# KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF 2030 YOUTH FORCE IN THE PHILIPPINES' VOLUNTEERS TOWARDS ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE IN THE UNITED NATIONS' SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15

#### **THESIS**

JOLINE T. YAMBAO

College of Economics, Management and Development Studies

CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY

Indang, Cavite

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#### **ABSTRACT**

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Illegal wildlife trade is considered as a global crisis in the environment since this issue is spread out around the world and only few people and institutions are working against this.

The main purpose of this study is to measure the level of knowledge and determine the attitude of the volunteers towards illegal wildlife trade. This is to help organizations and institutions in acquiring data on the awareness, knowledge and attitude of people towards illegal wildlife trade. It assessed if volunteers are concerned with this issue. There were 218 2030 YFPH volunteers who actively participated in the online survey. The results show that most of them are aware of this issue. The level of knowledge that they have is very satisfactory and the attitude resulted to highly favorable against illegal wildlife trade. This means that results are positive when it comes to their awareness, knowledge and attitude.

Moreover, there is no significant difference between the socio-demographic profile and the level of knowledge of the participants. As for the significant difference between socio-demographic profile and attitude, there is no significant difference in terms of age and highest educational attainment. But there is a significant difference in terms of sex and employment status and the attitude of the participants.

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#### Joline T. Yambao

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#### INTRODUCTION

Wildlife trade takes place when a country has various species which can be traded. While not everyone is checked by the customs checkpoint or the government, there are some who illegally pass through the international borders which is called Illegal Wildlife Trade. There are many wildlife species that are being trafficked every day. Almost half (45%) of the world's most ecologically important places are being plagued by the illegal wildlife trade, which is the fourth largest international trade crime worth an estimated £15 billion ("Multi-Billion Pound," 2017). According to Fazili (2016), it is almost impossible to obtain reliable figures for the value of illegal wildlife trade, but it is estimated around hundreds of millions of dollars. Demand for wildlife and forest products continue to grow until it escalated into a global environmental crisis (Press Release, 2016).