

## Life for Fisheries: Sociology and Rural Economy for Fishermen

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### Abstract

There are comparatively few socio-economic conditions in the community, so the demand on coastal infrastructure to satisfy Community demands may, over the long term, be much greater. The level of education of the fishing community is still classified as poor and coastal community settlements, especially fishermen, are still not well organized under environmental conditions. In the long term, the demand on coastal services would be higher in order to satisfy Community needs, given the community's socio-economic circumstances which are comparatively poor in healthcare. Much in the coastal regions fishing was passed down by their descendants from generation to generation.

**Keywords:** Social, Welfare and Fishing Industries

### Introduction

Fishermen and farmers play a key role in fostering national food sovereignty and becoming key players in this. Fishery goods in Indonesia provide 54% of the total public consumption of animal protein. It is also really necessary to help create jobs. Directly and implicitly, the number of fishery industry players is quite large. The catch fishing industry is expected to provide more than six million people with direct jobs and millions with indirect jobs. Small-scale fishers account for 97 percent of Indonesia's overall number of fishers from the size of the vessel <10 GT.

Although the country's economic position is very high, this is not the case with fishermen's or their families' living conditions. 2.7 million Indonesian farmers added to the national poverty rate of 25 percent in 2017, with the bulk living on the edge of poverty line. Additional figures also show that about 53% of households reside under the poverty line in coastal regions. This is definitely a special feature of fishermen's and farmers' vulnerability, particularly in relation to the current Covid 19, in a socio-economic sense. Information and understanding of fishermen and coastal populations regarding their impacts have not preceded the broad spread of Covid-19. The distribution of government knowledge and schooling in the region is often considered to be not satisfactory. Many people are puzzled and don't realize the significance of government regulations, including physical separation or the morning or afternoon prohibition, which creates fishermen misunderstanding.

### Socio-Economic Conditions for Fishermen

Fishermen are a community of people whose lives rely on either fishing or growing marine products directly (Brookfield et al., 2005; Welcomme et al., 2010). The fishermen's communities typically dwell along the coastline. In terms of land use and use the features of fishing groups vary from those of agricultural communities. Fishermen are highly reliant on environmental environments with uncertain job risks (Dayton et al., 1995; Jennings et al., 2016) Fishermen are created according to the complex essence of their resources such that fishers

have to shift and move in order to achieve a full capture. Furthermore, the high market danger leads fishing communities to survive in a rugged world, which is often surrounded by confusion. Though fishing is a subsection of agriculture within the census, the presence of households of fishermen has particular characteristics in comparison to households of farmers. These two households vary in the following: (2) Small land is a development factor for farmers and households of aquaculture; fishing households are using coastal areas as a manufacturing factor. Meanwhile the sea is not bounded to administrative geographical limits for fishermen's households. 3) Farmers are bound by seasons throughout the manufacturing phase, whereas fishing families are filled with lunar cycles.

### **The Dynamics of Fishermen's Social Life**

Dynamic implies power, constant movement, growth, and the capacity to adjust to changing circumstances (Lewin, 2016). Additionally, there is a population of people in the coastal region who follow those habits of existence, behaviour, and characteristics. Residents in coastal areas usually work as fishermen to meet their economic needs. One area is a coastal village, and therefore the majority of the population is employed in the fishing and marine industries. Until the 1990s, fishing was a primary occupation for the residents of the village; 90 percent of the population worked as fishermen. And in 1995, tourism was the only activity in the district. Residents see the presence of beach as an opportunity for growth, a rather promising opportunity, namely culinary tourism. However, since 2007, construction and organization of the coastal region have begun, specifically with the creation of a café as a means of bringing prosperity to the people. From this year, the citizens of began to undergo changes, which will be discussed in greater detail below regarding changes, including those affecting fishermen. Whereas with the use of tourism attractions and management of cafes in, as well as assistance from Traditional Villages, it is possible to transform the lives of fishermen, one of which is the fishermen in who are no longer fishermen who go to sea but rather fishermen who already have Boat Crew. The improvement of economic life is a shift in the everyday economy of a fisherman family that is seen as weak but is capable of being the owner of seafood grilling facilities, a cafe boss, or even a fisherman with Ship Crew members. The shifts in their economic circumstances will serve as a motivator in the fishing community's existence.

Economic developments inevitably affect social life. Status is a social status within a society that is earned automatically by corporate or charitable contributions (Knauer, 1994). As a result, anyone in a social environment would strive to attain a higher social rank. People who live on the coast depend heavily on coastal waters as a means of income. The primary motivation for serving as a fisherman is to support the families and fishermen communities in order to make ends meet., one of the residents serves as a fisherman. The village is a coastal settlement with the sea on both its west and east coasts. This resulted in the majority of the workforce originally working in the fishing and maritime industries. Until 1990, approximately 90% of inhabitants of Village were fishermen, with the remainder employed as merchants or laborers.

Residents who live along the coast serve primarily as fishermen. The sea is a vital natural resource for the citizens has a fisherman's style due to its ecotype, which is flanked by beach and sea, especially in the village's western and eastern parts.

### **The Impact of Covid-19 on Fishermen and Cultivators**

To gain a better understanding of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on fishermen and cultivators, the associated institution conducted a survey of field conditions, especially those

relating to maritime management in various regions. March 31, 2020 – March 10, 2020 was the data collection period. The data collection process included the execution of questionnaires and in-depth phone calls in a variety of locations that act as a base for fishermen group members.

The majority of regions saw a significant decline in fish prices, especially for some exported species. Selling catch is a major impediment at the moment, since many fish collectors fail to serve fishermen / cultivators or seriously limit their purchases. When it comes to selling their crop, this condition overwhelms many fishermen and producers. Additionally, Indonesia's fishery export destination countries are "shutting down," greatly limiting their international trade transactions. This condition results from the community's reduced purchasing power and has culminated in the market or Fish Auction Place becoming silent, one of which is the product of the local government's implementation of a policy to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Perpetuating this condition has the potential to degrade the family lives of fishermen and cultivators. Their sales has declined as a result of the challenges associated with exporting their catch and harvest. And, if imported, it is extremely inexpensive in contrast to agricultural or fishing capital. Apart from that, fishermen voiced frustration with operational costs such as fuel oil, which remains scarce and expensive in certain areas. This increases the cost of fishing or reduces fishermen's earnings. Additionally, these require living expenses, such as buying food, which has seen price increases in a number of regions. As a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, additional costs, such as disinfectant purchases, are expected. This indicates that, although the operating costs of fishing increased during the pandemic, fishermen's incomes decreased. Apart from the high cost of fuel oil and the problems associated with collecting the capital necessary to take ships to sea, another impediment is ship administration. Fishermen are aware of this.

Covid-19 also has an impact on cultivators. As stated by members of the fishermen's group. They face obstacles in purchasing seeds and cultivator-related manufacturing facilities, such as feed and pharmaceuticals. Reduced retail demand, both domestically and abroad, has resulted in distributors buying fish at a fraction of their normal price or discontinuing sales altogether. In many regions of Indonesia, the advent of social distancing and territorial boundaries, as well as large-scale social restrictions, has resulted in a downturn in the hotel and culinary industries, reducing demand for cultivated seafood.

Additionally, the requirement for manufacturing facilities is a concern throughout this pandemic. Feed and medicine prices have risen, especially those containing imported ingredients. Farmers harvest early to avoid rising output costs. This is the case for lobster farmers. Pond fish farmers raise milkfish on a wide scale and sell them at rock-bottom rates to save more losses.

Another instance involving farmers of milkfish ponds. Cultivators harvest their wetlands on a seasonal or incremental basis. This is because collectors are prohibited from purchasing fish, forcing farmer fishermen to harvest some of their catch and use it as cash to purchase feed for some of the remaining fish.

Fishermen and cultivators use a variety of strategies to respond to and succeed in the global crisis scenario. Fishermen and cultivators who retain savings to cover immediate concerns such as tuition or health care costs begin withdrawing their savings to cover regular expenses or money for fishing. However, those that lack savings are forced to owe debts to neighbors, skippers, collectors, and other parties who provide assistance. This occurrence was confirmed

by the fishermen cooperative's administration. They rushed to harvest corn to ensure family food survival in the face of increasing costs for essential necessities. Meanwhile, some attempt to shift careers in order to work as daily workers or in occupations that have daily profits.

Fishermen engage in bartering to meet their essential everyday needs. Economic problems in certain places have forced fishermen to abandon their fishing activities due to a lack of resources (McGrath et al., 1993; Lloret et al., 2018). Due to the physical distancing scheme, the majority of them were unemployed and remained at home. It's different at periods of drought or high winds; some of them are adamant about continuing to sail at the cost of death or changing their trade to become laborers / building workers in the local region. This is an attempt by fishermen to maintain a revenue stream sufficient to satisfy their everyday needs.

Based on the developments mentioned above, the fishermen community listed six actions that the government might take to address this situation, including encouraging the government, local councils, and village governments to provide widespread education to fishing communities and cultivators about the health effects of Covid-19. Preventive steps such as disinfectant spraying, mass inspection, and mask distribution are required in fishing villages.

By combining the buying scheme for fishery products provided by small fishermen (upstream) with the enhancement of the national fish logistics framework, we may encourage special schemes for fishermen and cultivators to deal with Covid-19. Expanding government purchases of seafood for food supplies (prisons, hospitals, etc.) and distribution as food aid; This will fulfill the state's role in preserving people's purchasing power, protecting the economy of fishermen and cultivator families, ensuring protein availability, and strengthening the national fisheries economy in the midst of the Covid-19 outbreak.

The Government, Regional, and Village Governments are refocusing and reallocating their budgets, with a special emphasis on programs aimed at preserving and preventing the effect of Covid-19 on fishing communities and cultivators, including the creation of a social safety net for fishermen and cultivator families.

Encouragement of fisheries industry digitization, both upstream and downstream. In the long run, digitization would increase access to national and foreign markets for fishery goods. Along with shortening the chain of fish exchange, which has become too large and often hurts fishermen and fish cultivators. In the short term, digitization would bolster the government's and our collective efforts to contain the dissemination of Covid-19. Fishermen's societies, fishery industry councils, the federal government, and municipal municipalities must work together to promote the digitization of this national fishery.

Assure the access to goods and/or storage is available to ensure the seamless running of fishing and fishery commodity processing activities. Collaboration between many industries involved in transportation, including ports, trains, and planes for regional crossings that use a set of restrictions to ensure the continued selling of production goods. Increase access to credit and microfinance services that provide low interest rates, flexible loan repayment terms, and loan recovery opportunities for fishermen and cultivators.

## **Conclusion**

Fishing families reside in coastal areas and derive their primary income from the ocean's natural resources, which include trout, shrimp, seaweed, shellfish, coral reefs, and other aquatic items. Coastal cultures are made up of individuals who reside and work in coastal regions and seas. The fishing community's characteristics are shaped by the diverse essence of

the tools they exploit, which requires fishermen to travel about in order to maximize their harvest. Additionally, the high market danger forces fishing societies to survive in a rugged natural environment that is perpetually unpredictable when it comes to doing business. Fishermen are known as traditional fishermen if they fish mostly using traditional fishing gear. The fishermen lack basic knowledge.

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