimed to determine the socio-economic impact of the PTPN IV oil palm plantation on the community surrounding Afdeling VI Kebun Pabatu. The research was conducted in Desa Pabatu II, Kecamatan Dolok Merawan, Kabupaten Serdang Bedagai. The research used primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through observation, interviews, and questionnaires, while secondary data were obtained from literature, journals, articles, and previous studies. The sampling technique used was accidental sampling with 32 respondents selected based on predetermined criteria. Data were analyzed using descriptive qualitative analysis and a four-point Likert scale. The socio-economic impact was assessed through six indicators, consisting of three social indicators, namely road development, education, and health facilities, and three economic indicators, namely income improvement, labor absorption, and economic center. The results showed that the overall socio-economic impact of the PTPN IV oil palm plantation obtained an average score of 3.07, which was categorized as high. The highest social indicator was health facilities with an average score of 3.31, followed by education at 3.24 and road development at 3.05. Meanwhile, the highest economic indicator was labor absorption with a score of 3.15, while income improvement scored 2.72 and the economic center scored 2.94, both categorized as moderate. These findings indicate that the existence of the PTPN IV oil palm plantation has a generally positive socio-economic impact on the community, particularly in health facilities, education, road accessibility, and employment opportunities. However, economic development and income improvement still need to be strengthened so that the benefits of the plantation can be distributed more evenly among the community.

Keywords: oil palm plantation, socio-economic impact, community, PTPN IV, Afdeling VI