

# The Government Strategy of District Area Bireuen in Improving the Welfare of the Fisherman Community in Ppi (Fish Auction Center) Peudada

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## ABSTRACT

Empowerment strategy is one of the concepts in improving quality, either of human resources or of the economy. The fishing community, as a society that uses the potential of the sea and the sea coast for economic gain, cannot be compared to the economic community in other sectors, such as agriculture, industry, and so on. Empowerment efforts are critical in addressing the problems that exist in coastal communities (fishermen) in order to improve their lives and can be contrasted with other economic sectors. The author's team used qualitative research in this study, with data collected through interview observations and documentation analysis. Data obtained through fishing communities, particularly in Peudada, Bireuen Regency, were analyzed qualitatively with an interactive analysis model, and data analysis was carried out throughout the research process by following the data stages collective, data reduction, data analysis, and drawing conclusions. The study's findings indicate that the Peudada community in Bireuen Regency's ability or skill in processing the catch so that it has a high value product selling value is still lacking. The lack of empowerment or training provided by the government, resulting in the community's inability to develop the potential for catch commodities with high selling value, lowering the level of community welfare in Peudada Bireuen Regency.

**Keywords:** *Empowerment, Fisherman Community and Community Welfare.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The sea is a body of water that is home to many fish and other aquatic animals. The sea is also a location for activities carried out by the community in search of fish or other underwater animals that can be used as a source of income on a daily basis. Government Regulation (PP) No. 50 of 2015 Concerning Small Fishermen and Small Fish Cultivators Empowerment According to this PP, the government and local governments are obligated to facilitate financing and capital for small fishermen and small fish cultivators in accordance with their respective authorities[1]. The PP states unequivocally that small fishermen can be given capital and help to grow their businesses.

Environmental conditions, relationships between organizations, organizational resources for program

implementation, and characteristics and capabilities of implementing agents, according to Winarno (2007) are four groups of variables that can affect the performance and impact of a program[2].

Article 2 of Law No. 7 of 2016 states, "Protection and empowerment of fishermen, fish raisers, and salt farmers based on the principles of sovereignty, independence, usefulness, togetherness, integration, openness, efficiency-fairness, sustainability, welfare, local wisdom, and the preservation of environmental functions." With the passage of this legislation, it is clear that local governments are obligated to improve the well-being of fishermen who are also citizens. However, in practice, the aforementioned provisions have not been fully implemented, as evidenced by an increase in slum settlements, the majority of which are

occupied by fishermen. Slums are caused by a poor economy and a lack of cleanliness awareness[3].

They should be able to live in prosperity by working as fishermen because fishermen are people who are needed by many people because fish is the staple food of the local community (Bireuen Regency), so catching fish and selling it will earn a lot of profit because fish is a daily food need that many people are looking for. The phenomenon of fishermen's welfare is a result of the growing number of poor people.

Social welfare aims to eliminate or reduce pressures caused by changes in the socioeconomic system, avoiding negative social consequences as a result of development, and creating conditions conducive to community welfare improvement[4].

Regional Government, as defined in Article 18 of the 1945 Constitution, states that the division of the Indonesian Region into Large and Small Regions, with their form and composition, is stipulated in law by taking into account and remembering the basis of deliberation in the state government system and the rights of origin in these regions, a special area in Widjaja (2010: 2)[5].

Autonomous Regions are formed based on the principle of decentralization, whereas administrative regions are formed based on the principle of deconcentration. The regions are vertically organized and serve as the working environment for the government apparatus in carrying out general government affairs in the regions. The formation of territories in a vertical arrangement is intended to increase control in order to ensure the smooth operation of government, which is based on the following principles of Government Management: Widjaja (in Indonesia) (2002: 14-15)[6].

## **2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach in order to collect in-depth data and present it in detail. According to Denzin and Lincoln (1987) in Moeloeng (2011: 5), qualitative research is defined as research that is conducted in a natural setting with the intention of interpreting phenomena that occur and is carried out in a way that incorporates various existing methods[7]. The goal of descriptive qualitative research is to present accurate data and analyze in depth the phenomena that occur in accordance with the research's focus and objectives.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **3.1 Financing and Capital**

Fishermen are people whose daily jobs include looking for fish at the bottom of the water surface, both salt and fresh water, using marine vehicles such as ships or boats, and catching fish using methods such as trawl nets. There are two types of fishermen: small fishermen

and big fishermen. Big fishermen have boats, while small fishermen don't have boats and work for those who do. They are known as ABK (Children of the Ship). And for their income, they usually split the profits with those who own boats, and the results are determined by the amount of fish they catch.

The City of Lhokseumawe's Department of Maritime Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food usually provides assistance in the form of goods rather than cash, such as fishing gear, boats, and other items. In terms of financing or capital, it appears that assistance is distributed unevenly; there are still fishermen who have not received assistance; this can also be attributed to the budget division that the City of Lhokseumawe is experiencing in 2017. They have also attempted to provide assistance, despite the fact that they are limited by the budget, if there is one.

In the case of fishermen's savings and loan cooperatives, they no longer exist in Pusong Lama Village because they can no longer be managed because someone borrowed from the savings and loan cooperative but did not return it, so the savings and loan cooperative no longer functions because the existing capital has run out. The Department of Maritime Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food did not establish the cooperative because the fishermen did not want to manage the savings and loan cooperative. Savings and loan cooperatives are formed only when there is assistance; they are not formed if there is no assistance.

The authors can conclude from the results of interviews and observations regarding Local Government Policies in Improving the Welfare of Fishermen that the assistance provided by the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food to fishermen has not been evenly distributed, and that there are still fishermen who have not received assistance, which could be due to division, so that the assistance they requested was not disbursed. Even though the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food has done its best, the result is that fishermen use tools they purchased themselves rather than receiving assistance, and there are still problems.

In this case, the government has the authority or power to improve the welfare of fishermen, and fishermen must also broaden their horizons in order to become more advanced or prosperous again. Here, fishermen hope to get help if they don't get fish, because when they go to sea, they must pay for example, \$5 million to go down to the sea, and if they don't get fish, they must pay another \$5 million. Here, fishermen hope to get help if they don't get fish. The Service, on the other hand, provided assistance in the form of goods rather than cash.

### **3.2 Training and Coaching**

Fishermen are people whose daily jobs include looking for fish at the bottom of the water surface, both salt and fresh water, using marine vehicles such as ships or boats, and catching fish using methods such as trawl

nets. There are two types of fishermen: big fishermen and small fishermen. Big fishermen have boats, while small fishermen don't have boats and work for those who do. They are known as ABK (Children of the Ship). And for their income, they usually share the catch with those who own boats, those who ride the boat, and, of course, the fish they catch. Training and counseling are actually to support improving the welfare of fishermen because training and counseling can add insight to fishermen, and it cannot be denied that some fishermen do have low education, so it is hoped that training and counseling can improve the welfare of fishermen. Special training is not provided in Pusong Lama Village due to a lack of funds, but counseling is frequently provided by the City of Lhokseumawe's Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food. In conducting outreach, the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture and Food does it 4 times a week or at least 20 times a month. If you look at the time period, the Department often provides counseling.

They go to sea for days, sometimes months, because they have no other choice; they do not have a good education or a higher education; it was chosen because there is no other option for those who are less able, because they must meet their basic daily needs. day off for himself and his family.

Not to mention that if they don't catch any fish, they will go into debt because they need money to go down to the sea; most fishermen don't have their own boat to go to sea, so they must work for the person who owns the boat and then go to sea. When there is a lot of fish, the fisherman's profit increases, but when there isn't a lot of fish, the fisherman's profit decreases. A small profit lowers the level of fishermen's welfare.

The research team discovered that approximately 920 Family Cards out of 1600 Family Cards were included in the total number of poor people (source: PPI Peudada, 2021). According to the Head of Panglima Laot, PPI Peudada, the number of poor people in Peudada is increasing year after year. The following are some of the factors that contribute to the problem:

1. Fishermen do not have their own boats to go to sea because the boat prices are expensive, so fishermen do not have them, so to go to sea fishermen work for those who have boats and for their income they share the results between fishermen and those who have boats.
2. Many slums are occupied by fishermen, lack of awareness of cleanliness causes the settlements to become slums and is not good for the health of fishermen and their families, causing many diseases.
3. There is no capital to build a business so that there is no other side job besides fishing.
4. Do not have a quality education or high education so that they have no other choice but to fisherman.

The goal of the fishermen's welfare program is to reduce the poverty rate of fishermen while also eliminating the slum settlements that are mostly occupied by fishermen in Bireuen Regency, so that the economy of Bireuen Regency will improve in the future by utilizing fish resources in Bireuen Regency, and it is hoped that Bireuen Regency can become a city that is developed with its fisheries.

### **3.3 Fisher Human Resources**

Obstacles from the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food are the mindset of the fishing community who do not care, when the Service provides counseling not all want to listen to it only a few people, so whatever guidance is given is not cared for unless there is training on technology - The new technology usually has those who want to listen and those who do not want to listen.

In order to improve the welfare of fishermen, all parties must be able to work together, both from the Maritime Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food Service and from the fishermen, because if only the Service moves and is not supported by the fishermen, it may be difficult, because the main goal is for the welfare of fishermen, if viewed from the fishermen's point of view, Fishermen are indeed busy people to work with because going to sea takes at least one or two days, and the Service must identify opportunities when it is a good time to do counseling so that fishermen will listen to the counseling provided.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

Local government policies, the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food have not yielded the best results; assistance has not been distributed evenly; and there are still fishermen who have not received assistance due to a budget shortfall and disagreements between fishermen and the Department. Counseling for fishermen, on the other hand, is frequently provided by the City of Lhokseumawe's Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food. The local government obstacle in improving the welfare of fishermen, the first is that fishermen are still apathetic or indifferent, counseling or guidance, which is often carried out by the Department of Marine Affairs, Fisheries, Agriculture, and Food, is often ignored, so that the results of counseling carried out by the Office are only 30%. The second obstacle is that the coaching that is being carried out is not optimal due to the lack of Human Resources for coaching.

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