

TOWARDS SELF RELIANCE COASTAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT OF MARINE AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

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Introduction

Poverty level continuously declines every year in Indonesia, but it remains relatively high in the early 2010, which is reported at 13.33 %, above the expected value at 11 % (Figure 1). If the total population is more than 240 billion, it means that more than 31 million people are still living under poverty line. It is believed that 32 % of coastal communities are among the poorest (SEMERU, 2001).

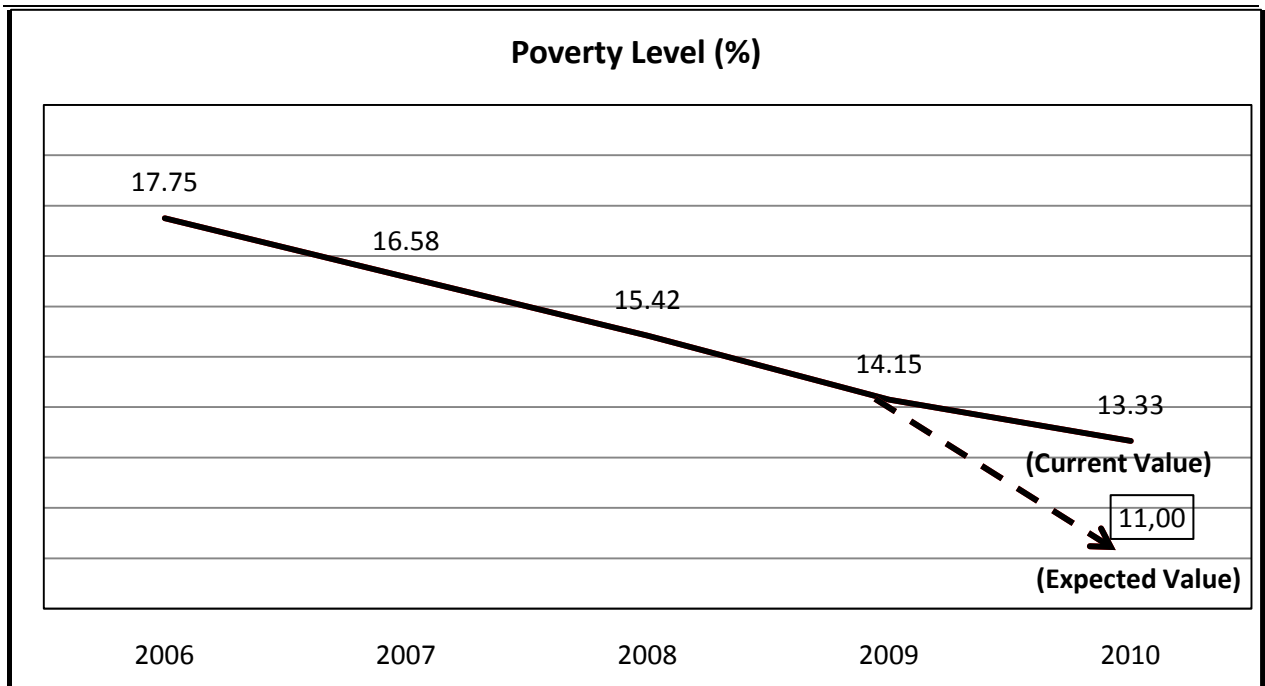


Figure 1. Trend of Poverty Level in Indonesia

The aforementioned poverty problem has long been a national concern since they are facing *basic need scarcity*. As the biggest archipelagic country with more than 17,500 islands and 95,141 km coast-line, supported by tropical weather and rich marine biodiversity, Indonesian rich resources suppose to provide prosperity to the coastal communities.

To cope with the mentioned problem, a systematic effort to bring coastal community into a better welfare has been taken since 2001 with a national program called *Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Masyarakat Pesisir (PEMP)* or Coastal Community Economic Empowerment Program. The PEMP Program had been carried out in three phases of empowerment during 2001-2008. The first phase is called as Initiation Period, when coastal community groups set up micro finance institutions for economic empowerment (LEPP-M3 : *Lembaga Ekonomi Pemberdayaan Pesisir Mikro Mitra Mina*). The LEPP-M3 managed natural resources for coastal community economic empowerment. The second phase is Institutionalization Period which was indicated by formalization of LEPP-M3 become fisher cooperatives. The third phase is called as Diversification Period, in which the fisher cooperatives diversified their business units into micro enterprises. Within eight years performance (2009), the PEMP Program has resulted 256 micro finance units, 230 fuel suppliers for fishers, and 191 mini coastal shops. In 2009 all empowerment efforts in marine and fisheries sector are integrated into PNPMM-KP mechanism.

PNPM Mandiri Principles

Poverty alleviation is implemented in three clusters. The first cluster is Social Protection and Assistance Program which aims to reduce burdened expenses of poor households. The first cluster has been carried out under several sub-programs such as: cash and rice distributions for poor people, health insurance, and scholarship aid. Second cluster is Community Empowerment Program which aims to improve capability and increase poor people income. PNPM Mandiri (-KP included) is operated under this second cluster. Third cluster is occupied by Small and Micro Enterprise Empowerment Program which aims to increase number of saving and loan, and assure business performance. Some credit schemes such as KUR (*Kredit Usaha Rakyat – SME's and Cooperatives Credit Scheme*) and KKP-E (*Kredit Ketahanan Pangan dan Energi – Food Security and Energy Credit Scheme*) are carried out under this third cluster (Tim Pengendali PNPM Mandiri 2007).

The idea of clusterisation is to implement poverty alleviation program in a sequence of consistent activities which may lead people into better self-reliance. This become a principle of any program under the clusters including the PNPM M-KP. PNPM M-KP is therefore implemented with bottom-up approach, which means the projects should be planned, implemented, and controlled by the community themselves. Under these principles, the motto of PNPMM is “helping the poor to help themselves”. As a consequence of the clustering systems, people should be able to reach higher level of cluster after a certain period of empowerment program.

Implementation of PNPM M-KP

In 2009-2010, the PNPMM-KP program is allocated within 33 Provinces in Indonesia, which covers 120 coastal districts/municipals. They are selected from more than 305 coastal districts/municipals in the country by their potentials, their conformity with national marine and fisheries priority programs, local government enthusiasm, ect. In every district or municipality, the local Marine Affairs and Fisheries Agency selects one sub-district, and then chooses one to three villages in the selected sub-district as the site(s) of PNPMM-KP. An “executing team” called as Empowerment Team was established in every district or municipality. The executing

team composes of representatives from: (a) district fisheries service officers, (b) district planning board officer (*Bappeda*), (c) sub-district officer, (d) village officer, and (e) prominent figure.

Empowerment Team may invite any relevant party to identify the district potency, conduct need assesment, define priority activities to be financed, select community group(s) to be involved. Professional consultants and extension workers were hired to facilitate the team for best and appropriate results. The Government also gives opportunity to any complaint from targeted community for the implementation of PNPMM-KP mechanism.

In order to achieve the PNPMM principles to bring coastal community into better self-reliance, four financial components given to every district :

- Planning for coastal management & fisheries, as a result of the Empowerment Team guided by consultant and extension worker(s)
- Infrastructure for community facilitation, small scale infrastructure to facilitate the activities in relevant village(s)
- Strengthening local institutions and coastal communities, the capacity building for both local officers and the beneficiaries groups.
- Community business development (specific block grant), “seed fund” to accelerate small-scale business within marine and fisheries sector

PNPMM-KP is implemented based on application of proposal(s) from the beneficiaries group(s). Empowerment Team assess the communities’ proposals and selects the most appropriate ones, and pass on the selected ones to the District Marine and Fisheries Agency. Then, this Agency decides the proposal(s) and group(s) which considered being the most eligible to be financed by PNPMM-KP mechanism. The target group will then open an account at local bank to accept fund transferred from Local State Treasury (Direktorat PMP, 2010). The implementation of this mechanism is shown in the Figure 2 below.

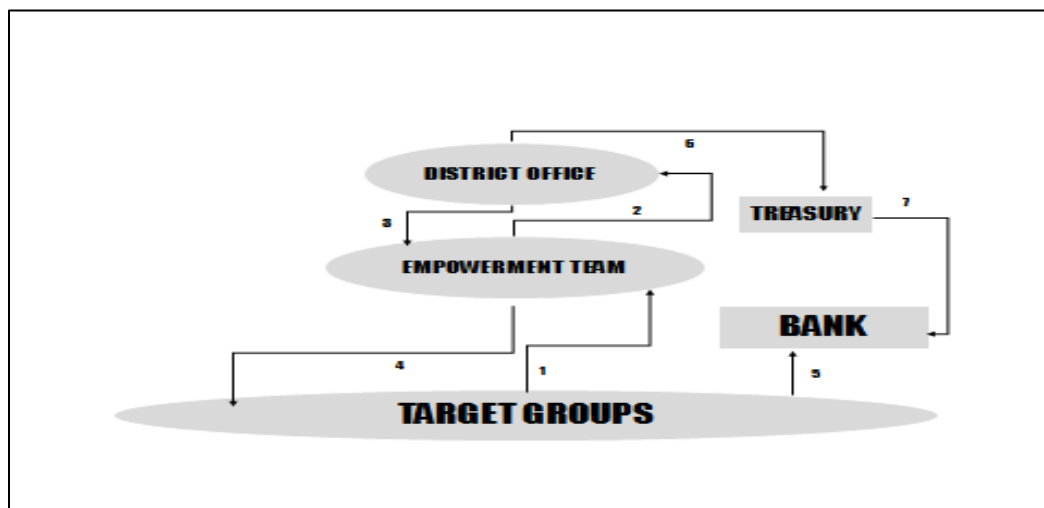


Figure 2. PNPMM-KP Mechanism

Legend :

- 1 – application of proposal from community group
- 2 – submission of appropriate proposal from Empowerment Team
- 3 – decision from District Marine and Fisheries Office
- 4 – announcement of the final decision by Empowerment Team
- 5 – target groups open bank account
- 6 – District MAF Office fund application to Local State Treasury
- 7 – Money transferred from Treasury

Result and Discussion

In the year 2009 and 2010 PNPM M-KP is allocated for 120 Districts/Municipals, 57 in western part (Java and Sumatera) and 63 in eastern part of the country. Selected menu of activities by target groups could be grouped as Capture Fisheries (47.24 %), Aquaculture (35.30 %), Fish Processing and Marketing (10.93 %), and Small-scale Coastal Support Infrastructure (5.30 %) (Direktorat PMP, 2009). If we look at selected menu in each part of the country, we find that the proportion may depends on its natural resource potency and/or the skill or experience of the community, as shown on Table 1 below.

Table 1. Proportion of Selected Menu of PNPM-KP in West and East Indonesia

No	Menu	Proportion (%)		
		Western	Eastern	Total
1	Capture Fisheries	39.86	54.62	47.24
2	Aquaculture	39.22	31.37	35.30
3	Processing and Marketing	13.26	8.59	10.93
4	Coastal Infrastructure	8.09	2.06	5.30

Table 1 above shows that in the eastern Indonesia, capture fisheries is the main preference, while in the western Indonesia the preference is towards aquaculture. Furthermore, community preference shows that within the capture fisheries menu, coastal community in western Indonesia like to have fishing gears then followed by fishing vessels. On contrary, fishers in eastern Indonesia prefer to choose fishing vessels than fishing gear. On aquaculture, coastal communities in western Indonesia like to do freshwater aquaculture such as catfish, tilapia, kissing gouramy, followed by milkfish and seaweed farming. In eastern Indonesia, the coastal community like to cultivate seaweed, followed by milkfish and shrimp culture.

Conclusion

- a) Coastal communities are still considered as *poverty pouches* in Indonesia, with 32 % of them are living under poverty line
- b) Various programs have been implemented, including PNPM, which is currently being a national program on poverty alleviation

- c) PNPM M-KP, as the implementation of PNPM in marine and fisheries sector, has shown the coastal community preferences on developing their business, that should be considered on future policies decision on marine and fisheries development.

Direktorat PMP, 2009. *Program nasional pemberdayaan masyarakat mandiri kelautan dan perikanan/PNPM M-KP* (Database of national program for self reliance empowering coastal community). Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Jakarta.

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