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The Socio-economic Dimensions of the Fisherman's Well-being at Batam Island: A Descriptive Survey

¹Khairunesa Binti Isa, ²Sarala Thulasi Palpanadan

Abstract--The well-being of the people is a fundamental part of a government's drive towards a developed nation. Indonesia's maritime community is one of the few minority communities that need attention in order to achieve Indonesia's balance of growth. Therefore, this study aims to achieve three main objectives, namely, to know the well-being of the Bertam Island fishermen, to explore the social and economic dimensions of Bertam Island and to study the role of the government in enhancing the wellbeing of the well-being of Bertam Island, Batam. This study is a descriptive survey study. The data were collected using survey method and questionnaire instrument. The study found that the well-being of the Bertam Island community is at a moderate level in terms of social and economic dimensions and the role of the government in enhancing fisheries welfare, which have mean score value 2.66, 2.60 and 2.55 respectively. Overall, the well-being of fishermen can be measured by the socio-economic dimensions and the role of government can be conducted from time to time and make well-being as one of the benchmarks in monitoring the current development of the Bertam Island, Batam.

Key words--well-being, Bertam Island, social, economic, role of government

I. INTRODUCTION

In the era of globalization, all nations are racing to make a name across the globe to bring development and progress to the nation and its people. A developed country is not only about physical and socio-economic development but also about paying attention to the well-being of the community which is seen as one of the important factors contributing to the development of the country holistically. One of the indicators used to measure the progress and development of a country is to look at the well-being of the people. Various indicators can be used to measure people's well-being. This is because the concept of well-being itself is subjective and difficult to measure especially in a country with many major economic activities as contributors to national income such as the industrial, fisheries, plantation, and service sectors. Undoubtedly, Indonesia is also taking an active part in the country's efforts to cultivate a developed nation. Indonesia's rapid growth in a number of industries such as the manufacturing and tourism industries has led to the increasing well-being of the Indonesian people towards a stable and prosperous future. Indonesia, which has the world's fourth largest population of around 260 million people, wants all its citizens to enjoy a prosperous life including the minority community that still exists in the republic.

² Center for Language Studies, University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Johor, Malaysia

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¹General Studies and Co-curricular, University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Johor, Malaysia, Email: nesa@uthm.edu.my

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Research Problem

The Government of Batam City has put in a lot of efforts to improve the well-being of the Sub-community. Beginning in the year 2012 many program was carried out using the district government model (i) the Direct Empowerment Policy Model by the government and (ii) the Private Empowerment Policy Model implemented by the private sector. However, in 2016, the data shows that most of the communities do not continue their economic activities as they have done through their programs. The top-down approach provided by the government is that the community cannot afford to follow the program and thus, fails to raise income through the variety of economic activities guided by the empowerment program. In this context, the proposed approach is more of a bottom up that focuses more on the actual needs and wants of the community so that the program that runs it really impacts the well-being of the Suburbs.

In an effort to improve the well-being of the community, the government has also sought to equip infrastructure such as preparatory schools, public halls, grocery stores to facilitate community activities, and improve the social welfare of the Quarterly communities. According to Mohd Yusof Hussain and colleagues (2011), the social well-being of the community can be achieved when the basic infrastructure of the community neighborhood is shared by community members. However, the Tribe community is still not doing community activities to help each other. In addition to different religious factors, the community is more comfortable interacting with their family members than other neighbors. Wan Hashim (1980) found that coastal communities, especially fishermen, did not use the educational opportunities provided to improve their own and children's education. This has led them to still face difficult situations to improve their lives especially in terms of education and economy. In addition to dealing with the lack of capital to send children to full education, the parents of the Tribe also have a low level of motivation to change for the better.

Well-being and poverty among fishermen are seen as a global issue. Many studies on fisheries especially coastal fishermen are related to the poor (Mohd Shaladdin, 2009 and Noviati et al., 2011). The PMP Directorate's (2006) data shows that 32.14 percent of the 16.42 million coastal communities are fishermen living below poverty level with an income index of USD 1 per day. This indicates that there is still a community of fishermen who has not enjoyed the benefits of development and well-being and seems to be at the forefront of the development process (Aizah et al., 2013). For the Tribes, Goddess Fatmasari (2016) refers to factors such as marine fisheries, fisheries attribute and community social life that can influence the well-being of fishermen's well-beings which is related to the Sub-Saharan Africa. However, programs run by the government are found to be unable to improve the well-being of the Suburbs because not all programs are impacted by the community (Sri Nurhayati, 2013). The data shows that there is no change of income as well as indicators that measure the level of well-being of the Quarter such as education, infrastructure and employment (Norazmi et al., 2001).

Objective

This study aims to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To find out the well-being of fishermen's life in the Bertam Island, Batam.
- ii. To examine the dimensions of the needs of the Bertam Island, Batam in terms of social and economic aspects.
- iii. To study the role of the government in improving the welfare of the well-being of the fisherman at Bertam Island, Batam.

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Importance

This study brings together theoretical and practical ideas. Theoretically, this study exposes researchers and academics to socioeconomic factors that influence the well-being of the indigenous communities. Practically, this study gives the government an understanding of the concepts and fundamentals needed to achieve the well-being of the Tribe. Understanding the factors that can influence the well-being of the Tribe is important before the government organizes programs aimed at enhancing the community empowerment. In addition, the study also contributed to the development of a basic model of the items in the respondents' demographic factors and socioeconomic factors in the well-being of the Caucasus. The construction of this basic model helps respondents and governments better focus and identify more precisely the actual needs of the Tribe.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Well-being is a dynamic process which adds value to spur humans to a better direction. Hence, this process contributes to a nation's development. Various indicators are used to measure the prosperity of community life. This is because the concept of life prosperity is subjective and difficult to measure, especially in a country which has many economic aspects contributing to the nation's revenue such as industries, fishing, agriculture, and services. In the context of government, many approaches and programmes were designed for each category of household income and communities in the effort to balance the community's life prosperity.

Batam Islands is recognized as a strategic area for the country's growth and development in the areas of industry, trade, tourism, regional authority expansion, and ship port location (Atik & M. Kesos, 2012). The coastal population is known as the Tribe because they often travel and carry out activities along the nomadic waters and start living on the coast of Batam Islands. There are those who do not fully benefit from the economic development of the Batam Islands due to intense competition, limited economic opportunities and lack of skills and education.

The government plays an important role in heightening fishermen's well-being, especially in the socioeconomic aspect. Government involvement needs to be professionally managed so that the life prosperity,
specifically those with low income, can be increased (Midgley, 1995). According to Aaron Hatcher (2000),
direct subsidies such as fish catching method, new equipment construction, and improvisation on fishing boats
can increase the life prosperity of fishers. Haris (2010) demonstrates that the distribution revenue and source
based on the community's need criteria is one of the strategies employed by administration in ensuring the
prosperity of the social community. Therefore, in order to sustain their well-being, these fishing communities
are often involved in informal economic activities that provide little income (Aini & Chamhuri, 2003). In
general, communities living in the Batam Islands are fishermen living in poverty due to the lack of marine
resources due to the insufficient infrastructure (Victor, 2001). According to Norizan (2003), the well-being of
life is divided into two categories: objective well-being and subjective well-being. Objective well-being
encompasses the needs of living derived from external factors such as income, housing and health while
subjective well-being is achieved through internal factors (Norizan, 2003).

Well-being can be broken down into two main aspects: economic well-being and social well-being (Nadira, 2015). Social well-being encompasses aspects of housing, social relations, administration, security, social engagement, culture, health, the environment, and family (Economic Planning Department, 2013).

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According to Yograj (2016), United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) has introduced three

development concepts that include the development of community well-being; (i) employment and income (ii)

education and (iii) health. Economic well-being encompasses transport, communication, income, and career

aspects (Department of Economic Planning, 2013). On the other hand, the role of the government plays an

important role in improving the welfare of fishermen. The involvement of this government needs to be

professionally managed in all aspects of well-being in order to improve the quality of human life (Midgley,

1995).

Realizing the needs of the Sea Nomads to intensify their well-being as a community, the government

has conducted many different transformational programmes and special aids physically and socially in order to

enhance their well-being. Various empowerment programmes which affect four main aspects, namely: (i)

economic, (ii) human resource, (iii) infrastructure, and (iv) culture have been arranged to create a Sea Nomads

community which can independently intensify their well-being without being fully dependent on the

government. Even though empowerment programmes which have been made available obtained active and

consistent participation by this community, this community is not able to continue to sustain these developments

based on the input obtained from programmes which have been conducted. Thus, this finding indirectly shows

that the programmes executed by the government is inadequate in achieving the desired goals.

III. METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study is a descriptive survey study. Survey research is a non-experimental research method

commonly used in the social sciences as it is able to obtain data simultaneously and directly from the study

respondents. Whereas results from data collection can be generalized to the study population (Chan Yan Piaw,

2006).

Sample and Population

The sample in this study involved 30 respondents working as fishermen at Bertam Island, Batam

Indonesia.

Instruments

The study instrument is a measurement instrument needed in a research project for the purpose of

conducting measurements on the study variables. This study will use the questionnaire form as a research

instrument. There are three parts to this questionnaire; Part A will measure the Respondents' Profile. There are

18 question items in this section namely gender, age group, education level, marital status, number of children,

and number of dependents. Part B deals with Life Welfare Assessment. This section contains 17 sections

consisting of 10 questions on fisherman's well-being from the social dimension and 7 questions on fisherman's

well-being from economic dimension. Part C deals with assessing the role of government. There are 13 items

covering the frequency of government involvement in developing the well-being of the Bertam Island.

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IV. RESULTS

The findings of the study show that the well-being of life is at a moderate level in terms of social and economic dimensions as well as the role of the government in improving the well-being of fishermen, who obtained the mean scores of 2.66, 2.60 and 2.55 respectively. In terms of social dimensions, clean water quality, new fishing gear and adequate infrastructure facilities are key indicators of the improved wellbeing of the Batam Island. In addition, from the economic dimension of recording the monthly savings, the catch is being sold at market prices and the marketing of the catch itself is a major factor in improving the welfare of fishermen. The government plays an important role in improving the well-being of a group of people. The higher the well-being, the better the development and prosperity are for the Batam Island community.

V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Table 1 shows the well-being of fishermen's life at the Bertam Island, Batam at a moderate level in terms of social and economic dimensions. This proves that fishermen's life at Bertam Island, Batam is still poor and unsatisfactory due to the lack of factors leading to the development of fisherman's well-beings such as income, household numbers and equipment technology. This finding is supported by Edy (2011) who states that traditional fishermen are still living below the poverty line where poverty, environmental and technological and socioeconomic conditions are at a low and too complex level.

Table 1 Summary of Study Objectives 1

Aspect	Well-being Level
Social	Moderate
Economic	Moderate
Role of Government	Moderate

Researchers summarized the findings from a descriptive analysis of the dimensions of the Bertam Island needs, as shown in Table 2. From the mean interpretation of each item to the social dimension, all items showed a mean value at a moderate level. Item B28, the provided infrastructure facility, had the latest mean value of 2.43. This indicates that the locals in Bertam Island, Batam are still lacking in basic and modern amenities such as transportation, health and electricity supply. Furthermore, item B25, which is the quality of water obtained in good condition, had a mean minimum reading of 2.83. This shows that the water quality of Bertam Island is well regulated. All items for the economic dimension give the mean value at a simple level. Item B29, which is the monthly income earned, has a minimum mean of 2.36. This explains that the monthly income of the respondents is low and unsatisfactory and requires careful observation and changes to make the life of the respondent more stable. In addition, the statement on the marketing of fishery products, item B34, had a mean reading of 2.7, which confirm that most respondents are self-employed fisheries and marine resources find higher sales and profitability and are worth their daily living.

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Table2 Summary of Study Objective 2

Aspect	Items with the Lowest	Item with the Highest
	Min Value	Min Value
Social	The infrastructure facilities provided are the newest	The quality of the water obtained in good condition.
Economic	Monthly income is sufficient.	Market their own fish catch

To study the role of the government in improving the well-being of Pulau Bertam fishermen, Batam Indonesia, a total of 13 items were studied and the high mean score recorded a statement regarding the assistance of basic fishing gear provided by the government such as fishing boats and nets to facilitate the fishermen's business to capture marine resources. According to Kakap (2017), the new fishing gear distributed to fishermen can enhance the well-being of fishermen, develop the national fishery sector and conserve marine resources to be marketed fairly and in accordance with established laws. In addition, helping in the form of advice provided by the government of Batam, Indonesia to fishermen helps to improve the productivity and availability of marine resources as well as the monthly income of fishermen and this indirectly enhances the well-being of the Batam Island Quarter. Table 3 shows the summary of the findings of the study objectives 3.

Table3 Summary of Study Objective 3

Aspect	The Highest	The Lowest
	Min Value	Min Value
	The supply of fishing equipment	The government did
	provided by the government was	control of fishing efforts.
	sufficient.	
	Help in the form of advice	The government should
	provided by the government.	provide access to fishermen.
	The government is helping in	The infrastructure provided
Role of	monitoring the fish price in the	by the government is
Government	market.	sufficient.
	The government should provide	Entrepreneurship training
	information on the law.	helps to increase the income
		of fishermen.
	Financial assistance by the	
	government can help ease the	
	burden of fishermen.	

Overall, the well-being of fishermen can be measured by the socio-economic dimensions and the role of government over time and should make living well as one of the benchmarks in monitoring the current development of the Batam Island.

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VI. RECOMMENDATION

For the improvement of future studies, the researcher proposes to 1) broaden the scope of the survey respondents to the entire Padang District; 2) broaden the scope of the study's variables that are believed to be significant contributors to the well-being of the fishermen community. In addition to practicality, the researcher proposes that 1) the government provide and enhance various skills training programs and courses that meet the needs and requirements of fishermen; 2) strengthening infrastructure development such as jetty for fisherman facilities; 3) conducting visits and monitoring the fishermen's association projects; 4) establishing cooperation between the government and several government agencies, programs such as the Fishermen's Association Economic Project Cluster; 5) providing advisory services at fisheries settlement areas; 6) Enhancing fisheries research and development programs.

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