# Community Self-reliance as Traditional Fishermen in the Coastal Backwoods Tile Tile Kab. Selavar, South Sulawesi

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**Abstract:** The type of qualitative research through a phenomenological approach, while the results of the research show that catching fish carried out by traditional fishermen still uses very simple equipment, this activity is still centered in the coastal area which is relatively still reached by small boats without using engines, of course the results obtained are very much different when compared to using modern boats, traditional fishermen's activities are limited to household consumption and if there is more it can be sold at relatively cheap prices, the sea products obtained are generally small so that traditional fishermen often have economic problems, for that fishermen make efforts to seek additional income even though what is obtained is far from enough.

Keywords: Independent, Fishermen, Poor, Coastal, Regional

# **CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION**

Indonesia as an archipelago or maritime country, the potential of marine, coastal and small island resources is very large and abundant to be managed optimally so that it can have a significant impact on the state and nation. The government has issued Law No.1 of 2014 which is an amendment to Law No.27 concerning coastal area management article 63 which reads "the government and local governments are obliged to empower coastal communities in improving their welfare the government and local governments are obliged to encourage coastal community business activities through increasing community businesses through capacity building, providing access to technology and information, capital, infrastructure, market guarantees and other productive economic assets".

Community empowerment is an effort to improve the dignity of layers of society who are currently unable to escape the trap of poverty and underdevelopment. In other words, empowerment is enabling and empowering the community. Empowering the community can be seen from three sides, among others: (1) creating an atmosphere or climate that allows community potential to develop (enabling); (2) strengthening the potential or power of the community (empowering); (3) empowering also means protecting. Community empowerment does not make people more dependent on various charity programmes. The main approach in the concept of empowerment is that the community is not made the object of various development projects, but is the subject of its own development efforts (Theresia, 2015).

Suharto (2017) states that empowerment is both a process and a goal. The process in question is a series of activities to strengthen the power or empowerment of weak groups in society, including individuals experiencing poverty problems. The goal refers to the state or result to be achieved by a social change, namely a society that is empowered, has power or has the knowledge and ability to meet its life needs, both physical, economic, and social, such as having self-confidence, being able to convey aspirations, having a livelihood, participating in social activities, and being independent in carrying out their life tasks.

Some of the above definitions confirm that the government plays an important role in improving the economy and welfare of the community, because the village government as the holder of power is more familiar with the community itself. Empowerment of coastal communities should be more directed towards community empowerment related to the potential of the village itself. Empowerment for coastal communities is intended to

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improve their economy by providing supplies and knowledge so that they can more optimally explore the potential of available natural resources, empowerment in the coastal community area is the fishermen themselves by making fishermen as partners for the village to carry out community empowerment programmes, so that it will foster motivation and accelerate the implementation of the empowerment goals. Community empowerment efforts should be able to play a role in improving the quality of human resources and changing people's behaviour to achieve a better standard of living. The considerable potential of marine resources is not matched by the lives of coastal communities, most of whom are not prosperous. The management of marine resources that is still traditional and coupled with knowledge that is only obtained from generation to generation has forced the coastal communities to be less prosperous. the lives of fishermen in Tile Tile Hamlet, Patikarya Village seem to be trapped in a situation that can be said to be insufficient. This condition is exacerbated by the many life needs experienced by the coastal community of Tile Tile Hamlet, Patikarya Village such as daily life, education and health. Their living conditions have not fully lived in sufficiency, where they have to meet their children's school fees, while income is only enough from sea products which are sometimes erratic and the needs of living costs are increasing day by day. So that coastal communities still experience shortages to fulfil their daily needs. Here, government efforts are needed to improve the economy of coastal communities, so the empowerment of coastal communities is carried out to carry out community economic independence for the long term, so that coastal communities can be empowered properly. Based on the above background, the author is interested in researching with the title of the paper "Management of Traditional Fishermen's Human Resources towards Economic Independence in the Coastal Community of Tile Tile Hamlet, Selayar Regency".

## A. Problem Formulation

What is the Strategy of Traditional Fishermen in Fulfilling Daily Needs in the Coastal Area of Tile Tile Hamlet, Selayar Regency?

### CHAPTER II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. Definition of Fishermen

Fishermen are people who live from the livelihood of sea products. In Indonesia, fishermen usually live in seaside or coastal areas. A fishing community is a group of people who make a living from marine products and live in villages or coastal areas (Sastrawidjaya. 2002). The characteristics of fishing communities can be seen from various aspects. As follows:

- 1. In terms of livelihood. Fishermen are those whose activities are related to the marine nd coastal environment. Or those who make fisheries their livelihood.
- 2. In terms of way of life. The fishing community is a community of mutual aid. The need for mutual cooperation and help is very important when dealing with situations that require large expenditures and a lot of energy. Such as when sailing. Building houses or wave-retaining embankments around the village.
- 3. In terms of skills. Although fishermen's work is hard work, they generally only have simple skills. Most of them work as fishermen as a profession passed down by their parents. It is not something that is learnt professionally.

In terms of social structure, the fishing community consists of heterogeneous and homogeneous communities. Heterogeneous communities are those who live in villages that are easily accessible by land transport. Meanwhile, the homogeneous ones in remote fishing villages usually use simple fishing gear, resulting in low productivity. Meanwhile, the difficulty of transporting the products to the market will also be the cause of the low price of marine products in their area. (Sastrawidjaya. 2002).

Judging from the technology of fishing gear used, it can be divided into two categories, namely modern fishermen and traditional fishermen. Modern fishermen use more sophisticated fishing technology compared to traditional fishermen. The measure of modernity is not solely due to the use of a motor to drive the boat, but also the size of the motor used and the level of exploitation of the fishing gear fishing gear used. Differences in the modernity of fishing gear technology will also affect their operational cruising ability (Imron, 2003:68).

In general, there are three types of fishermen in marine fisheries, namely; entrepreneur fishermen, mixed fishermen and full fishermen. Entrepreneur fishermen are capital owners who concentrate their capital investment in fishing operations. Mixed fisherman is a fisherman who also does other work in addition to his main job as a fisherman. While full fishermen are a group of fishermen who live as fishers at sea and use old or traditional equipment.

However, if most of a person's income comes from fisheries (land and sea) he is called a fisherman. (Mubyarto, 2002:18). In line with that, in terms of education level, especially for traditional fishermen, for the provision of work to look for fish at sea, the background of a fisherman is not important because the work as a manual job that relies more on muscle and experience, so no matter how high the level of education of the fisherman does not affect their skills in fishing. The issue of the importance of this level of education usually only comes to the fore if a fisherman wants to move to another job that is more promising. With low education, it is clear that this condition will make it difficult for traditional fishermen to choose or obtain other jobs besides being fishermen. (Kusnadi, 2002:3).

Fishermen are a group of people whose lives depend directly on marine products, either by catching or cultivating. They generally live on the beach, a residential environment close to the location of their activities. In terms of fishing gear ownership, fishermen can be divided into three groups:

- 1) Labour fishermen are fishermen who work with fishing gear owned by others.
- 2) Jurangan fishermen are fishermen who own fishing gear operated by other people.
- 3) Individual fishermen are fishermen who have their own fishing gear, and in their operations do not involve other people.

Fishermen are people who catch (cultivate) at sea and in places that are still influenced by tides so if there are people who catch fish in fish farms such as ponds, fish ponds, lakes, rivers, they are not included as fishermenFurther according to Tarigan based on income, fishermen can be divided into:

- 1) Permanent or full-time fishermen, i.e., fishermen whose entire income comes from fishing.
- 2) Fishermen while main, i.e., fishermen whose income is mainly derived from fishing.
- 3) Part-time or additional fishermen, which are fishermen who derive a small portion of their income from
- Seasonal fishermen, i.e., people who are only active as fishermen in certain seasons.

The low quality of human resources of fishing communities reflected in the form of poverty is closely related to internal and external factors of the community. Internal factors include rapid population growth, lack of risktaking, complacency and other habits that do not contain modernisation. In addition, the weakness of business capital from fishermen is strongly influenced by the mindset of the fishermen themselves. External factors that result in poverty of lower layer fishermen households include the production process dominated by toke boat owners or capital and the nature of production marketing is only controlled by groups in the form of a monopoly market.

# **Definition of Traditional Fishermen**

Traditional Fishermen are Fishermen who conduct Fishing in waters that are traditional Fisheries rights that have been utilised for generations in accordance with local culture and wisdom.

# Technological and Economic Powerlessness of Fishermen

It is understandable if the dependence of fishermen on fishing technology is very high. This is because in addition to the condition of fishery resources that are mobile, which is easy to move from one place to another, also for the capture of fishermen need aids to be able to survive for a long time on the water.

In general, fishermen still experience limitations in fishing technology. With simple fishing gear, the area of operation is limited, only around coastal waters. In addition, dependence on the season is very high so that

fishermen cannot go to sea every time, especially during the wave season, which can last up to several weeks. As a result, in addition to limited catches, with simple fishing gear owned, in certain seasons there is no catch that can be obtained, this condition is detrimental to fishermen because in real terms the average income per month is smaller and the income earned during the fishing season will be consumed during the non-fishing season.

In addition to the low level of fishing technology owned by fishermen in general, this issue faced by fishermen is that not all fishermen own fishing gear. The ability to upgrade the equipment is strongly influenced by the economic condition of a fisherman. In accordance with his economic condition, the equipment that can be purchased is simple equipment, or maybe not even able to buy fishing gear at all, thus placing his position as a fishing labourer. Therefore, to develop a variety of fishing gears owned is not an easy thing to do.

# **CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODS**

Qualitative research type through phenomenological approach

#### **CHAPTER IV DISCUSSION**

# A. Economic Strategies of Traditional Fishermen in Fulfilling Their Daily Needs in the Coastal Area of Tile Tile Hamlet, Selayar Regency

The life of the fishing community relies solely on the catch of fish in the sea. The unpredictable natural conditions also affect their lives. If the catch is abundant then fortunately their families can fulfil their needs properly. If their catch is low that day, the fishermen cannot fulfil the needs of their families, even just to fulfil their minimal or daily needs. The condition gets worse if the fishermen cannot go to sea due to high water waves and strong winds, people call it a storm. In such a situation, during the full moon, fishermen usually do not go to sea.

This is because the bright moonlight makes the fish not swim to the surface of the sea, the moonlight is able to penetrate to the bottom of the sea. In this condition, fishermen do not go to sea because they do not want to lose money, the production costs are not proportional to the catch. The lives of fishermen who are still very dependent on fishing will be vulnerable to unpredictable shocks. Such conditions cause fishermen and their families to only be able to fulfil minimal needs, just to live. This condition is called subsistence, as stated by Clifton R. Warthon that subsistence living is related to the level of life that is minimal just to live (Warthon, 1963).

Difficult and unpredictable conditions make it difficult for fishermen to accept renewal, they tend to live monotonously as they should because they want to prioritise safety. They prefer the choices they have made so far rather than trying new things. This is because fishermen prioritise safety first. James Scott said that those who live on the threshold of subsistence will prioritise security or safety and reliability over profits in the long term (Scott, 1994). Such an attitude in subsistence economics is called safety first. In the helplessness of fishermen facing a vulnerable nature with a subsistence crisis, a strategy is needed to continue to fulfil their subsistence needs. Fishermen have a special strategy in overcoming this problem as explained by Ali, strategy is defined as an effort or adjustment action to deal with certain situations, actions taken through reasonable consideration. This strategy can also be interpreted as a tactic or plan that is prepared to achieve a certain goal (Nurahman, 2009). Likewise, a survival strategy is a series of actions taken consciously by poor households (Resmi, 2005).

The following are some of the strategies used by fishermen who are classified as poor households in fulfilling their subsistence needs

# a. Borrowing Money from Neighbours, Family and Landlords

The uncertainty and helplessness of fishermen due to several factors that afflict them requires a strategy so that fishermen can still fulfil their daily needs. One of them is by making loans to certain parties. As a result of research conducted by Deny, debt is a way out that is usually done by fishermen's families to fulfil their daily needs (Hidayati, 2000). The fishermen will usually go into debt to parties that can get them out of the subsistence zone. These parties are considered as a lifeline for them. They are the closest family, neighbours, and their patrons. Next of kin help by providing food or money to lighten the load a little. Neighbours are the second lifeline after the

closest family cannot help them, especially since Dalegan village is a migrant worker village where the majority of the population works in Malaysia. This condition results in fishermen tending to ask for help from their neighbours in case of emergency. Neighbours are considered closer than family because many families are migrating abroad. Another rescue valve is the juragan or patron who has a higher economic status and has power. Usually, the juragan will provide financial assistance and the fishermen will pay in instalments or pay by selling their catches to the juragan.

### b. Additional Work Elsewhere

The second strategy carried out by Dalegan village fishermen is by diversifying their work. Work diversification is a strategy carried out by fishermen by combining fishing activities with other jobs or side jobs and can be done alternately. This is in line with Deny's research, which states that adaptation strategies used by fishermen include work diversification and double livelihood (Hidayati, 2000). By doing other activities besides fishing, fishermen can get additional income. The income from several jobs is expected to fulfil the needs of their families.

This proves that the main income as a fisherman is still unable to fulfil the needs of fishermen's households. The diversification of work carried out by fishermen varies, some choose to farm, some work as construction workers and farm labourers. Whatever part-time jobs they do, inevitably they have to look for other activities or jobs in order to earn money to meet the needs of their families, pay debts and pay for their children's schooling.

# c. Children and Wife Join Work

Unmet subsistence needs due to uncertain income encourage other fishermen family members to work. They work to increase family income, reduce the burden on the husband or head of the family, and save the family from the subsistence crisis they are experiencing. Optimising the role of family members' labour in overcoming the poverty that hangs over fishing families is one of the ways they can get out of the poverty line. This method is also used by rural communities in transition and the poor in the city as stated by Harbinson in (Anindyasari, 2013) regarding the theory of household survival strategy "They will make use of available resources when economic conditions worsen or change by utilising family labour. The deployment of family labour involves not only wives but also children, the division of labour is also based on gender. Boys will work to help their father's work, such as fishing at the beach. Girls, on the other hand, tend to help with their mother's work, such as selling cakes and rice at the stall. What must be realised is that working as a fisherman and having additional income is still not enough to meet their subsistence need

The occupations of fishermen's wives vary, with some selling cakes, rice and smoked fish for resale to tourists, others as farm labourers and others as helpers in stalls. The condition of fishermen labourers and small fishermen is indeed very vulnerable to shocks. The fishing community in Dalegan village is still classified as fishing labourers and small fishermen as said by Kinseng that fishing labourers work for the juragan and every day depend on their income based on the catches they get and the sharing system with the juragan is a profit-sharing system. Dalegan fishermen are still classified as small fishermen because they only have 1-3 labourers and even they still go to sea alone (Kinseng, 2014).

# d. Borrowing Money from a Co-operative

The last option that fishermen can do is to borrow money from a cooperative. In Dalegan village, there is a fishermen's cooperative. This co-operative was established so that fishermen can access capital, overcome difficult situations during the famine and so that fishermen can develop more advanced by processing and marketing their catches. The cooperative not only receives the fishermen's catch and provides loans to fishermen, but the cooperative also has empowerment activities for fisherwomen where they process their catch and sell it to tourists. One of the famous processed fish products from Dalegan village is smoked fish. This cooperative is a new breath or hope for fishermen to get out of the subsistence zone. In the end, there is a greater hope that this cooperative can provide greater loans to fishermen related to the procurement of technology and fishing gear for fishermen to increase their productivity.

Fishermen's Family Economic Strategy Fishermen's strategies in facing poverty can be done through:

- The Role of Fishermen Family Members (wife and children). Economic activities carried out by fishermen's household members (wives and children) are one of the adaptation strategies that must be taken to maintain
- Job Diversification In the face of income uncertainty, fishing families can combine jobs.
- Social Networks Through social networks, individual households will be more effective and efficient in achieving or gaining access to resources available in their environment. Social networks provide a sense of security for poor fisher households in facing every difficulty of life so that they can navigate life well. Social networks can naturally be found in all forms of society and are a manifestation of the nature of humans as social beings. This creative socio-cultural action reflects that the pressures or economic difficulties faced by fishermen are not responded with a resigned attitude. In general, for fisher households whose daily income depends entirely on fishing income, social networks function very strategically in maintaining their survival.
- Migration Migration is carried out when a particular fishing area is not in season and the fishermen leave to join a fishing unit in the destination area that is in season. The purpose of migration is to obtain a high income and to ensure the needs of the family. At certain times, the income they have earned is brought back home to be given to their families.

Attention to coastal areas is not only based on the consideration that the area not only holds considerable natural resource potential, but also the social potential of the people who will manage these natural resources in a sustainable manner. This community potential is very important because most of the people who live in coastal areas and live from the management of marine and fisheries resources are poor. Development policies in the field of fisheries (blue revolution) so far have not been able to improve the welfare of coastal communities. (Kusnadi: 2000).

### **CHAPTER V CONCLUSION**

Fishing activities carried out by traditional fishermen still use very simple equipment, these activities are still centered in coastal areas that are relatively still reached by small boats without the use of engines, of course the results obtained are very much different when using modern boats with the use of engines, traditional fishing activities are limited to household consumption and if there is more it can be sold at relatively cheap prices, the sea products obtained are generally small so that traditional fishermen often have economic problems, for that fishermen make efforts to seek additional income by borrowing from neighbours, working as labourers with small wages and others, this condition from time to time will increase poverty and economic difficulties so that government policies are needed to take steps to advance the economy of traditional fishermen.

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