

Women's Empowerment for Peasant Women's Groups

Ririn Gusti¹, Ari Putra², Jihan Muthiah Dlofiroh³, Tina Febri Dwi Putri⁴,
Dwi Ismawati⁵

^{1,2,3,4,5}Department of Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Bengkulu

Corresponding Author: Ririn Gusti

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ABSTRACT

The Peasant Women's Group is an organization that functions as a vehicle for counseling and driving the activities of its members. Non-formally bound farmer groups are formed based on shared interests and environmental conditions to improve and develop member businesses. The existence of women's empowerment through farmer groups has a social impact on peasant women. The process of empowering women through non-formal education programs must begin with the awareness of the target community. The awareness step is intended to enable people to identify needs and formulate learning or life goals. What is apparent is that the role of women extends not only as labor in farming activities but they act as decision-makers on the use of means of production and the technology used in farming activities. Insights develop because of the input of fellow group members, from the experiences of successful people presented by the group as speakers in an extension and training activity and the active role of extension workers providing information about a technological innovation that makes it easier for women to adopt technology in agricultural business.

Keywords: Empowerment, Women, Peasant Women's Group

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the leading employment field for most Indonesians, especially in rural areas. Men generally carry out these agricultural activities. In addition to the large number of men who work as farmers, women are needed in advancing agriculture. Through the development of agriculture, women can support welfare, especially in the minor line, namely the family (Yosep Permana&LukmanEffend,2020).

Increasing the labor productivity of farm women has a strategic role and potential in supporting the increase and income generation of agricultural households in rural areas. With the various problems and obstacles faced, one way to deal with these problems is to increase the effectiveness of training and counseling guidance. Empowerment is an effort made by people to improve their lives based on their potential as peasant women. The role of women extends not only as laborers in vegetable farming activities but also as decision-makers in the use of production facilities and technologies used in farming activities.

In addition, women serve as managers even on a small scale in vegetable farming businesses that use yard land. Women's empowerment makes women work in the domestic and public sectors (agriculture).

They create food security in their respective households because each farm woman has been equipped with knowledge and skills in vegetable farming by utilizing technology.

MATERIALS & METHODS

In data collection, the authors used several journals obtained from Google Scholar. One of the methods that use review has been structured evaluation, classification, and

No.	Program	Location
1.	Women's Empowerment in Nurjanah Peasant Women's Group	Belitung Islands
2.	Management Women's Empowerment.	West Java
3.	Community Education: Efforts to Offer Solutions to Various Social Problems.	Special Region of Yogyakarta
4.	Empowerment of Farmer Women's Groups Through The Use of Yard Land to Sustainable Food Houses	West Java
5.	Women's Empowerment Through the Peasant Women's Group "ASRI"	Special Region of Yogyakarta
6.	Concepts Of Community Empowerment.	Central Java
7.	Women's Empowerment From Time to Time.	West Java
8.	Analysis Of Farmer Group Empowerment	Belitung Islands
9.	Community Empowerment Activities	Belitung Islands
10.	Empowering Women in Improving Family Welfare Melalui Industri Kecil Di Pedesaan.	Central Java
11.	Women's Empowerment Through Flamboyant Farmer Women's Groups Based on Local Potential	Lampung
12.	Building a Society Empowers the People.	West Java
13.	Empowerment of Village Women through Sustainable Farmer Women's Groups in Managing Superior Commodities	West Kalimantan
14.	The role of members of the independent peasant women's group in the family economy	Central Java
15.	Strategy for Empowering the Sanur Asri Lestari Farmer Women's Group in Urban Farming Development	Bali
16.	Women's Empowerment Faces Modernization of Agriculture through Farmer Women's Groups On Vegetable Farming	South Sulawesi
18.	Women's empowerment from time to time.	West Java

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Empowerment comes from the word empowerment, a concept born from the development of the minds of Western society and culture, especially Europe (Prijono and Pranaka, 1996: 3). Etymologically, empowerment comes from the word "empower," which means strength

categorization of evidence-based - evidence-based that has been produced previously. The steps are as follows: Formulating research questions, conducting literature searches, conducting article selection, analyzing qualitative findings, enforcing quality control, and compiling final reports (Francis and Baldesari, 2006 in Siswanto, 2012). Some analysis of the article title as follows:

or ability. Based on this understanding, empowerment can be interpreted as a process towards being empowered, a process to gain power/strength/ability, and the process of giving power/strength/ability from those who have power to those who are less or not yet empowered (Sulistiyani, 2004: 77).

According to Anwar (2006: 92), empowering women through out-of-school education programs starts with awareness of the target community. The awareness step is intended to enable the community to identify needs and formulate learning or life goals. Without understanding of the target group, the empowerment process is likely to face obstacles both by the community and by learning sources or agents of change.

According to Karl M. (in Prijono and Pranaka, 1996: 63), women's empowerment is seen as a process of awareness and capacity building (capacity building) towards greater participation, power, and supervision of more significant decision-making, and transformational actions to produce equality greater degree between women and men. Efforts to empower women can be made by trying to awaken and help develop existing potential so that they become independent human beings.

According to Ambar T. Sulistiyani (2004: 80), the goal to be achieved from empowerment is to form individuals and communities to become independent. This independence includes thinking, acting, and controlling what is done. Community independence is a condition experienced by a society characterized by the ability to think, decide and do what is deemed

appropriate to find solutions to problems. These use skills require cognitive, conative, psychomotor, and affective skills and relevant resources. Including ownership of the community's internal environment. Community independence can be achieved through a process; through a learning process, the community gradually acquires the above characteristics.

In the last 3 years, the percentage of female farm workers has exceeded that of male workers. The role of women extends not only as vegetable workers but also as decision-makers in the use of production facilities and the technology used in cultivation. In addition, women also supervise cultivating smallholder vegetables on plantations. Empowerment of women encourages women to work in the domestic and public sectors (agriculture). They create food security for their households because each farmer has the knowledge and skills to grow vegetables using technology. The following is data on female workers from 2019-2021 from the agricultural sector in Indonesia.

Gender	Percentages of Labor based on Gender		
	2019	2020	2021
Men	47,19	42,71	43,39
Women	39,19	36,45	36,20

Figure 0.1 data on the percentage of female and male workers in 2019-2021.

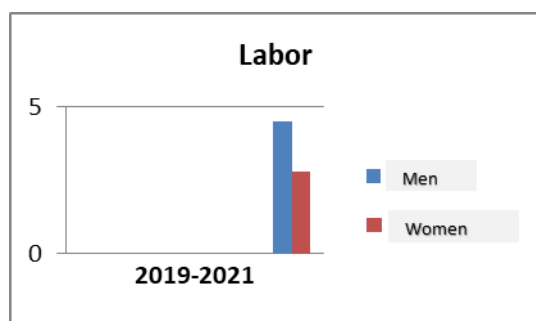


Figure 0.2 the percentage of female workers to men in 2019-2021

Thus, the objectives of women's empowerment, according to Sumodiningrat, are as follows:

- 1) Build existence, in this case, the presence of women. Women must realize that they have the same rights as men. Women should only sometimes be

in a better position. Women have the opportunity to develop themselves.

- 2) Motivating women to have the ability or empowerment to determine life choices through a dialogue process. Women also have the right to make choices, not always having to obey men. Growing awareness among women about equality and its position in both the public and domestic sectors.

In line with the aim of women's empowerment according to Sumodiningrat, namely as follows:

- 1) Build existence, in this case, the presence of women. Women must realize that they have the same rights as men. Women should only sometimes be in a better position. Women have the opportunity to develop themselves.

- 2) Motivating women to have the ability or empowerment to determine life choices through a dialogue process. Women also have the right to make choices, not always having to obey men.

- 3) Growing awareness among women about equality and their position in public and domestic sectors. Whereas in points 1, 2 and 3, the role of women's farmer groups helps women to improve their existence through various program activities in women's farmer groups, making women's emancipation visible and trying to provide job opportunities for women so as to increase family income.

The stages that must be passed in the learning process in the framework of community empowerment, according to Ambar T. Sulistyani (2004:83-84), include.

The stage of awareness and behavior formation towards conscious and caring behavior so that they feel the need to increase self-capacity. This stage is the preparatory stage in the empowerment process. At this stage, the empowerment party/actor/perpetrator of empowerment tries to create preconditions to facilitate the ongoing process of effective appointment.

The stage of transformation of capabilities is in the form of insightful knowledge and skill skills so that they are open-minded and

provide basic skills to take a role in development.

The stage of increasing intellectual abilities and skills so that innovative initiatives and capabilities are formed to lead to independence.

Farmer groups need to be developed based on the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture quoted by Hariadi (2007). The growth and development of farmer groups are based on the following principles:

1. Freedom, the meaning of freedom is respect for individuals and farmers to group according to their will and interests. Each individual is free to determine and choose the farming groups they want according to their interests. Each individual can be without or be a member of one or more groups.
2. Openness, the meaning of openness here is that counseling is carried out openly between extension workers and the principal and business actors.
3. Participatory, the meaning of participatory here is that all members participate and have the same rights and obligations in developing and managing (planning, implementing, and evaluating the performance of) farmer groups.
4. Self-sufficiency, the meaning of self-sufficiency here is developing the potential abilities of individual members in providing funds and facilities and using resources so that the independence of farmer groups is realized.
5. Equality, the meaning of equality here is the relationship between extension workers, main actors, and business actors as equal partners.
6. Partnership, the meaning of partnership here is that the implementation of counseling is based on mutual benefit, mutual respect, mutual need, and mutual strengthening between business actors and the main actors facilitated by extension agents. Meanwhile, farmer women's groups are a form of farmer organization whose members consist of rural women/mothers involved in agricultural activities. In contrast to

other farmer groups, women farmers in their development are directed to have a productive business on a household scale that utilizes or processes agricultural and fishery products to increase family income (Wiranti, Debi 2016).

The women's empowerment activities through the empowerment of women farmers program are expected to be able to develop their potential, add insight and equip women farmers with a spirit/attitude of responsibility. Women's empowerment is a platform that provides excellent opportunities for women farmers to strengthen their identity and potential by actively participating in the planning, processing, and post-harvest evaluation. This participation is based on awareness and social responsibility from, by, and for the community.

The women's empowerment program is also directed so that women grow and develop into empowered women who can overcome their needs and problems based on their resources. Women have the same opportunity as men to establish themselves. This reason underlies why women deserve to be empowered. Thus, empowerment is an effort intended for the wider community to develop the skills they have to increase their creativity and capacity in determining the future.

CONCLUSION

The Women Farmers Group is a farmer organization whose members consist of rural women or homemakers involved in agricultural activities. Farming women's groups are directed to have a productive household business, such as processing and utilizing agricultural products to increase family income. Forms of community self-reliance, such as the existence of farmer women's groups, can be achieved through a community learning process, such as in the stage of the awareness process and the formation of community behavior in the empowerment process because the purpose of empowering women is to be able to build

the existence of women so that women have the opportunity to develop themselves. Empowering women aims to make them more independent in the sense that they have the potential to solve the problems they face and to be able to meet their needs by not depending on external assistance for their lives. Community empowerment requires community participation, creativity, and initiative to manage existing resources to achieve prosperity for the community.

Apart from that, it can motivate women to have the ability or empowerment to determine life choices through a dialogue process. Women also have the right to make choices, not always having to obey men. Growing awareness among women about equality and its position in both the public and domestic sectors. Farming women's groups are a forum that provides excellent opportunities for women farmers to strengthen their identity and potential by actively participating in the planning, processing, and post-harvest evaluation. This participation is based on awareness and social responsibility from, by, and for the community. Forms of women's empowerment by farmer women's groups for the rapid modernization of agriculture create jobs for women in agriculture and the processing of agricultural products. Processing agricultural products create added value for cultivating vegetables for women farmers who are members of women farmer group organizations.

Declaration by Authors

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