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Women Fisherman Empowerment Based on Local Potential in Sidoarjo: Social Entrepreneurship Approach

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Abstract

Women fishermen are one of the social groups in the community who fall into the category below poverty. Poverty is caused by complex factors that are interconnected and are the main sources that weaken the ability of the community in building the region and improve its welfare. Therefore, poverty is one of the main issues in the development of coastal areas, especially the group of women fishermen. Model of empowerment of local fishermen-based women in Sidoarjo Regency using social entrepreneurship approach combined with participatory approach is an effort to develop independence and prosperity of fishermen women by increasing knowledge, attitude, skill, behavior, ability, awareness, and resource utilization and the optimization of local potential through the establishment of policies, programs, activities and assistance in accordance with the essence of the problems and priorities of fulfilling basic needs through the development of local economic potential by taking into account the sustainability of the environment in an integrated manner.

Keywords: empowerment, social entrepreneurship, Women fishermen

INTRODUCTION

The fishing community is one of the social groups in our society that fall under the category of poverty. Poverty is caused by complex factors that are interconnected and are the main sources that weaken the ability of the community in building the region and improve its welfare. Therefore, poverty is one of the main issues in coastal development (Kusnadi et al., 2007).

Indonesia, which most of its territory consists of oceans and has considerable marine potentials should be able to prosper the life of fishing communities who rely on marine potential (maritime). In reality, the life of fishing communities is always on the poverty line, even the life of fishermen is often identified with poverty (Mayo and Craig, 1995). According to Dajali and Marlow (2013), the level of welfare of fishermen at this time is still below other sectors, including agriculture sector. Fishermen (especially traditional fishermen and women fishermen) are the ones that can be classified as the poorest social layers among other groups in the agricultural sector. Difficulties break away from the shackles of poverty because they are plagued by some limitations in the field of human resource quality, access and mastery of market technology, and capital (Kan and May, 2002). The policy and implementation of development programs for coastal communities to this date has not been optimal in breaking the chain of the shackles of poverty and improving their welfare. Based on the conditions presented above, the response

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came from the researchers to see more deeply related to the empowerment of women fishermen in the development of home based local potential business. In general, the existing problems include, 1) the utilization of natural and human resource potential, economic, social and cultural infrastructure and institutional is yet to be optimal, 2) unpotched resource potential due to unexplored exploration, information and data, and, 3) no formulation model women fishermen empowerment based on local potential that can improve the welfare of fishermen community in Sidoarjo regency and able to contribute in regional development, especially in Sidoarjo regency. Therefore, the main focus of this research is a model of empowerment of women based on local potential fishermen in Sidoarjo regency. Based on the above mentioned description, it can be said that such a phenomenon is the basis for doing this research. In this research, we will develop a model of empowering women based on local potential fisherman in Sidoarjo regency which will combine strategic planning elements from government with participatory planning to identify problems and local potency. This research is a follow-up activity of the field of research development strategy contained in Research Master Plan Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia 2012-2016 mainly in the field of research development strategy of the fifth, social empowerment and economy of society. It is for this reason that the researcher wants to collaborate and synergize the college policy with the government's main policy in the field of social empowerment and the society's economy.

METHODS

Kusnadi (2009), stated that the number of coastal communities living below the poverty line is still quite large and one of the efforts to overcome this is through development intervention programs aimed at improving the welfare of coastal communities through economic activities, improving human resources and strengthening social institutions. The institutional approach as a basis for empowerment activities has the following advantages: (1) enhancing resource capability and increasing the scale of collective economic enterprises owned by the community, (2) increasing collective bargaining position in accessing capital, markets, technology and policy; develop coordination skills and partnership cooperation in the management of collective economic activities to support regional economic dynamics, and (3) facilitate control of shared economic travel. Local home-based industry-based business (from marine catch) in some districts of Sidoarjo is actually a community effort, especially long-standing women fishermen. This is particularly important for families of fishermen in an effort to increase the income and family welfare. Potential local-based enterprises are expected to improve the welfare of fishermen, especially when there is a touch of science and intervention from outside parties. In addition, women fishermen and the surrounding community will be able/powerful in improving the business of course also accompanied by an increase in income, it is necessary to explore another potential that is very possible can also increase the income of the fishermen's family.

Assessing women cannot be separated from the values or provisions that differentiate the social identity of men and women, as well as what women should do and what men should do in economic, political, social and cultural good in family life society and nation (Adjei, 2015). Women's empowerment is a process of awareness and capacity building towards greater participation to have power and oversight in decision-making and transformation (action transformation) in order for women to be able to produce something useful (Phan, 2015). Separating the poverty chain is thought to be liberating from helplessness and liberating from poverty, cultivate strength and have independence. Empowerment of women as a continuous process to improve women's ability and independence in order to increase the welfare of their families.

According to Baiquni (2006) put forward the basic concept of resource utilization as a step to improve the welfare of the rural population. First, it requires the participation of local actors to utilize sustainable rural resources. Second, increased productivity through improved regeneration of rural resources. Third, promote just welfare. Forth, improving the quality of life and local knowledge. Fifth, pay attention to the sustainable capability of rural

resources. To realize the welfare of the rural population by utilizing the rural resources concerning the three pillars namely; 1) Sustainable management of rural resources to support the livelihoods of rural populations, 2) utilization of rural resources to strengthen the socio-economic rural population through empowering rural communities and related institutions, 3) an understanding of the problems and potential of rural resources.

According to Defourny and Nyssens (2010) that Social Entrepreneurs increasingly play a role in economic development because it was able to provide the creativity of social and economic values, namely 1) Increasing employment opportunities; 2) The perceived economic benefits of Social Entrepreneurship in various countries are the creation of new employment opportunities; 3) Innovating and creating new products or services needed by society; 4) Being social capital, social capital is the most important form of capital that can be created by social entrepreneurs because although in the most important economic partnerships are values: shared value, trust and culture of cooperation (a culture of cooperation), all of which are social capital; 5) Equity promotion; 6) Equity of public welfare, through social entrepreneurship objectives will be realized, because the businessmen who originally only think about the achievement of maximum profits, then will be moved also to think about equal distribution of income for sustainable economic development.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This research is using qualitative approach combined with quantitative approach. The stages used in formulating a model of empowerment of women-based local potential fishermen in Sidoarjo Regency are as follows: a. *Look*, in these activities, observation, interviews, preliminary assessments of target groups (women fishermen), local resources, socioeconomic environments and source systems within and outside the community. b. *Think*, this activity is conducted through Focus Group Discussion with target groups as well as potential and resource system in the environment that can be utilized in empowerment program of women fishermen. c. *Act*, or treatment, this activity is carried out various guidance, facilitation, monitoring and evaluation. Key informants in this research are women fishermen who join a community or group of women fishermen or working groups of women empowerments that already exist. In addition, interviews were made to local community leaders, relevant agencies, and other competent stakeholders. Based on the results and discussions described above, it can be formulated a model of empowerment of women-based local potential fishermen in Sidoarjo District as presented in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Women fishermen empowerment based on local potentials

By formulating all existing concepts and theories, this research focuses on empowering women fishermen by strengthening grassroots organizations, educating female fishermen, and providing certain skills that are all based on local home industries in Tambak Oso, Kalanganyar, Segoro Tambak, Sawahan, Gebang, Balong Dowo, Balong Cork, Kebonsari, Kupang, Kedung Pandan, and Bluru Kidul. Fishery ecosystem Tambak Oso, Kalanganyar, Segoro

Tambak, Sawahan, Gebang, Balong Dowo, Balong Gabus, Kebonsari, Kupang, Kedung Pandan, and Bluru Kidul do need revamping. Many fishermen still use the conventional way of perspective and how to trade and minimal innovation. Though we know that *ceteris paribus* condition very quickly passed at this time.

Local-based industrial enterprises based on local potential (from sea catchments) in some districts of Sidoarjo are actually a community effort, especially long-established women fishermen. This is particularly important for the families of fishermen in the effort to increase income and family welfare. Potential local-based enterprises are expected to improve the welfare of fishermen, especially when there is a touch of science and intervention from outside parties. Besides that, women fishermen and the surrounding community will be able/capable in improving the business, which of course also accompanied by increased income. Then it needs to be explored other potential that is very possible that can also increase the income of the fishermen's family.

CONCLUSION

With the strengthening of grassroots organizations for women fishermen, the social and professional ties between them can be improved and further strengthened. Grassroots organizations will be a connecting medium between one to another fishermen. Grassroots organizations will also serve as the social platform of the home industry they will develop. Of course, strengthened grassroots organizations will also have an impact on improving their economic welfare through internal trade, information dissemination, and political consolidation among them. Education will be another crucial thing. If grassroots organizations are a medium for enhancement of empowerment, then education will be the soul of improvement and empowerment. The education here also includes honing skills that are not only skills related to fisheries, but also skills in product innovation. Therefore, it is very important for the aspect of education here, because education here is intended to make innovation, both products and services. The home industry will be the final deciding factor. With the existence of grassroots organizations and improvement of education and skills, what is needed is the development of economic activities originating from within the environment of the women's fishermen themselves. This will be a local element that can pump the economic activities of women fishermen in Sidoarjo regency, especially in Tambak Oso, Kalanganyar, Segoro Tambak, Sawahan, Gebang, Balong Dowo, Balong Gabus, Kebonsari, Kupang, Kedung Pandan and Bluru Kidul villages.

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