## POLITEKNIK MELAKA

## **DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**

## **RESOAP**

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**OCTOBER 2024** 

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#### DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY AND OWNERSHIP

TITLE : RESOAP

SESSION : 11 2024/2025

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3. We agree to release the 'Project' intellectual property to 'The Polytechnics' to meet the requirements for awarding us the Diploma in International Business.

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This proposal introduced an innovative soap product made from recycled cooking oil, specifically designed for cleaning sanitary cloths used in commercial kitchens. Our soap effectively tackled stubborn grease stains, addressing a key hygiene challenge faced by food establishments such as the renowned Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan. By repurposing used cooking oil into an eco-friendly and cost-effective cleaning solution, we aimed to enhance kitchen cleanliness while promoting sustainable waste management.

The soap was formulated with natural degreasing agents that broke down oil residues more efficiently than conventional detergents. Its unique composition ensured deep cleaning without damaging the fabric of sanitary cloths, prolonging their usability and maintaining hygiene standards in food preparation areas. Additionally, this product is aligned with the growing demand for environmentally responsible solutions in the food industry.

By adopting this grease-fighting soap, Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan was able to improve operational efficiency, reduce maintenance costs, and contribute to a greener environment. The initiative supported waste reduction efforts by transforming discarded cooking oil into a valuable cleaning resource. This innovative approach not only benefited the business but also set a positive example for sustainability in the local food industry.

### TABLE OF CONTENT

| CONTENT   | PAGE     |
|---|----------|
| CONFIRMATION OF THE PROJECT                     | i-ii     |
| DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY AND OWNERSHIP        | . iii-iv |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS                                | v        |
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY                               | vi       |
| TABLE OF CONTENT                                | 1        |
| CHAPTER 1                                       | 2-3      |
| 1.1 BUSINESS PROBLEMS OR ISSUES                 | 4        |
| 1.2 BUSINESS OBJECTIVES                         | 5        |
| 1.3 JUSTIFICATION of BUSINESS PROJECT SELECTION | 6        |
| 1.4 SCOPE OF BUSINESS PROJECT                   | 7        |
| 1.5 DIFFERENTIATION                             | 8        |
| CHAPTER 2                                       | 9        |
| 2.0 INTRODUCTION                                | 9        |
| 2.1 SWOT ANALYSIS                               | 10       |
| CHAPTER 3                                       | 11       |
| 3.1 METHODOLOGY                                 | 12       |
| 3.2 DATAANALYSIS                                | 13-14    |
| 3.3 PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT                         | 15-16    |
| CHAPTER 4                                       | 17       |
| 4.1 INTRODUCTION                                | 17       |
| 4.2 CONCLUSION                                  | 17       |
| 4.3 RECOMMENDATION                              | 18       |
| REFERENCES                                      | 19       |
| APPENDIX 1 – LETTER OF INDUSTRY                 | 20       |
| APPENDIX 2 – INTERVIEW                          | 21       |
| APPENDIX 3 – QUESTIONNAIRE                      | 22-23    |
| APPENDIX 4 – GANTT CHART                        | 24       |

#### CHAPTER 1

#### INTRODUCTION

The food industry involves a great deal of cleanliness and hygiene, particularly in high-demand ventures like Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan where massive volumes of food are processed daily. The most challenging issue in maintaining hygiene in such establishments is how to properly sanitize sanitary cloths used in wiping down surfaces, cooking utensils, and food preparation areas. These cloths tend to trap oil, grease, and sticky food residues that are not removable using ordinary soaps or detergents. Most firms, therefore, resort to chemical cleaning agents, which are efficient but costly and detrimental to the environment and human health (Rahayu et al., 2021). In addition, improper disposal of used cooking oil is a source of environmental degradation, including clogged drainage system and water resource contamination (Zayed et al., 2024).

To address these problems, the Resoap program was established. Resoap is an innovative, ecofriendly soap that is made from recycled used cooking oil and is specially designed to clean grease-contaminated sanitary cloths in food establishments. This environmentally friendly cleaning agent not only recycles waste cooking oil that would otherwise go to waste but also offers an affordable and sustainable alternative to conventional cleansing agents. Unlike widespread chemical-based cleansers, Resoap is nontoxic, biodegradable, and effective at oil residue dissolution and therefore suitable for daily use in eateries (Zayed et al., 2024; Rahayu et al., 2021). Its integration into cleaning routines can reduce environmental impacts without sacrificing high standards of safety and hygiene.

The determinants of adoption of such green practices can be identified through the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), a theory that explains intention behind behaviour as being made up of three general factors: attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control (Ajzen, 1991). In this case, a positive belief in Resoap's efficacy and environmental benefit can facilitate adoption (Armitage & Conner, 2001). In addition, social support or organizational norms within food companies can also influence behavioural intentions (Clayton & Griffith, 2008). Perceived ease of use and accessibility of Resoap also play a significant role in determining whether food handlers always use it in their cleaning routine (Hardeman et al., 2002).

The aim of this project is to evaluate the efficacy of Resoap in a food establishment based on TPB. By its exploration of how attitudes, social, and perceived behaviour controls its application, the study promotes green cleaning behaviour and responsible consumption under Sustainable Development Goal 12. Ultimately, the integration of Resoap in firms like Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan is a practical illustration of circular economy principles in addressing environmental and business concerns.

#### 1.1 BUSINESS PROBLEMS OR ISSUES

Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan relied heavily on sanitary cloths to maintain cleanliness in its kitchen. However, a major challenge they faced was the persistent residue of oil and odours that remained even after washing. Conventional detergents were not effective enough to fully remove grease and food smells, which raised concerns about hygiene. This issue was especially critical for a food-based business, where cleanliness directly impacts product quality and customer trust. The inability to properly clean the sanitary cloths could lead to problems in meeting the required hygiene standards, which would ultimately harm the business's reputation.

Additionally, the business generated a significant amount of used cooking oil, which, if not disposed of properly, could contribute to environmental pollution. Converting this waste into soap for cleaning the sanitary cloths presented an opportunity for sustainable waste management. However, there were concerns about the effectiveness and safety of such a product, which required careful formulation and testing to ensure it met hygiene standards. This process involved detailed studies and trials to ensure that the soap would effectively remove oil and odours while remaining safe for use in a food-related environment.

Cost was another important consideration for the business, as the use of commercial detergents could be quite expensive, especially when large quantities were needed. Therefore, a soap made from recycled cooking oil provided a cost-effective alternative, potentially reducing operational expenses. However, customer and staff acceptance were crucial, as there was scepticism about using soap made from used oil. To overcome this, it was essential to develop a strong brand, implement educational programs about the benefits and safety of the product, and ensure compliance with relevant safety regulations. With these measures in place, the business could prove that using soap made from recycled cooking oil was a safe, effective, and environmentally friendly alternative, while still meeting high hygiene standards.

### 1.2 BUSINESS OBJECTIVES

- 1. To produce RESOAP for Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan Melaka.
- 2. To identify effectiveness of RESOAP for Kuih Keria Antarabangsa sanitary cloth.
- 3. To improve waste management by Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan Melaka.

#### 1.3 JUSTIFICATION of BUSINESS PROJECT SELECTION

The selection of Resoap as a business project was justified by its potential to promote ecofriendly waste disposal, ensure compliance with health, safety, and environmental regulations, and raise awareness while shifting consumer perception. Resoap aimed to reduce environmental pollution by providing an innovative and efficient method of repurposing used cooking oil, which would have otherwise contributed to drainage blockages and water contamination. By transforming waste oil into a useful cleaning product, the project encouraged sustainable practices and responsible waste management, addressing a pressing environmental issue.

Furthermore, Resoap prioritized compliance with all relevant regulatory standards in production, packaging, and distribution. Meeting these health, safety, and environmental guidelines was essential for market viability and consumer trust. By adhering to these regulations, Resoap ensured that its product was both effective and safe for household use, positioning itself as a reliable and responsible brand in the cleaning industry.

Another key objective of Resoap was to raise awareness about the benefits of recycled products and change consumer perceptions regarding their effectiveness. Many consumers had misconceptions about the cleanliness and efficiency of soap made from used cooking oil. Resoap sought to address these concerns by highlighting its contribution to sustainability and proving that repurposed materials could be just as effective as conventional products. Through education and marketing efforts, the project aimed to foster a more environmentally conscious consumer base, ultimately contributing to a greener future.

#### 1.4 SCOPE OF BUSINESS PROJECT

The scope of this business project focused on developing and implementing a soap made from used cooking oil specifically for cleaning sanitary cloths at Kuih Keria Antarabangsa Limbongan. The project aimed to address hygiene concerns by providing an effective cleaning solution that removed grease and odours while being environmentally friendly. The formulation was tailored to ensure that the soap was safe for food-related cleaning purposes and met industry hygiene standards.

Additionally, the project explored the feasibility of integrating sustainable waste management practices within the business. This included collecting and processing used cooking oil from the shop itself, reducing waste disposal issues, and repurposing it into a cost-effective cleaning solution. The effectiveness of the soap was tested through trials to measure its cleaning efficiency compared to conventional detergents.

The project also included a cost analysis to determine potential savings for the business by switching to a recycled soap alternative. Furthermore, staff training and awareness programs were implemented to ensure proper usage and acceptance of the product. If successful, this initiative was expected to serve as a model for other food businesses looking to adopt sustainable and cost-efficient cleaning solutions.

### 1.5 DIFFERENTIATION

