

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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SHORT-TERM EFFECTS

Environment: The resumption of open-pit mining activities can lead to environmental concerns like deforestation, habitat alteration, erosion, and water pollution, which could affect biodiversity and local ecosystems.

Economy: In the short term, lifting the ban could boost the economy. Jobs and businesses will be created that will benefit the community.

Society: There could be immediate social benefits such as job creation, particularly in mining communities. However, it should be expected that there will be opposing views that could lead to potential conflicts.

MEDIUM-TERM EFFECTS

Environment: In the medium term, continuing environmental concerns could arise, such as the depletion of non-renewable resources and issues related to mine waste management.

Economy: The benefits will likely continue in the medium term, provided global commodity prices remain high. The taxes and royalties from mining operations can be used for public investments and community development.

Society: Over the medium term, potential social conflicts could escalate, and there may be an increasing inequality within communities if the economic benefits are not equitably distributed. Public health issues related to mining pollution could also emerge.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Environment: The long-term environmental impacts of open-pit mining can be quite severe, including the creation of large-scale, potential alterations to landscapes and habitats and contamination of soil and water sources.

Economy: The long-term economic sustainability of open-pit mining is uncertain due to the volatility of commodity prices and the finite nature of mineral resources. Without proper regulation and strategic planning, communities may face an economic downturn once mining resources are depleted.

Society: In the long term, health effects related to unmitigated environmental issues may become more prevalent. On a positive note, if mining revenues are managed and allocated properly, they could contribute to long-term development projects, improving infrastructure and social services. emerge.

SHORT TERM STRATEGIES

Enforce stringent regulations and address the stability of policies: Apply stringent rules to protect the environment and local communities. Also, establish stable policies that give government guarantees to respectable investors. Secure mineral properties away from erring, non-compliant, incapable mining applicants. Consider better solutions to lessen the environmental impact of the operations.

Invest in Mining Infrastructure: Infrastructure plays a critical role in the mining sector. Investments in transport networks, power supplies, and water management systems can help ensure that mining operations can be carried out efficiently and sustainably.

Provide Training and Education: By equipping the local workforce with the necessary skills and knowledge, we can ensure that we have the human resources needed to support the mining sector and mitigate some of the social impacts of mining activities.

MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGIES

Develop Domestic Processing Capabilities: Establishing facilities that process raw minerals within the country can create jobs, boost the economy, and add value to the country's mineral exports.

Stabilize the Mining Sector: The mining sector can be vulnerable to fluctuations in global commodity prices. The Philippines can mitigate these risks by value-adding and developing stabilization funds.

Promote Responsible Mining Practices: One way to promote best practices is to award mineral rights to companies that perform well in sustainable environmental management, workers' overall welfare, community development, and economic contribution.

LONG-TERM STRATEGIES

Establish a Sovereign Wealth Fund (?): A portion of mining revenues can be set aside in a sovereign wealth fund to establish downstream industries due to value-added processes.

Encourage Research and Development: Investments in research and development can lead to more efficient mining methods and mineral processing recovery.

Promote Circular Economy: Encourage practices that keep resources in use for as long as possible, including recycling minerals and products that can help create a more sustainable economy.

Planning for Mine Closure and Post-Mining Transition: Comprehensive planning for the eventual closure of mines. Strategize land rehabilitation or conversion/transition to economic in mining-dependent communities.