"Deforestation-Induced the EKC Framework: The Role of Corruption Control and Trade Openness in Southeast Asia"

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Submission of a manuscript to the Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan

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Dear Editor of Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan,

I wish to submit an original research article entitled "Deforestation-Induced the EKC Framework: The Role of Corruption Control and Trade Openness in Southeast Asia" for consideration by Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan.

In this paper, we investigate the Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC) hypothesis for deforestation in the case of Southeast Asia. This paper employs panel data, i.e., nine developing countries from 1996 – 2019. This study used Pooled Mean Group (PMG) estimation to test the EKC hypothesis and employed heterogeneous panel causality (Dumitrescu-Hurlin) to check the further direction of variables. Moreover, this paper incorporates the unit root and co-integration tests. To the best author's knowledge, previous studies on EKC deforestation ignore heterogeneity panel data. This paper countered those issues by employing a mean group estimator (PMG). Moreover, this paper investigates the causality between deforestation and income per capita using Dumitrescu-Hurlin, which accommodates heterogeneity panel and cross-sectional dependence. To present more insight, this article adds corruption control and trade openness factors as other explanatory variables.

On behalf of my co-authors, I confirm that the paper is my own work

I guarantee that I have checked that no intentional or unintentional plagiarism has occurred in the present manuscript (met the minimum score) and all original references have been cited

I confirm that all figures and tables are original and are created by the authors of this manuscript

I attest to the fact that all authors listed on the title page have well-known this paper, data, and method, and agree to its submission to "Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan"

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript to be published on Jurnal Ekonomi & Studi Pembangunan.

Sincerely,

Mohamad Egi Destiartono