

Dependence of the Fishery Community on Wholesaler in Tabanio Village Subdistrict Takisung, Tanah Laut Regency Province of South Borneo, Indonesia

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Abstract

This work was to evaluate the dependence of the fishery community on wholesaler in Tabanio village, sub district Takisung, Tanah Laut regency, province of Southern part of Borneo. Statistical analysis employed in this study was a chi-quadratics method. Based on theoretical frequency calculation of used variables showed that dependence of the fishery community on wholesaler was caused some factors as follows: the easy administration accounted for 40 percent, 32 percent went into non-capital belonging, and traditional behavior recorded by 40 percent, respectively. While types of loan obtained from wholesaler were, money loan and consumable goods accounted 35 percent and 33 percent and fishing equipment shared 32 percent, respectively. After quadratic chi analysis used, the t-statistical values resulted 7.36 and 7.16, which were larger than that 5 percent (5.99), whose they were indicative that wholesaler significantly influenced the fishery family.

Keywords: Fishery community, wholesaler, dependence, types of loan

1. Introduction

Traditional-fishing community is one of the largest social groups in Indonesia, which significantly contributed on Indonesia economy. However, poverty and low social welfare overrides to the most of that community. This problem does not only interfere of the national development in the field of fisheries and marine, but also will lead to social unrest and hinder the development of the quality of human resources to support development of the nation in the future (Kusnadi, 2003).

Studies, which have conducted on poverty fishing community, exhibited a clear picture of the life of those groups. The life of traditional fishery society showed that community has a high degree of vulnerability, that the people were easy to collapse with economy declining as previously illustrated work (Suyanto and Bagong, 1996).

The socio-economic conditions of the life the fishing community can be visualized from the quality of housing, income level, education level and pattern of daily consumption. Fishery villages are characterized by poor condition of their homes that generally reside on the beach. The houses are simple, woven bamboo walls, sandy dirty floor, leaf thatched roof, and limited ownership of household furniture. Meanwhile, the work is also limited with the condition of weather; the fishery family cannot carry out fishing activity when rainy season and fish catches decreases when full moon (Firth, Raimond, 1966).

At the time of fishing season, the fishery family obtains relatively large fish catches and usually gets a high profit. However, when the bad season, the fishermen's income declines extremely as they sometimes can not fulfill their basic need of the family. In addition, these communities have low knowledge how to manage their family finance in order to can survive in difficult time (Suyanto and Bagong, 1996). At the time of abundance, fishery family prefers to spend very much money to buy the needs of both primary and secondary. While, when the difficult time comes, the fishery family does not have enough money to purchase basic goods as fishermen's fish catches significantly decline even that is nothing (Ritzer and George, 1986).

These conditions previously described generate a certain relationship patterns between fishery family and wholesaler, which called Patron Client relationship that is very common among the local communities (Kusnadi, 2003). This relationship exists side by side and raises the dependence of fishery family on wholesaler who has big resources, money, fuels and other basic goods. Wholesaler provides resources including money as loan to fishery family when difficult time appears as fish catches decreases rapidly.

The facts show that the wholesaler usually be happy to help fulfill the request of fishing communities, such as money loan and basic needs so that fishery family is trapped by snare of wholesaler. In this case, patron client

relationship, fishery family is weak position in village society, organizational level and Village Corporative, locally called KUD, which should empower the fishing communities. The fishermen are directed to prolong indebted to wholesaler who actually reinforce their power to grow poverty as previously published work (Ritzer and George, 1986).

2. Literature Review

Poverty and socio-economic pressures faced by households causing fishery community were often forced to borrow money and essential goods to the middleman as previously described authors (Hanafi and Saefuddin, 1996).

Middleman is the one who provides the loan to fishermen. The interest rate of loan usually was based on an agreement between the fishermen and wholesaler. Fishery communities who got loans from brokers typically would utilize the loans for various purposes to meet basic needs and purchase for purposes of fishing (A Knight, 2001).

The fishermen were bound to wholesaler who lent some money and the borrower obliged to transfer, or to sell their fish catches to wholesaler whole. If fishermen terminated the agreement because of stopping, or in cooperation with other brokers, firstly, he obliged to pay the debts and its interest as previously agreed. The work system, which was bound between middleman and fishermen, was called *amba'a* as previously reported author (Kusnadi, 2003).

Authors, Hanafi and Saefuddin (1996) reported that loans from the wholesaler have some consequences, at least a three aspect of problems as follows:

- a. Since repayment was installment way, the loan borrowed was imposed high interest rates.
- b. Fishermen were required to sell their production to the lender if they not fulfill the term of conditions previously agreed.
- c. Products, fish catches should be sold to the lender as soon as possible. The fish could not be stored some time waiting for a better price.

The three aspects previously described, credit system were put traditional fishermen on a very weak bargaining position. Instead, the wholesaler, as a lender was very advantageous position, without providing an opportunity for fishermen to choose the favorable price of fish improving their living standards. In addition, the middleman was also able to show the best services to fishery groups maintaining of his existence, such as: In the borrowing process, the requirements set by wholesaler usually was easy and straightforward as well as it did not take long time getting loan.

1. Research Method

Locations were deliberately selected (*purposive sampling method*) considering Tabanio village whose people were still bound strongly to the wholesaler. The data used were primary data obtained from the surveys and interviews. While, samples taken including fishermen, who have dependence with the middleman employed simple random sampling.

The variables used in this work covered the factors causing the dependence of fishery communities to wholesaler and dependent pattern of fishery society on lender. While the analysis tools used were statistical test, chi-square (χ^2), which firstly was calculated the theoretical frequency or expected frequency. Theoretical frequency meets when sex differences are absent and determined by using formula as previously proposed report (Singarimbun, 1989):

$$Ft_{ax} = \frac{KaxBx}{t} \quad (1)$$

To obtain value of chi-square, χ^2 were employed as previously used work (Singarimbun, 1989) :

$$\chi^2 = \sum \left[\frac{(fo - ft)^2}{ft} \right] \quad (2)$$

Where, χ^2 are value of chi-square; f_o and f_t are frequency obtained from survey and theoretical frequency, respectively.

To determine whether the results obtained were significant, degree of freedom was calculated. If the χ^2 value obtained is equal to or larger than the degrees of freedom contained in χ^2 distribution table, the result is significant. Significant level chosen was set at 5 percent and 1 percent. The degree of freedom was determined by using a formula:

$$dk = (k - 1)(b - 1) \quad (3)$$

Where, dk is value of degree of freedom; k and b are number of columns and rows.

4. Result And Discussion

Figure 1 illustrates the main reasons (in percent) of capital-dependence of fishermen on wholesaler. The easy administration offered by wholesaler accounted 40 percent, which was the highest percentage, non-capital recorded 32 percent and 28 percent went into traditional custom that was the least contribution.

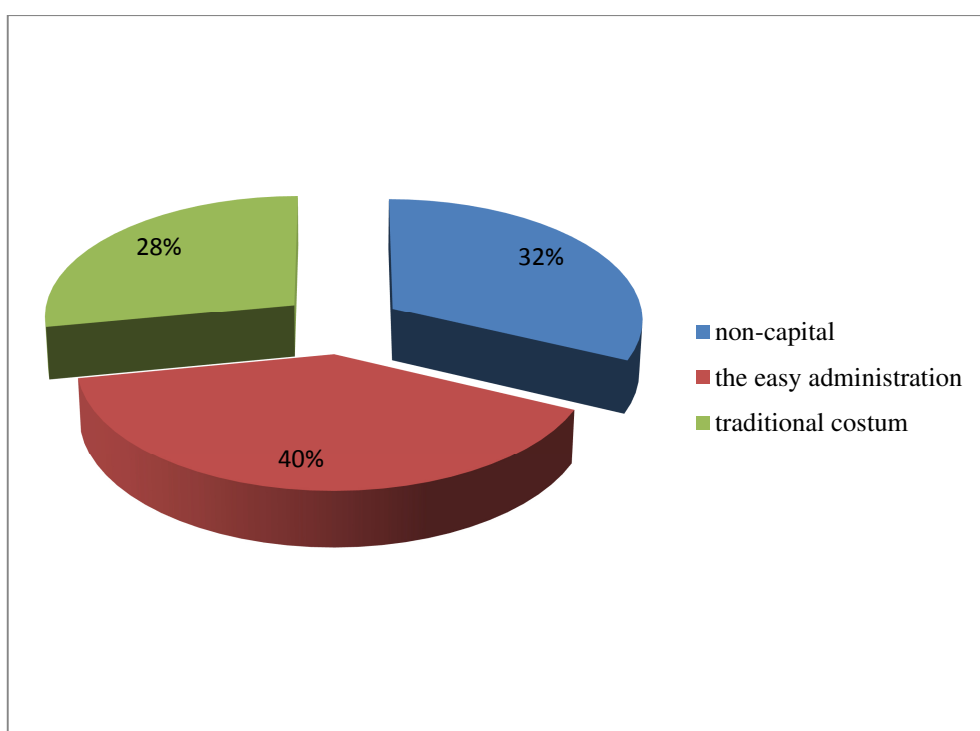


Figure 1. The main reason percentage of dependence the fishery communities on wholesaler.

The finding found when fishery groups proposed to borrow money wholesaler quickly responded the request by providing capital with easy administration. Usually social relation wholesaler and fisherman were the top requirements that must be met prior to disbursement of money. The better of relation wholesaler and fisherman was the easier of process to disburse the money. The discussion about the payment agreement was so short that it took only minutes. The main point was that wholesaler usually required fishermen to sell their fish catches to middlemen who provided loans.

This phenomenon, fishery community borrowed money to middlemen in the village Tabanio was a strong bond, that it generally maintained the interests of both parties. Therefore, it was quite difficult breaking patron client relationship so the fishery community could be liberated of middlemen snares.

Figure 2 describes the types of loan borrowed by fishermen to wholesaler. The money was accounted as much as 35 percent, which the biggest part and lower slightly than that fish catch equipment and other loan recorded 32 percent and 33 percent, respectively. In general, the fishermen who borrowed money to middlemen has a low socioeconomic level since they borrowed money to meet household needs as well as for fishing operations.

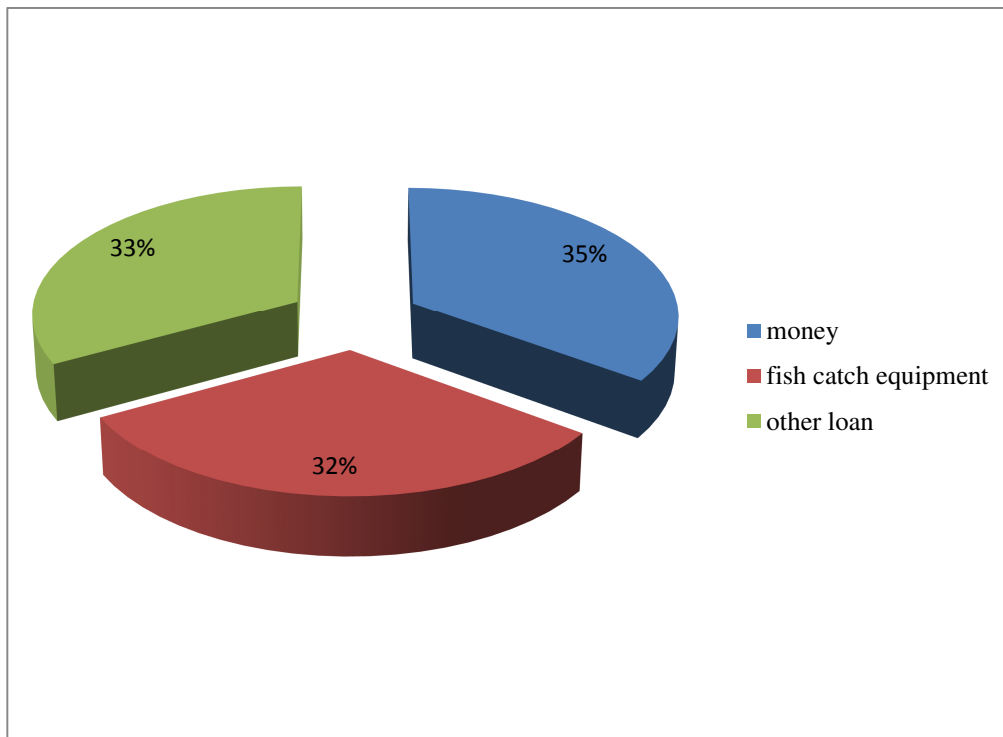


Figure 2. Types of loans requested fishermen to wholesaler.

Financially, this loan actually gave a lot of harm to fishery communities that they remain trapped in the poverty line. Other types of loan were usually in the form of fuels, diesel, kerosene and household needs recorded 33 percent. Thirty-two percent loans went to fishing equipment given wholesaler to fishery communities adding burden weight of those groups. Fishing gear loan was requested fishermen to wholesaler since its price was expensive so those groups were not able to purchase the catch apparatus. In the village Tabanio, boats and fishing gear mostly belonged to wholesaler operated by fishermen based on agreement as previously described.

Author proposed solutions to overcome such conditions that trapped fishery community in poverty for years. It was necessary to empower traditional fishery community through partnership with building a sustainable socio-economic partnership of fishery communities called plasma core. The pattern of plasma core partnership in the context of socio-economic development was the relationship fishermen as plasma with companies in the field of marine and fisheries as the core.

In this partnership, companies have a responsibility providing fishing equipment, building fishing capacity and storage, and developing the business management, production, acquisition and improving the technology so that efficiency and productivity increased. While fishermen have a responsibility to give value in the form of efficiency and lower production cost for the company.

It also was overcome by designing the coastal areas as a new alternative for the development of a wide range of businesses developing cooperative for fisheries community. Cooperative membership should also include all those who participated in the fishing business, fishermen and farmers. The area of fishing cooperative should not be limited to the purchase of boats and fishing equipment, fish processing and marketing but also included the low interest credit and the welfare of the members.

The fishery communities should be improved their technological ability, the business management knowledge in order to develop the economy of coastal communities. As time goes by the coastal communities gradually appears to be "the power of the blue economy" which increases the economic growth in Indonesia.

Based on data as shown in Figure 1 and 2, it was found the values of chi-square, χ^2 presented in Table 1. Values of chi-square were of 7.36 and 7.16, which were greater than that 5 percent (5.99) recorded in statistical table. It was indicative that the presence of influential variables significantly affected to the dependence of fishery communities on with middlemen.

Table 1. The results of chi-square values, χ^2 .

No.	Variable	dk	χ^2
1.	Reason of dependence of fishery community on wholesaler	2	7.36
2.	Types of loan requested to wholesaler	2	7.16

5. Conclusion And Suggestion

5.1. Conclusion

The presence of wholesaler was a complex phenomenon and has lasted for long time operating around coastal area in some parts in South Borneo. Retardation fisherman's life has been brought into a fishing community depending on the existence of wholesaler. Since fishery communities fought for the survival, they sold fish catches to wholesaler with low price because of loan. For patron client relationship, fishery communities-wholesaler strongly bound each other, fishermen obliged to sell the whole of the fish catches to wholesaler. If fishermen terminated the agreement, firstly they should fulfill their obligation paying off their debts.

Credit system imposed to fishery community strengthened wholesalers in an advantageous position, for they monopolize the trade of fish with unfavorable prices for fishery group side. Some of reasons, which led to the dependence of fishing communities with middlemen were fishermen, did not have the resources. Furthermore, the administrative process of loan request was easy to realize and traditional habit added the dependence of fishery society on wholesalers. While types of loan borrowed were dominated by money, fishing apparatus, fuels and other basic goods for household purposes.

5.2. Suggestion

To reduce the dependence of fishery communities on wholesaler was as follows: fishery communities were advised to develop a culture saving their money when they were in abundant season for fishing so that they could survive during unfavorable weather. Banks, marine companies and village cooperatives should provide low interest loan to fishery communities in the form of plasma-core partnership.

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