

Empowerment of Coastal Community's Social and Economic in Bima Regency, Indonesia

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Abstract: *The purpose of this study was to determine the socio-economic empowerment strategy of the coastal community of Bima Regency. This study used the descriptive qualitative method. The location of this research is the Department of Tourism, the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, and the Department of the Environment of Bima Regency. The results of the study indicate that in the socio-economic empowerment of coastal communities, the District Government of Bima implements a community empowerment program in controlling and controlling marine fisheries resources by forming Pokmaswas. In addition, empowerment is also carried out through the coastal community economic empowerment program (PEMP) in realizing a fishing community that has the motivation, skills, and broad insight and is able to understand in a group forum through programs to improve and develop, process and quality fishery products, develop fishing and fishing business sectors. cultivation and fishery product processing business. Also assistance for the Empowerment of the People's Salt Business (PUGAR). Empowerment is also carried out from the tourism sector, especially in supporting the SAKOSA priority program through the development of the Creative Economy (Ekraf) in boosting the economy of coastal communities. In addition, there is also a Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis) for coastal communities formed to create partnerships in the development, arrangement, maintenance, and promotion of tourism in Bima Regency.*

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INTRODUCTION

Coastal development in Indonesia faces significant challenges due to the conflicting interests among various stakeholders (Arifanti et al., 2022). These stakeholders include government agencies, private companies, local communities, and NGOs (Bendell, 2017). Each of these groups has different priorities, interests, and goals regarding the utilization and management of coastal resources (Rosyida et al., 2018), which often leads to conflicts and disagreements.

One of the reasons for this conflict is the lack of a clear legal framework that governs coastal development (Kim et al., 2016; Muawanah et al., 2021). There are several laws and regulations that address coastal development, such as the Coastal and Small Islands Management Act, the Law on Fisheries, and the Environmental Protection and Management Act (Muawanah et al., 2018). However, these laws and regulations are not always clear, and their enforcement is often inadequate. This lack of clarity and

enforcement has resulted in confusion and disputes among stakeholders, leading to suboptimal coastal development.

Another factor that contributes to conflicts in coastal development is the lack of stakeholder engagement in decision-making processes (Susman et al., 2021). Often, stakeholders are not consulted or involved in the decision-making process pre prosperous (Lawelai & Nurmandi, 2022), which can lead to disagreements and mistrust. This is particularly true for local communities, whose livelihoods depend on coastal resources, but who are often excluded from the decision-making process (Towner, 2018). This exclusion can result in resistance and opposition to coastal development projects.

Furthermore, coastal development often prioritizes economic benefits over environmental and social considerations (Nurhidayah & McIlgorm, 2019). This prioritization can result in the overexploitation of coastal resources, habitat destruction, and pollution. These impacts can have significant negative consequences for coastal ecosystems, biodiversity, and the livelihoods of coastal communities. In some cases, the environmental and social costs of coastal development can outweigh the economic benefits, leading to long-term consequences.

To address these challenges, there is a need for an integrated approach to coastal development that takes into account social, economic, and environmental factors (Nurhidayah & McIlgorm, 2019). This approach requires the involvement and cooperation of all stakeholders, including local communities, private companies, and government agencies. The involvement of stakeholders can promote transparency, build trust, and ensure that the development meets the needs and priorities of all stakeholders.

One way to promote stakeholder engagement is through participatory planning and decision-making processes. Participatory planning involves involving all stakeholders in the planning process, including identifying and prioritizing the needs and goals of each group (Damayanti & Syarifuddin, 2020). This approach can promote consensus-building and result in more sustainable coastal development projects that meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Another way to promote sustainable coastal development is through the use of sustainable development practices. Sustainable development practices take into account social, economic, and environmental factors and aim to minimize the negative impacts of coastal development (Surya et al., 2021). These practices include sustainable fishing practices, the use of renewable energy sources, and the implementation of eco-friendly tourism practices. By using sustainable development practices, coastal development can promote economic growth while minimizing its impact on the environment and local communities.

Finally, effective governance and enforcement of regulations are crucial for promoting sustainable coastal development. Effective governance requires clear laws and regulations that are enforced and monitored (Joseph Joseph et al., 2016). It also requires the involvement of all stakeholders in the decision-making process and the establishment of mechanisms for resolving conflicts. By ensuring effective governance and enforcement, coastal development can be managed sustainably, and conflicts can be minimized.

Moreover, there are also initiatives to involve local communities and empower them to take part in managing coastal resources (Stacey et al., 2019). This approach recognizes the importance of local knowledge and expertise in the sustainable use and management of coastal resources. Through community-based management, local communities can take ownership of the coastal resources and become active stakeholders in their conservation and management.

Another approach to sustainable coastal development is the adoption of green technologies and practices (Zain et al., 2022). This includes the use of renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, in coastal development projects. The implementation of green infrastructure, such as coastal vegetation and wetlands, can also help mitigate the impacts of climate change and improve the resilience of coastal ecosystems.

In addition, sustainable tourism development can also promote coastal conservation and provide economic benefits to local communities (Purwanti et al., 2021). This approach involves the development of eco-tourism activities that support the conservation of natural and cultural resources, while providing local employment opportunities and income generation.

However, there are still challenges in implementing sustainable coastal development practices in Indonesia (Fatimah et al., 2020). One of these challenges is the lack of financial resources and capacity to implement sustainable coastal development projects (Stacey et al., 2021). This is compounded by the limited technical expertise and knowledge in sustainable coastal development among local communities and government agencies.

Another challenge is the inadequate coordination and collaboration among stakeholders involved in coastal development (Rosendo et al., 2018). This leads to overlapping responsibilities, ineffective decision-making processes, and conflicting interests. To address these challenges, there is a need for stronger partnerships and collaborations among stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, NGOs, and private companies.

Bima Regency is located in the eastern part of Indonesia and is known for its abundant coastal resources (Fajar & Ifantri, 2021). However, despite the potential of these resources, the coastal communities in the area face several challenges in achieving social and economic development. The purpose of this study is to identify effective strategies that could empower the coastal communities in Bima Regency to achieve self-sufficiency.

The study examines the socio-economic factors that hinder community empowerment in the coastal areas. The lack of access to education and healthcare, limited job opportunities, and insufficient infrastructure are some of the challenges faced by the communities. Additionally, the lack of community participation in decision-making processes and inadequate implementation of regulations for sustainable coastal development further compound the issues faced by the communities.

To address these issues, the study identifies several strategies that could promote socio-economic empowerment of the coastal communities. The first strategy involves

promoting community participation in decision-making processes. The study emphasizes the importance of involving the local communities in the planning and implementation of coastal development initiatives. This approach recognizes the value of local knowledge and traditional practices in managing coastal resources and ensures that the development initiatives are aligned with the needs and aspirations of the communities.

The second strategy is to promote sustainable practices in coastal development. The study emphasizes the need for regulations that govern coastal development to be enforced effectively to ensure sustainable practices. This includes implementing sustainable fishing practices and establishing marine protected areas to promote the conservation of marine resources. By implementing sustainable practices, the study aims to minimize the impact of coastal development on the environment and preserve the resources for future generations.

The third strategy is to promote the development of infrastructure that supports economic activities in the coastal areas. Private sector involvement in coastal development could contribute to the development of infrastructure, such as ports and marinas, that support economic activities in the area. The study emphasizes the importance of private companies implementing sustainable practices in their operations to minimize their impact on the environment while contributing to economic development.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study utilized a qualitative method to identify strategies (Gaikwad, 2017), for empowering coastal communities in Bima Regency to achieve social and economic development. The study was conducted from July to August 2021, with the research locations at the Department of Tourism, the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and the Department of Environment in Bima Regency. These locations were strategically chosen to examine case studies and existing issues related to the research. The study used purposive sampling to select its research subjects, which included the Head of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, the Head of the Department of Tourism, the Head of the Department of Environment, Coastal Monitoring Community Groups, Farmer Groups, Coastal Communities, and the Creative Economy Community (EKRAF).

Data collection techniques consisted of observation, interviews, and documentation (Moser & Korstjens, 2018). After collecting complete data from the field, the next stage involved analyzing the data using the interactive data analysis model. According to Miles and Huberman, the technique includes three main steps: data reduction, data display, and conclusion verification.

The study aimed to identify the socio-economic factors that hinder community empowerment and effective strategies that could be implemented to address these issues. The findings of the study are expected to contribute to the overall development and well-being of the coastal communities in Bima Regency. The study recognized the importance of community participation in decision-making processes and the implementation of sustainable practices for the promotion of community empowerment.

The research subjects were carefully selected to provide diverse insights into the coastal communities' social and economic development. The Head of the Department of Marine and Fisheries provided information on the sustainable management of marine resources, while the Head of the Department of Tourism gave insights into the promotion of coastal tourism. The Head of the Department of Environment provided information on the implementation of environmental policies and regulations in coastal areas. The Coastal Monitoring Community Groups provided insights into the traditional practices and knowledge of coastal resource management. The Farmer Groups provided information on the potential of coastal resources in agriculture, while the Creative Economy Community (EKRAF) provided insights into the potential of creative industries for coastal economic development.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research data was obtained from direct interviews with the Head of the Marine and Fisheries Agency, Tourism Agency, Environmental Agency, Coastal Community Watch Group (Pokmaswas), Non-Governmental Organizations, and coastal communities, Pugar Farmer Group, and Creative Economy Communities (Ekraf) in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province. To determine the informants in this study, the researcher considered their ability, knowledge, attention, involvement, and presence in the coastal areas of Bima Regency. In addition, data were also obtained from documents related to coastal community empowerment programs.

Overall, this study had more male informants than female informants. The researcher did not give much consideration to the aspect of female representation, and the male informants were more willing to be interviewed than female informants. There were 79% male informants, while female informants accounted for only 21%.

Based on the research findings, there were 64 coastal villages with a total of 14,201 people who worked as fishermen. However, some of them still used traditional boats to catch fish, which amounted to 1,203 boats. Meanwhile, those who already used motorized boats and ships were 1,317 and 1,907 units, respectively. In addition, there were 2,838 households engaged in coastal aquaculture businesses, but the number of underprivileged households in the coastal areas was still high, indicating weaknesses in the social and economic development of the community in Bima Regency.

Coastal areas play a vital role in the economic growth of many regions. In Indonesia, coastal districts often have a higher level of economic activity due to the abundance of natural resources and opportunities for trade and commerce. However, despite the potential for economic growth, many coastal communities continue to face issues related to poverty and inequality. In Bima Regency, for example, there are significant disparities in the prosperity of families living in coastal areas. The following table provides a comparison of the number of prosperous and underprivileged families in different coastal districts of Bima Regency.

Sub District	Number of Prosperous Families	Number of Pre-Prosperous Families
Wera	416	174
Ambalawi	446	302
Woha	316	243
Palibelo	220	143
Monta	237	147
Parado	358	271
Bolo	172	145
Bima	336	289
Mpunda	135	101
Donggo	394	311
Sape	274	239
Totals	3,364	2,516

Source: BPS Bima Regency, 2021

The table provides information on the number of prosperous and underprivileged families in each coastal district of Bima Regency. It is evident from the table that some districts have a higher number of underprivileged families compared to others. For instance, Ambalawi and Parado have a significantly higher number of underprivileged families than other districts.

In conclusion, the research aimed to identify strategies that could empower coastal communities in Bima Regency to achieve social and economic development. The study utilized a qualitative descriptive method and collected data through observation, interviews, and documentation. The research found that there were several challenges hindering community empowerment, including the high number of underprivileged households in coastal areas. Therefore, the study proposed effective strategies to address these issues, including promoting community participation in decision-making processes and ensuring sustainable practices. The research findings can contribute to the overall development and well-being of the coastal communities in Bima Regency.

Empowerment reflects equitable sharing of power to increase political awareness or the power of weak groups and to increase their influence on the development process and outcomes (Purnamawati & Utama, 2019). Empowerment also reflects principles such as consultation, delegation of power, community control, information exchange, and partnership.

The main goal of managing coastal and small island resources in the Bima Regency is social and economic empowerment, particularly of coastal communities (Khaerah et al., 2020). Social and economic empowerment is a planned social change process designed to empower and improve the standard of living of coastal communities, equipped with economic development processes.

Thus, along with all stakeholders, including Non-Governmental Organizations, communities, and coastal communities, roles are shared in planning and influencing policies, implementation, and evaluation, for the management, exploration, exploitation, and conservation of coastal resources in the Bima Regency (Munawar et al., 2021). That requires the role of multi-stakeholders in management, the Regional Government, between sectors, between terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and between science and management, must be able to collaborate in coordinating planning, utilization, supervision, and control of coastal resources in the Bima Regency.

The involvement of all elements as the embodiment of democratic participatory management of coastal resources will be able to identify, codify, and share knowledge, which can then be used by decision-makers, in this case, the Regional Government, as a reference for managing coastal areas in the Bima Regency. This is because it is realized that conflicts of interest involving the Government, between sectors, coastal communities, Non-Governmental Organizations, communities, and entrepreneurs, arise due to different perspectives in managing coastal resources.

Here are the strategies of the Regional Government in efforts to empower the social-economic of coastal communities by mapping and zoning plans in coastal areas. Mapping and guidance for the development of management systems in the coastal area of Bima Regency are carried out by adjusting to the potential of the area. In accordance with the Bima Regency Regional Regulation Number 2 of 2013 concerning Zoning and Management Plan of Coastal and Small Islands, among others:

- a) The Sanggar area and its surroundings with a development direction as a center for capture fisheries, marine cultivation, iron sand mining, and tourism activities.
- b) The Teluk Bima area covering the districts of Palibelo, Woha, Bolo, Soromandi and its surroundings with a development direction for marine cultivation, brackish water cultivation, salt ponds, tourism, and a strategic district area.
- c) The Sape and Lambu areas and its surroundings with a development direction for capture fisheries, marine cultivation, brackish water cultivation, tourism, conservation, and iron sand mining.
- d) The Teluk Waworada area and its surroundings with a development direction as a center for capture fisheries, marine cultivation, brackish water cultivation, conservation, marine tourism, and cultural tourism.
- e) The Ambalawi and Wera North Coast areas and its surroundings with a development direction as a center for capture fisheries, marine cultivation, tourism, and iron sand mining.
- f) The Soromandi North Coast area and its surroundings with a development direction as a center for capture fisheries, marine cultivation, tourism, and iron sand mining.
- g) The Tambora North Coast area with a development direction as a center for marine cultivation, capture fisheries, tourism, and conservation activities.
- h) Development of brackish water (pond) aquaculture in the districts of Langgudu, Monta, Bolo, Soromandi, Woha, Palibelo, Wera, Sape, Lambu, and Sanggar.
- i) Development of marine aquaculture in the districts of Langgudu, Wera, Sape, Lambu, and Sanggar.

The Regional Government of Bima Regency has implemented strategies to empower the social-economic conditions of coastal communities. One of the strategies is the mapping and zoning plans for coastal areas. The government has conducted mapping and guidance to develop management systems in the coastal area of Bima Regency by adjusting to the potential of each area. This effort is in line with the Bima Regency Regional Regulation Number 2 of 2013 concerning Zoning and Management Plan of Coastal and Small Islands.

The zoning plan covers several areas, including Sanggar, Teluk Bima, Sape, Lambu, Teluk Waworada, Ambalawi, Wera North Coast, Soromandi North Coast, and Tambora North Coast. Each area has a specific development direction, such as capture fisheries, marine cultivation, brackish water cultivation, tourism, conservation, and iron sand mining. The government also plans to develop brackish water (pond) aquaculture and marine aquaculture in several districts, including Langgudu, Monta, Bolo, Soromandi, Woha, Palibelo, Wera, Sape, Lambu, and Sanggar.

The government's efforts to empower the social-economic conditions of coastal communities through mapping and zoning plans are crucial to ensure sustainable development. The mapping and zoning plans will allow the government to identify the potential of each area and develop management systems accordingly. The development direction for each area, including capture fisheries, marine cultivation, brackish water cultivation, tourism, conservation, and iron sand mining, can help create new job opportunities and increase income for the local community.

However, the government should also consider the environmental impact of the development plans. The development of iron sand mining and other industries could have adverse effects on the environment, such as pollution and habitat destruction. Therefore, the government should implement sustainable practices in the development process, such as using eco-friendly technologies and enforcing regulations to prevent environmental damage. Overall, the mapping and zoning plans for coastal areas in Bima Regency are a positive step towards empowering coastal communities and achieving sustainable development.

In socio-economic empowerment of coastal communities, the Government of Bima Regency through the Department of Marine and Fisheries carries out a community empowerment program in monitoring and controlling marine resources. This program aims to increase awareness and understanding of the community in preserving the sustainability of the fisheries and marine ecosystem by forming a community monitoring group (Pokmaswas).

The existence of Pokmaswas, besides monitoring the biological and non-biological resources of marine and fisheries, also helps in providing data on the distribution of coral reefs, both damaged and still in good condition, assisting the government in conducting patrol activities, monitoring and supervising marine and fisheries resources, as well as managing the sustainability of coastal ecosystems and environments, including mangrove rehabilitation. For the latter activity, the Department of Marine and Fisheries, as well as the Environmental Agency, also empowers foster groups, namely coastal communities who have undergone training in mangrove planting and rehabilitation.

The existence of POKMASWAS as field-level supervisory implementers will assist the government in efforts to raise legal awareness through socialization and implementation of the 4M principle (See/Hear, Record, and Report) (Nasution, et al., 2018).

Meanwhile, from an economic empowerment perspective, the Department of Marine and Fisheries through the Coastal Community Economic Empowerment Program (PEMP) aims to create a fishing community that is motivated, skilled, broad-minded, and

capable of working together in a group. Through institutional coaching of fishermen and coastal communities, as well as the mentoring of the People's Salt Business Empowerment (PUGAR) and fisheries cooperation, the existence of this group is intended to increase recognition of superior fisheries products and foster motivation and cooperation among coastal fishing communities to excel in groups in the coastal areas of Bima Regency.

In 2021, the statistical data of Bima Regency's capture fisheries was 78,228.50 tons, and 130,391.40 tons of aquaculture. To support this potential, the Department of Marine and Fisheries through the program of improving and developing production, processing, and quality of fishery products, carries out efforts to develop fishing, aquaculture, and fishery product processing businesses.

Based on the annual report of the UPT of the Bima Regency Department of Marine and Fisheries, the largest fish product produced in Bima Regency is tuna, with a production of 6,500 tons in 2020. In addition, there are also several other types of fish produced, such as mackerel, scads, and Spanish mackerel. Fish production in Bima Regency continues to increase from year to year with the development programs of fish cultivation carried out by the local government and private parties.

In tourism management in the coastal areas and small islands of Bima Regency, the government emphasizes the spirit of Creative Economy (Ekraf) development to support the priority program of SAKOSA (Sangiang, Komodo, and Sape). The program of providing and empowering Creative Economy Gazebos and Kiosks is carried out in response to the initiative of the Creative Economy Community in Wera District, who even donated their land in the coastal mainland area to support the tourism infrastructure development program. It is important to note that in addition to entering the Regional Revenue (PAD), there is also revenue sharing with the coastal communities from the tourism income.

The coastal tourism areas and small islands in Bima Regency are almost always accessible thanks to fish farming entrepreneurs. The presence of fish farms in the coastal area has opened up pioneer routes (access roads) to tourism areas that were previously not the government's attention, so they can be accessed by the public. In addition, fish farms have also exposed new tourism areas in the coastal and small islands in Bima Regency such as Lariti Beach, Mata Mboko Beach, Torowamba Beach, Pink Beach, Coconut Island, and Wane Beach.

The Coastal Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis) of coastal communities was formed by the Bima Regency Tourism Office to realize partnerships in the development, arrangement, maintenance, and promotion of tourism in Bima Regency. This group is supported by the Coastal Community and Creative Economy (Ekraf) Group in supporting the Sapta Pesona program for tourism management in coastal areas and small islands in Bima Regency. The Tourism Office also boosts the economy of coastal communities through the program of building and empowering Creative Economy Gazebos and Kiosks in tourism areas. Through the development of these gazebos and kiosks, besides supporting tourism, it can also build an entrepreneurial spirit for coastal communities.

CONCLUSION

The government of Bima Regency has implemented various programs for the empowerment of coastal communities in terms of socio-economic development. One of the main programs is the establishment of Pokmaswas, which focuses on monitoring and controlling the utilization of marine and fisheries resources. In addition, the government has also initiated the PEMP program, which aims to improve the skills, knowledge, and motivation of the local fishermen to work together as a group to increase the production, processing, and quality of fishery products. This program also includes the development of fishing and cultivation businesses, as well as the processing of fishery products. Another initiative is the PUGAR program, which provides support to the local salt business.

Moreover, the government has also recognized the importance of tourism in boosting the economy of coastal communities. The Ekraf program, which supports the SAKOSA program, aims to develop the creative economy and promote tourism in the area. To achieve this goal, the government has formed the Pokdarwis, a community-based tourism group, which focuses on partnership development, arrangement, maintenance, and promotion of tourism in Bima Regency.

In conclusion, the government of Bima Regency has implemented various programs to empower the coastal communities in terms of socio-economic development. The programs include the establishment of Pokmaswas, PEMP, and PUGAR, which focus on improving the skills, knowledge, and motivation of local fishermen to increase production and quality of fishery products. The government also recognizes the importance of tourism in the area and has formed the Pokdarwis group to develop partnerships and promote tourism in Bima Regency. These initiatives are expected to contribute to the sustainable development of coastal communities in Bima Regency.

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