

Fish Processing to Increase The Productivity of Raja Ampat's Creative Economy

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Abstract

This research aims to foster the entrepreneurial spirit of homemakers from fishermen's wives in Friwen Village. It is intended to increase family income by innovating and being creative in utilizing local wisdom owned by the village. The methods used in community development are counseling, training, and mentoring. This training involved 30 homemakers and housewives divided into six groups. After counseling and training on another day, evaluating the results of previous counseling and training is helpful. The results of this counseling and training were that the participants gained knowledge and skills in making fish crackers. In addition, there is awareness of the training participants in entrepreneurship by utilizing marine products to increase income, which impacts increasing family welfare. This service value can be developed into a home industry if intensive assistance is carried out with various community development programs.

Keywords: Creative economics, Fish Cracker, Raja Ampat resource, SMES

1. INTRODUCTION

Each region has the advantage of natural wealth respectively. Wealth owned by an area shows local wisdom that needs to be utilized as well as possible. Communities must play an active role in developing and utilizing regional assets owned. Growing an entrepreneurial spirit in every citizen is needed to develop and improve welfare (Rahma 2020; Putra et al. 2019).

The level of the economy greatly supports the welfare of family life. Improving the economy is not only the full responsibility of the husband, but homemakers need to play an active role. A family consists of two or more people connected by blood, marriage, or adoption who live together (Herawati et al. 2020). Family members must have their respective duties and functions according to their abilities (Bolkiah et al. 2021). Fishing communities live, grow and develop in coastal areas, transitional areas between land and sea (Putra et al. 2019). Usually, the residents who live in coastal areas most of their livelihoods are fishermen. The fishermen's work shows that all their activities are related to the sea and the coast with a community that works together (Rahayu 2019).

Several qualitative indicators are characteristic of empowering fishing communities, namely: (1) achieving socio-economic well-being for individuals, households, and communities (Ahdan et al. 2019), (2) Economic institutions function optimally, and economic activity is stable and continuous (Dirgantara 2022). (3). Social institutions function well as local development instruments (4). Increase the development of people's access to economic resources, information, market capital, and technology (Fitrianggraeni 2019), (5). They were increasing community participation in making development decisions in the coastal area and growing critical awareness of residents towards development issues in the coastal area. (6). Coastal areas are centers of dynamic regional and national economic growth and have investment attractiveness (Lowitt et al. 2020).

The participation of all citizens in increasing income, which impacts increasing welfare, is urgently needed. There is a willingness for every citizen to try, innovate, and be creative from the

local wisdom they have (Suwandi and Prihatin 2020). Friwen Village is a village located in the district. South Waigeo District, Raja Ampat Regency, West Papua. Almost all male residents of Friwen Village work as fishermen (Domakubun and Mardliyah 2023).

Natural resources and local wisdom that stands out from Friwen village are marine products. Most of the people work and depend on fishing for their lives. However, Friwen village does not yet have a fishing community to increase income in this maritime sector (Handayani). The amount of the catch of this sea fish is uncertain and usually depends on the season. The condition of obtaining uncertain fish will affect the amount of income which in turn affects the level of welfare of the fishermen. Under such circumstances, empowering homemakers to utilize marine fish in other forms is necessary (Suryadi and Sufi 2019). This empowerment encourages the entrepreneurial spirit of mothers to use sea fish. This aim is intended to diversify fish catches, which are not only sold directly but also in other products.

Many business fields are offered with ingredients from sea fish as processed products. Fish crackers are an example of a processed product derived from sea fish (Ghazali et al. 2021). Moreover, it is supported that Raja Ampat is famous for its marine fish production. The emphasis on counseling and training in the Friwen area is on fish crackers (Alkhamdan and Husain 2022). Fish crackers are a variety of processed fish products community empowerment by taking advantage of entrepreneurship and business opportunities, which are very important in product innovation (Amraini et al. 2022). Fish crackers can be produced in small and minimalist sizes for families and can be developed for sale and purchase. Innovation, creativity, and the desire for a better future encourage someone to take advantage of business opportunities quickly. Utilizing business opportunities by paying attention to owned local wisdom is a source in increasing family welfare (Wati et al. 2023). Based on the explanation and problems above, our team's community service is about cultivating an entrepreneurial spirit in utilizing fish .

The theme of this counseling and training is under the policies and development of the Ministry of Tourism and creative economy in the field of community service, namely increasing the application of science and technology with an emphasis on the potential of local resources and wisdom owned by an area so that it has an impact on improving social welfare. In addition, there is an increase in empowering the potential of local resources, having an impact, and contributing to solving existing societal problems (Ibrahim and Ngatini 2021). Based on the problems described above, the community service study aims to empower the community to make fish crackers with fishermen and homemakers in Friwen Village, South Waigeo District, Raja Ampat Regency.

2. METHOD

Friwen community service activities use the community development method. This development strategy is explicitly given to homemakers and local fishermen's wives with their local wisdom (Ibrahim and Ngatini 2021). The steps taken in the community development strategy Referring to the solutions to the problems above, the steps taken in implementing the solutions offered are:

Approach women in particular (communities or religious groups) to provide an understanding of improving family welfare. Mothers' role greatly influences family welfare in helping earn income by seizing business opportunities to make fish crackers.



Training on making fish crackers was held at the Friwen village housewife's house on Monday, 1 February 2022, and started at 09.00 until it was finished. It involved the village head of Friwen, heads of religious associations, and homemakers. 30 housewives participated in the training and were divided into six groups so that each group had 5 participants



After the training, mentoring is carried out two times. Assistance with 6 participants, each representing each group during the training. Assistance 1 will be completed on Tuesday, 2 February 2022, at 14.00 – 16.30 WIT. Assistance 2 is carried out on Saturday, 3 February 2022, at 10.00 – 14.00 WIT.

Figure 1. Program Method

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Activities related to fisheries have grown in the past and have become the livelihood of fishermen in obtaining income. Even the government has proclaimed that they are fond of eating fish (Bolkiah et al. 2021). Because fish is a source of animal protein that is healthy and much needed by the body, most fish fishermen will be sold directly to traders or the final buyer. The fishermen's catch is often not optimal because it depends on the weather. Another reason for the non-optimization is the limitations of the technology used. As a result, many fishermen's lives could be adequate amidst their wealth of natural potential (Suwandi and Prihatin 2020).

Another way of dealing with economic insufficiency is that the role of fisherwomen is urgently needed. Some of the fish obtained can be made into other food products, namely fish crackers (Ibrahim and Ngatini 2021). The hope from the skill of making fish crackers and also being able to be used for the family can then be sold bit by bit. Production of fish crackers can be managed individually or in groups. Whether the production of fish crackers develops until it is traded depends on the will and available funds (Saputri et al. 2023).

Cultivating an entrepreneurial spirit, especially for homemakers from fishermen, is very supportive of increasing family welfare. Entrepreneurship is the ability to develop new ideas and ways of solving problems and finding opportunities (Azizah 2023). An entrepreneur is someone who starts and operates a business (AZIZAH and PRAMONO 2018). From these two opinions, it can be concluded that entrepreneurship is the behavior of someone who has innovation, is creative, and is orientated in the future in taking advantage of existing opportunities. All of that is aimed at improving the welfare of life (Azizah et al. 2022).

The growth of entrepreneurship in homemakers of fishermen's wives needs to be done. It is done because many innovations can be made in utilizing the fish obtained by their husbands besides being sold directly. Innovation in making fish crackers requires the creativity of mothers in processing, which will later be aimed at a better future. The implementation of this community

service program aims to utilize local wisdom, especially in the village of Friwen. Friwen residents are primarily fishermen. Most mothers are housewives who often help their husbands when he takes care of the fish caught (Suwandi and Prihatin 2020).

Implementation of training

Community service, counseling, and community service activities were implemented at the village chief's house in Friwen village on Monday, 1 February 2022. Activities were carried out starting at 09.00 until they were finished. The good hope of the village head, heads of religious groups, and residents is that residents have skills in making fish crackers. It is hoped that cracker-making skills can be developed and traded to help family income. There are two (2) ways to carry out the training: first, by providing counseling or lectures and followed by questions and answers. The second way is by practice or training and mentoring.

The stages of counseling and training carried out by the team are as follows:

1. The training participants signed their attendance. Figure 1 shows the participants who came and signed their attendance. Based on the distributed invitations, as many as 30 30 participants came and took attendance. Before the training is carried out, socialization is carried out first. Socialization is given to motivate mothers to increase family income. How to increase family income besides helping husbands who work as fishermen but can use fish catches to make crackers which can later be sold.
2. The extension team carried out the training and counseling by explaining how the role of homemakers is significant in the household. Mothers must play an active role by empowering local wisdom owned by the village. Friwen Village is a fishing village whose primary producer is fish. So they have to be able to make products from food derived from fish. One product that is easy for homemakers to make is crackers, with the main ingredient being fish produced in the village. The skill to make crackers can later be developed so that they can be traded, which can then be used as part of a livelihood other than fishing. Mothers can help their husbands and families by increasing family income. If family income increases, it will directly increase family welfare. It requires understanding and understanding for pure homemakers; besides being homemakers, they can earn income without leaving household chores.
3. After counseling, training on making fish crackers was carried out with 30 participants divided into six groups, each with 5 participants. The following figure shows when the training was carried out.

Discussion session on making fish crackers

A question-and-answer session is carried out while waiting for the steamed dough to be cooked. The mothers of the participants were very enthusiastic about making crackers. The interest in training is due to the desire to increase family income. Awareness of increasing family income because it will have an impact on increasing family welfare.



Figure 1. Group Discussion

First assistance

After counseling was carried out on February 2, 2022, the team conducted mentoring activities for the women participating in the training. The assistance was carried out in 2 stages. Participants who took part in mentoring assistance 1 and 2 were six women. 6 (six participants) and one representative from each group were taken. The first assistance was carried out at the house of the head of the Friwen village religious group. The implementation was conducted on Tuesday, February 2, 2022, at 14.00 - 16.30 WIT. The picture during the first assistance is as follows:



Figure 2. First Assistance by team

Based on Figure 2, the first assistance is to evaluate progress in making crackers during training on February 1, 2022, and see the extent of the obstacles encountered in making fish crackers. It turned out that the results could have been more satisfactory during the counseling and training sessions on February 1, 2022. Because when the crackers are fried, the results are not good or not crispy enough. Because during the training mixing the dough using raw water.

Second assistance (2)

The second assistance was carried out at the village lady's house in the village of Friwen. The implementation will occur on Wednesday, 2 February 2022, at 10.00 – 14.00 WIT. The second mentoring participant is still the same as the first mentoring participant. Pictures of the second mentoring activity are as follows:



Figure 3. Second Assistance

Figure 3 shows that the second assistance is a follow-up to the first. The second assistance aims to evaluate how much the skill level has been corrected after the first assistance. Each participant gets one recipe for making the dough. Making crackers this time, the team used boiled water to make the fish cracker dough. After making the dough and then steaming it for about 45 to 1 hour, the dough is removed and desired. The results of the steamed dough are given to the head of the village for further slicing until drying. The process is the same as during the previous training.

The next day, the team visited the village head's house to see the first and second assistance results. There was a difference between before mentoring and after mentoring. During the first training on February 2, 2022, or before mentoring 1 and 2, the results of the fish crackers were still not good, and the fried foods needed to be crispier. It turned out that after an evaluation was carried out in mentoring one and it was practiced again in mentoring 2, one of the contributing factors was using raw water when making the dough. Then in the second accompaniment, the dough, which initially used raw water, was replaced by boiled water.

The results of the dough using boiled water are better and crispier when fried compared to the training on 3 February 2022. The community service team, village heads, and participants hope that the training and mentoring results can be realized in products that can be bought and sold as a home industry. The most important thing from this counseling and service is to increase

the awareness of the Friwen village community that existing local wisdom can be developed and diversified in the form of crackers which can later increase family income.



Figure 4. Result

4. CONCLUSION

There were differences in the behavior of mothers before training and mentoring, namely the awareness of housewives in increasing family income. Before training and mentoring, mothers still needed to understand how to make crackers where most results were crunchy and hard. Nevertheless, after training and mentoring, they can produce better and crunchier crackers because they already understand good cracker-making techniques. In addition, increasing awareness of the critical role of homemakers in helping to generate family income, which is no longer the sole responsibility of the husband.

Training and counseling in making fish crackers in the future can be followed up for intensive assistance so that home products can become home industries. The home industry can be managed individually or as a group of women from Friwen village residents. Suppose the home industry, especially on an individual basis, requires intensive assistance. In that case, it can be submitted to an advanced assistance program by utilizing the results of Appropriate Technology in the downstream framework.

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