Agribusiness is generally the commercial aspect related to agriculture or agricultural activities and its products. The Agribusiness sector is engaged in the production and operations of a farm, the manufacture and distribution of farm equipment and supplies, and the processing, storage, and distribution of farm commodities. The very core of the industry is agriculture, which is supported by the manufacturing sector and service sector. As a whole, the Agribusiness sector is quite diverse as it encompasses input production, farm operations and management, equipment and supplies manufacturing, food/non-food processing, trading, and retailing.

Being a country rich in natural resources, the Philippines rely heavily on agriculture to provide for its people and to drive its economy. With approximately 32 percent of total land area dedicated to agriculture and agricultural activities, 51% and 44% are arable and permanent croplands, respectively. This shows a clear picture as to how large and significant the agriculture industry is. In 2009, Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture and fishery amounted to a current price of P1, 121.78 Billion (inched up by 0.03 percent) and accounted for 18 percent of the GDP (BAS, 2010). Its exports totaled P150 billion in 2010. In terms of employment, there were 12.04 million people employed in the primary agriculture industry in 2009. This excludes workers who are working and involved in agri-related industries like manufacturing and services. These workers are directly engaged in agro-processing, professional services and agricultural goods distribution.

The Philippine Agribusiness sector is roughly composed of five (5) subsectors; these are: crop production, animal production (includes livestock and poultry), Forestry and Logging, Fishery (including aquaculture) and Agri-support services and manufacturing. Crop production subsector includes farms that mainly grow crops and fruits that are eventually processed for food and fiber. It remains the major activity of the industry with 49% of the overall production. Following crop production is the Fishery subsector occupying 25% of the overall production. Fishing activities include local and commercial fishing, fish cage/pen operations and seafood production. Animal production comes third capturing 21% (11% livestock; 10% poultry), which activities range from small farming to large ranches that raise animals for sale or for animal products. Lastly, Forestry, Logging, and Agri-support services share the remaining activities of the industry.

The occupations in this industry vary widely as it contains the agriculture, manufacturing, and service sectors. Training, skills, and qualifications depend on the nature and scope of work some of the industry participants engage in. It may range from knowledge in basic farming technology and maintenance to four to five-years for degree courses in tertiary level education. Some require professional licenses. The occupations in the Agribusiness industry are segregated according to their involvement in the industry. They are categorized under primary agriculture, agricultural manufacturing/processing, and agri-entrepreneurial and support occupations. Under the primary agriculture category, workers perform a whole spectrum of daily chores involved in crop and livestock preparation and production, fishing and processing, breeding and management in a farm. Agriculturists, Bio-technologists, Agricultural engineers, Plant Pathologists and Entomologists are usually in-charge of ensuring the quality of the agricultural commodities in the farm. Animal farmworkers including breeders and veterinarians tend to animals raised for animal products. These workers may also maintain records on animals. Forester and conservation workers perform a variety of tasks to reforest and conserve timberlands and maintain forest facilities. Loggers and logging operators are the ones transforming forest products into different wood related commodities. Fishers and related fishing workers trap and catch various types of marine life for human consumption, animal feed, bait, and other uses. Fishing boat captains plan and oversee fishing operations. Under agricultural
manufacturing/processing, raw and intermediate products from the agricultural sector are processed for final use. Food Technologists and Chemists work as food processors who handle the transformation of raw materials (from the farm) into valuable food products for consumption. Accessories, craft and furniture makers process various durable natural products to become decorations and furniture. Under the Agri-Entrepreneurial and support occupations, workers may not require agriculture-related degrees and could encourage professionals from different fields. This group connects the upstream and downstream segments of the market for agricultural goods.

Despite erratic weather conditions and declining number of graduates of agriculture-related degrees, there is still a steady demand of Agribusiness workers. Another major prospect for working in the Agribusiness industry is that it is flexible since it encompasses entrepreneurship. Many people are engaged in entrepreneurship which focuses on agricultural products, which are a quick and cheap to source. This secures them higher income, especially when their ventures are managed well.

There is much to be gained from the Agribusiness industry as Free Trade Agreements with other nations are easing the flow of goods by reducing tariffs on imports and exports. The recent ASEAN-ANZ, which eliminates tariffs for import and export of agricultural products between Philippines and Australia and New Zealand, will provide exporters with greater market access to Australia and New Zealand. Another opportunity for the industry is the rapid development of biotechnology which is quickly developing the quality of agricultural products by significantly reducing growth time and increasing yield in crops and animal subsectors. In the past few years, breakthroughs in biotechnology have created more nutritional and disease-resistant strains of crops and livestock.