



4th World Conference on Business, Economics and Management, WCBEM

## Fishermen Community in the Coastal Area: A Note from Indonesian Poor Family

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### Abstract

Strengthening civil society values is required in a poor fishermen community so that the community becomes the central point of development process in the seashore and marine areas to uplift the living standard of fishermen so that traditional coastal resource management is remain valued and cared for. The results of this study found that kinship, mutual help, cooperation, mutual trust among the poor families become social capital to survive with their family members. Utilization of local institutions that grow and thrive in the life of rural communities has helped many poor households in order to survive. Therefore, it is suggested that the government should pay attention to local institutions by providing reinforcement to those institutions to be able to serve as a forum for the fishermen in the villages in order to empower them without having to bring in outside agencies because, in principle, institutions that grow and thrive in society have helped fishermen in rural life; and it is a social capital. The results of this study reveal that the survival strategy of rural poor fishermen by adopting a multiple income strategy that involve family members in economic activities like fishing, it is recommended to train and educate the members with good skills so that the business can be managed properly to increase their income. In addition, the capital assistance to the poor fishermen should be given without collateral requirement, so that they can manage their business well.

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Peer-review under responsibility of Academic World Research and Education Center

*Keywords:* Fishermen, coastal, villages, poor;

### 1. Introduction

The absolute poverty phenomenon has globally spawned the poverty reduction movement, which is characterized by the Millennium Declaration which gave birth to the millennium development goals. The millennium development goals will substantively reduce the total number of absolute poverty in gradual and sustainable way (Shaffril, Samah, D'Silva, and Yassin, 2013). Indonesia with a huge population the percentage of poor people was significant compared to the total population (Cuesta, and Meyer, 2014). This proves that there is a decrease in the poverty rate (Gertler, Levine, and Moretti, 2006).

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The phenomenon of poverty in Indonesia as previously described implies the birth of various poverty alleviation programs including poverty alleviation programs in urban, rural and coastal areas with people whose livelihoods are mostly fishermen (Akpalu, 2011). The Poverty Alleviation Program in the governing regime has various nomenclatures like the President's Instruction for Helping Underdeveloped Villages (IDT), Infrastructure Development Program for Disadvantaged Rural Areas (P3DT), Community Empowerment Program for Urban and Rural Areas (P2MPP), Social Safety Net (JPS). The government is currently struggling to reduce the poverty rate through several programs, such as National Program for People Empowerment (PNPM) for rural and urban areas, Regional Economic Infrastructure Development (Pisew), Public Health Security (Jamkesmas), Direct Cash Grant (BLT) which was substituted with Wishful Family Program (PKH). Those programs are implemented in provinces and regencies, including Bone Regency with support of poverty alleviation programs due to characteristics and situation of local society (Mair, 2013). Based on the background, the main problem of this research is poverty among fishing community. The problem, then, is deliberated in the following research questions: how is the family orientation of poor fishermen in the coastal areas of Bone related problems of poverty itself?.

## 2. Previous Research

Poverty culture might also be owned by the people from lower social strata, isolated communities, and urban residents that were landless labourers (Bramwell, Reilly, Lilly, Kronish, and Chennabathni, 2011). The communities involved in the unfortunate situation have aspirations (low aspiration) as a form of realistic aspirations (Willoughby-Herard, 2010). This may also be caused by a more fatalistic culture, lack of willingness to pursue goals, lack see personal progress, feelings of helplessness or inability, the feeling to always fail, judge yourself feeling negative, the option position as a labourer and even a degree of compromise is pathetic (Barrett, and Mosca, 2013). People tend to surrender values or norms (culture of poverty), the formation of patterns of thought and behaviour resigned in a relatively long period of time will have an impact on people's behaviour in managing and resolving problems in their lives or the environmental crisis in the community itself, so not able to see opportunities and solutions to improve their lives (Yochum, Starr, & Wendt, 2011).

Likewise, the culture of poverty also exists in the village of fishing families at Kajua, Awangpone. They assume that poor living condition that they carry is a natural thing and they do not have to work on that (Bruce, Flynn, and Stagg-Peterson, 2011). The family poverty is regarded as fate and may not be changed; therefore, they must adjust his fishing families with poverty, so they do not feel tired and frustrated in poverty (Fishman, 2011). This phenomenon is called by Lubis and Wekke (2009) as fatalism in society. The poverty of Indonesian coastal communities has reached quite high rate, most of them with low education (Alexander and Chan-Halbrendt, 2006). In fact, the coastal regions which account for about 81,000 km are one of the greatest wealth of Indonesia. Wealth is not without use in various forms of development activities, but has been used for fishing activities, tourism, marine, and mining (Wekke and Lubis, 2008).

Based on these considerations, this study focused on the social aspects concerning the mind-set (orientation and aspiration) of coastal fishing communities in Awangpone of Bone, how their views on the root causes of poverty itself, as well as their views on rich people in the vicinity, and how their survival strategy (Parker, Allen, Pearson, Peach, Flynn, and Rees, 2012). Likewise, regarding with poverty reduction programs undertaken by the government, whether it has or has not touched the substantive aspects of poverty alleviation initial hypothesis, empowerment programs that have not touched the social and cultural aspects so far, less able to accommodate specific social, cultural and historical nuances of the fishing communities (Eliason, 2006). In other words, poverty alleviation programs only nationally adopted as 'top down' programs instead of the initiative the district and city or region and poor communities based on social, cultural and historical communities (Ferse, Knittweis, Krause, Maddusila, and Glaser, 2012).

## 3. Research Setting

Bone regency government have set up a regional poverty reduction strategy in gradual and sustainable way but, empirically in the field, Poor Households (RTM), especially the coastal fishing communities still reach a high rate.

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