

Sustainable Livelihoods through Community Empowerment in Bumiaji, Batu City, East Java

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Abstract— The study objective is to analyze sustainable livelihoods (farmers conditions ; social, economic, and income) through community empowerment in the Sumber Brantas Village, Bumiaji, Batu City, East Java Province. The community empowerment program is a program to change plant commodities from garlic plants to potato plants. The research method is qualitative research. The key informants this study include the chairperson and members of Farmer Group "Anjasmoro Jaya Abadi 04". The results of the study include the first farmers to carry out the adaptation process. Second, farmers imitate the process, finally the farmers make the transition from garlic plants to potato crops. The change in livelihood from garlic farmers to potato farmers has an impact on economic life, their incomes have increased. Social life, in terms of the level of community education which is starting to change and high causes their social level to be better, cultural life, people who used to always know "mutual cooperation" on the land of fellow peers, help each other, but for now due to changes in income levels and they have been able to pay outside workers.

Keywords— Sustainable, Livelihood, Empowerment, Society

I. INTRODUCTION

Livelihoods transformation is caused by the agglomeration of land conversion which can increase economic income, influx of migrants, and reduced green space[1]. The decline in agricultural land productivity which directly impacts the decline in farmers' income encourages the farming community to look for other alternatives as a livelihood and an increase in income. The reason for the decision was because the community was unable to provide for their family's living needs. The necessities of life today are not just the fulfilment of food needs, but more than that[2].

The reason for choosing a basic livelihood strategy on a rationality is reflected in the ultimate goal of utilizing livelihood resources. The use of livelihood resources can be grouped into five main objectives, namely (1) procurement of food, (2) long-term investment, (3) cash income (in cash), (4) security of livelihoods and development of household assets and (5) ensuring social security in old age. The three livelihood resources that are of interest to the household are natural

capital, financial capital, and social capital that are present in society in various form[3].

The government made a policy for farmers to plant garlic again to support national garlic self-sufficiency in 2021 and the aim is to reduce the level of imports of onion in the country, because in the past Sumberbrantas Village was one of the center villages.

Garlic production in East Java around the 1980s. In 1998, garlic was released and became RIPH (Horticultural Product Import Recommendation) starting in 2013, making onion unregulated and when imports were opened, it would increase production of imported goods from abroad which made domestic productivity decrease[4]. This will encourage the inclusion of onion and increase Indonesia's dependence on imported goods. In fact, onion is currently still relatively lacking attention, priority handling and government policy[5].

As a result of the policy that was formed to make farmers in a state of uncertainty, where the conditions they expect from the transition of livelihoods to be better and prosperous with an increase in income, but on the other hand they are encouraged to replant onion in accordance with government policies that have been made.

Based on the things that have been explained previously about the transformation of livelihoods which then the existence of a policy that encourages farmers to plant garlic again to achieve the policy objectives, it is necessary to study the perception of the farming community regarding the policy made by the government. The study objective is to analyze sustainable livelihoods (farmers conditions; social, economic, and income) through community empowerment in the Sumber Brantas Village, Bumiaji, Batu City, East Java Province.

II. METHOD

The research method was a descriptive qualitative. The location chosen as the object of research is in Batu City, more precisely in Sumberbrantas Village, Bumiaji District. Data obtained through observation, documentation, in-depth interviews with informants and through literacy studies. This study took a purposive sampling technique in determining informants. The purposive sampling technique was chosen by the researcher because the researcher chose the informant in accordance with the established criteria, and this criterion was appropriate to the research topic.

The selected informants' criteria were a farmer actor who switched livelihoods from onion plants to potato crops, especially in the Anjasmoro Jaya Abadi 04 Farmer Group, was the Chairperson of Gapoktan Sumberjaya, Sumberbrantas Village, Chair of the Anjasmoro Jaya Abadi 04 Farmer Group, a member of the Anjasmoro Jaya

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Abadi 04 Farmer Group who made the transition from garlic to potato and key informant criteria were determined through participating in the national garlic self-sufficiency policy project carried out in Sumberbrantas Village and facilitating the program, namely the Head of Horticulture Production Section of Batu City Agriculture Office and PPL Sumberbrantas Village.

The data analysis method is qualitative data analysis[6] which includes: data condensation, data presentation, and drawing conclusions.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. The Process of changing farmers' livelihoods in Sumberbrantas Village

Today's farmers are intelligent people who are able to think rationally and move dynamically, so they think with the long-term goals of what they do. Transition of plant types is a shift from one type of plant and then switch to another type of plant. New types of plants are more in demand by most people for a variety of reasons which are the main factors in the occurrence of a transition of these plant types. Transitional plants often occur lately and become a phenomenon experienced by the community.

The results of his study mention that there are 2 factors that affect changes in livelihoods namely internal and external factors[7]. Internal factors that can cause people to change their livelihoods are: the desire to earn a greater income in the effort to meet the needs of daily life, the desire to improve the standard of living of the family, and the desire to meet the educational needs of children with the hope that there will be an improvement in the standard of living of the next generation later. External factors that cause people to change their livelihoods are: the social environment in the form of influence in the form of invitations from people around or neighbors who have succeeded in making a livelihood change to an Unconventional Mine, instant profits obtained from Unconventional Mining, tin prices on the market that continue to soar up and up, the fall in the price of yield. The main commodity of the Membalong area is pepper which is the main pillar of the life of the Membalong community, and the rising price of fertilizers causes the cost of pepper treatment to be high which results in reduced profits and can even lead to losses. Therefore, changes in livelihoods are marked by changes in community orientation regarding livelihoods.

B. Farmers' Choice Switching from Garlic Plants to Potatoes

Decision making can be considered as an outcome or output from a mental or cognitive process that leads to the choice of an action pathway among several available alternatives[8]. Every process of making a decision always produces a final choice. Decision making is a form of treatment in thinking and producing a result in the action called a decision[9]. Likewise, farmers in Sumberbrantas village are farmers who have an advanced mindset, the people there have thought beforehand in making crop transitions, then people's lives will be better than before. Every person will determine an action that

becomes a choice, that is, a choice made rationally on the basis of his own will.

There are a number of considerations that have been formed so as to cause the people of Sumberbrantas Village to make a shift in their livelihoods and choose the potato commodity to become a transitional commodity as well as to become a superior commodity in Sumberbrantas Village. Potato is one of the horticultural products that has a relatively stable selling price because the product's shelf life is quite durable and the demand for the product is quite high and increasing[5]. The reason for the shift made by farmers is that the cost of producing garlic is quite expensive but not commensurate with the selling prices that occur in the market because it is still less competitive with imported garlic, while the potato crop even though its production costs are also fairly expensive, but the selling price in the market is fairly appropriate so that the potato farmers of Sumberbrantas Village also get more profit and do not experience losses

C. Impacts of Farmers: Post-Livelihood

The more developing era, the higher economic demands that must be met to meet the needs of human life. Then the community will also think rationally about how they can meet their daily needs and can apply the SLA (Sustainable Livelihood Approach) approach, one of which is the economic sustainability of an independent community. Likewise, farmers in Sumberbrantas village shifted their crops in hopes of a better life and want their economy to improve. The increase in income received by the people of Sumberbrantas Village makes them think that a high level of education is really important so they begin to improve the level of education that occurs in their children so that they can receive a higher education than their parents.

The improvement in the standard of living that began to be felt by the people of Sumberbrantas Village caused socio-cultural changes that occurred. Socio-cultural changes occur due to several factors, including communication, ways and mindsets of the community, other internal factors such as changes in population, new discoveries, conflicts or revolutions as well as external factors such as natural disasters and climate change, wars and cultural influences of other communities[10].

That impact began to be felt by the people of Sumberbrantas Village, improvement and better community welfare due to the transformation of livelihoods by switching to commodity cultivation, on the other hand socio-cultural change occurred also due to the effect of economic improvement which made the social status of the community also high thus changing people's lifestyles in fulfilling their livelihoods in order to survive. So that the rational choice decided by the community to switch according to them is the right thing because they think that all daily needs are increasing, and so many needs and needs must be met so that they need to get more and faster profit results so they can achieve sustainable livelihood

D. Farmers' Perception: In the National Garlic Self-Sufficiency Policy

Community perceptions of certain programs are the main foundation or basis for the emergence of a willingness to be involved and play an active role in every program activity[11]. This also needs to be done in applying the Livelihood approach in people centered, the aim of this approach is through perception is that it can voice the aspirations of the villagers towards what happened and so that it can be solved together in order to achieve a common goal and interest.

A person's processes and perceptions are not easily revealed in full and detailed, if the person is not open. Many things that are a person's experience can influence the meaning of the results of perception of human relations activities in society. The meaning of positive or negative as a result of one's perception of the program will be an incentive or obstacle for him to play a role in his activities. Unpleasant experiences often cause the community members to be less able to be open to honestly state their perceptions and views about a program run by the government. Because it is often based on a less positive perception, the involvement is often artificial participation. Such a situation if it often happens will result in a lack of smoothness of an activity in accordance with the plan so that it is difficult in achieving the objectives of the program as a whole and steady[12].

The National Garlic Self-Sufficiency Policy is a good program in helping local farmers to maintain Indonesia's superior garlic commodity, the informant views that 80% agreed to plant and carry out policy programs in a sustainable manner by participating in the program, but they are of the opinion that the planting and program implementation requirements are carried out in the dry season or dry month, with the consideration that the main obstacle to the implementation of this program is the selling price of garlic and the weather in Sumberbrantas Village, garlic is a commodity that cannot grow well if it is at the rainy month, and the informants also hope that the program made by the government can be organized and prepared carefully starting from the procurement of seeds to marketing later, because marketing garlic itself is difficult, because the community is still somewhat traumatized by the year 90s era of monetary economic crisis which made them fall and loss of interest in growing garlic on a large scale.

Community perception about this program is good because besides farmers can rotate planting on their land so that the quality of the soil remains good, and planting garlic makes soil sterilization from pests and diseases the reason is because local garlic has a strong aroma even though the tubers owned are not as big as imported garlic. Around 20% of the people expressed doubtful perceptions about the policy to be carried out sustainably, because in their view they could not fully prosper and make the Sumberbrantas Village farming community independent and experience the economic improvement they have received from potato cultivation, due to planting vegetable commodities such as potatoes, carrots and mustard they are already prosperous, independent, and more profitable, then according to informants the program's policy is considered immature and guarantees that they can help restore their interest in growing garlic again. The reason is supported because there are many

obstacles to the program starting from the implementation of the program that is not right during the rainy season, the procurement of seeds that are difficult and the quality of the seeds that are not all of good quality, market guarantees are unclear. Their consideration that would make a change of mind is if the policy prospects are good and the market has clearly received local garlic again, so maybe they will want to replant garlic on a large scale and farmers' interest will begin to re-form so that it can support national garlic self-sufficiency.

Based on the results of research that examines the transition of garlic farmers to potato farmers as well as public perceptions about the national garlic self-sufficiency policy can be concluded that the reason for shifting livelihoods is because of the effect of imported garlic, the price of local garlic which cannot compete well with imported garlic, the commodity of potatoes being the main and leading commodity in the village of Sumberbrantas. The impact of shifting livelihoods felt by the people of Sumberbrantas Village has led to a livelihood approach that is expected to start from economic sustainability, environmental sustainability, and socio-cultural changes in the form of mutual cooperation on land that is starting to fade.

The public perception that involves a people-centered approach to the national garlic self-sufficiency policy in 2021 is that 80% of the people agree to be sustainable because it is beneficial and helps local farmers in maintaining garlic. However, 20% were hesitant about not participating in the policy program, and there were also those who participated but not wholeheartedly, so that the community stated that this policy could not fully prosper and make the Sumberbrantas Village farming community independent. As a side note they will change their minds if the policy prospects are good and the market has clearly received local garlic again, so it might be considered.

Suggestions for government and researcher are:

a. For the Government

Policies that are made should be able to truly protect and in accordance with the contents of the objectives of the policy, not just make policies for formality alone, and it is recommended if in making a program that has a large goal and involves the subject of farmers should always be able to apply a bottom up approach by listening the problem of the lower community, because if the top down approach is done, often the community participation is fairly false and not in accordance with the expectations they want and sometimes seems to force and the program ends up being unrealistic and unsustainable.

b. For Researchers

Suggestions for further researchers to be able to examine the perception of the people of Sumberbrantas Village after carrying out the program's policy in order to evaluate the national garlic self-sufficiency policy in the future, the second can add perception theory to strengthen the discussion in the future, and can do additional factor analysis intended to find out what factors alone influences the community to make a shift in their livelihoods and the factor of community participation in the national garlic self-sufficiency policy

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