

Stratifying Employability Skill Expectations in Sarawak's Resource and Production Sectors via a Skills Intensity Approach

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ABSTRACT

The digital transformation of production and resource industries has substantially altered employability expectations for recent graduates, especially in regions experiencing significant economic change. Manufacturing, mining, construction, and agriculture are central to economic development under Sarawak's Post-COVID Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030. However, a persistent mismatch between graduate capabilities and employer requirements continues to impede workforce readiness. Most existing employability studies treat skills as uniform across industries, offering limited insight into sector-specific differences in skill intensity and prioritisation, as well as the respective roles of industry and government in shaping employability. This study seeks to identify core competencies expected by industry for entry-level graduates in Sarawak's primary and secondary sectors and to map and stratify these competencies using a Skills Intensity Framework (Nur Adila, L., 2025).

JEL Codes:

Keywords: Employability skills, Skills intensity, Digital economy, Resource and production sectors.