The Influence of the Empowerment of Group Farmers Through Local Potential on the Welfare Community at Desa Tanjung Beringin 1 Kecamatan Sumbul

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
Keywords: Empowerment Group Farmers Welfare Community	The aim of this research is to find out the impact of the empowerment of farm communities in the exploitation of local potential on the welfare community. Research methods include quantitative research. Data gathering by pushing questionnaires, interviews, and documentation. This study's population consists of the entire 53-person farm community involved in empowerment activities. During the sampling process, we used random sampling to select 20% of the total population, resulting in a sample size of 22 people for the research. Previously, we conducted data analysis using simple linear regression tests, which included classical assumption tests such as normality, multicollinearity, linearity, and heteroscedasticity. The research findings support the hypothesis that the empowerment of the farming community significantly impacts the welfare community, contributing 49.9%.
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INTRODUCTION

Economic growth is the measure of the economic condition of a country, that is the high and sustained economic growth that must be achieved for the survival of economic development and the well-being of the people. Community welfare is defined as an effort to reduce poverty. Poor human resources, unable to find employment and without income, cause the problem of poverty.

Soeharto (in Ramdani, et all, 2014) defines a welfare community as a place that meets life's needs, especially basic ones. According to the rambe, in an order of life and social livelihood, a society meets basic needs such as material and spiritual, followed by a sense of safety, suffering, and physical and spiritual needs by defending human rights (Wijayanti and Ihsannudin, 2013). Indicators of the welfare community are population, health and nutrition, education, employment, consumption levels and patterns, housing and environment, poverty, and other social indicators, which are the benchmarks for improving quality of life. (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2023)

Empowerment is an effort to enable and society independent (Handini,2019). In addition, empowerment can also strengthen the position of the lower classes of society

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against oppressive forces in all areas and sectors of life. According to the Junaidi Empowerment is a process giving someone official authority or legal power to enable them to achieve something (Hakim, 2010). Exploiting natural resources and human resources can improve economic conditions. Human resources are important for development. Poor human resources can lead to poor social conditions, which can be addressed through development and human development. The process of decentralization aims to address the importance of local areas. The government of vilage should prioritize local needs, unlike the city government, which has a larger area of need and resources. The government of vilage should have a committee to ensure the community is welfare, has the ability, and is independent. It can also increase the economy through local resource utilization. Planning development programs or activities should involve a thorough analysis of local needs.

According to Soeharto (in Pathony, 2019), there are indicators in the social empowerment program: a. level of awareness and readiness to adapt (power to); b. level of proficiency in improving access (power within); c. the extent of authority relative to capacity; and d. the degree of solidarity and cooperation (with power). Furthermore, Friedman (in Firmansyah, 2012) states that: a. community-based development; b. sustainability; and c. community participation. The goal, according to Soebianto and Mardikanti (2017) is to raise the community's capacity and level of independence by raising its standard of living. Along the way, participants accomplish the following collectively: 1. Determine and research the region's potential, issues, and possibilities; 2. Creating a strategy for group activities based on the study's findings; 3. Put a group activity plan into action; and 4. Continuously monitoring the procedures and outcomes of activities in a participatory manner, also known as participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME).

Local potential refers to the knowledge, culture, and social dynamics of a region, influenced by its geography, climate, and local conditions. Different conditions can lead to differences and a lack of local potential in each area. To create and grow a region's local potential, we must take these aspects into consideration. The capacity for development, specifically the ability to improve social services, determines a region's potential. Local potential plays a role in regional development by empowering communities (Rahajeng et al, 2018). A group of farmers is a collective of two or more individuals who collaborate and engage with one another to achieve a common goal in the agricultural industry (Nippi & Pananrangi, 2019).

Desa Tanjung Beringin I is a village in Sumbul, Sumatra, Utara, with a population of 1.504 people. It is part of the depleting region, with potential for natural, economic, social, and ecological resources but inadequate management to improve its quality and safety. The program for community development in this village began in 2007 and has been ongoing since then. The government can use this program to improve the village's economy through community development programs. However, the current program's effectiveness is not as effective as it could be, with 40% of the village's economy growing and 60% being poor. The village lacks modal resources and requires government support.

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In light of this, the government has instituted policies aimed at boosting capital and bolstering the community's agricultural and small-scale enterprises. A group of individuals is currently fortifying the village of Tanjung Beringin I. The current group's success falls short of the program's previous year's maximum achievement. The initial establishment of the village group in 2015 led to its disbandment after a few years. The district's regulations, requiring the community to establish a village group and obtain a farm card, led to its re-formation.

METHODS

Conducting this research at Desa Tanjung Beringin I, situated in Kecamatan Sumbul, Kabupaten Dairi, Sumatera Utara. The reason for choosing this location is that Tanjung Beringin I is a village with fairly good natural potential. Furthermore, it has a community empowerment program based on local potential in Desa Tanjung Beringin, one of the farming groups. The population in this study consists of the entire community involved with the activities of the farmer community empowerment program in Tongan Beringin, which amounts to 53 people. This research employed random sampling, drawing samples from 20% of the population. The research sample consisted of 22 people. We use both qualitative data in explanatory form and quantitative data in numerical form for analysis. We use a variety of techniques to collect data. The officer from the village chief's office conducted the interview to gather information about the problem under investigation. Questionnaires involve respondents giving written answers to Likert-scale questions. To gather information about community welfare programs, we use documentation, which can take the form of written documents or already available village data. It will analyze the sample data using some linear regression analysis techniques, with the assistance of SPSS statistical software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Respondent Characteristic

The majority of respondents fell within the age range of 45–54 years, with 10 individuals representing 45% of the total. The age group of 35–44 years followed, with 6 respondents, accounting for 27% of the total. The age group of 25–34 years had 4 respondents, making up 18% of the total. The smallest age group was >55 years, with 2 individuals representing 10%. The distribution of respondents based on their level of education is as follows: 12 respondents (54.5%) had completed senior high school, 5 respondents (22.7%) had completed junior high school, 3 respondents (13.7%) had completed college, and 2 respondents (2.1%) had completed primary school.

Data Analysis

Before doing a simple regression test, first do a classic assumption test. The classic assumption test is used to see whether the research data has deviations from the classical assumptions or not. The classical assumption test is performed using four tests, namely the normality test, the multicollinearity test, the linearity test, and the heteroscedasticity test.

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For nor   mality tests using Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S). If the Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) score is greater than 0.05, it indicates that there are no indications of normality in the regression model

Table 1. Normality Test Result

	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailled)
One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test	0.169

Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

Table 1 demonstrates that the Asymp. Sig. (2-Tailled) surpasses 0.05. We can infer that a normal distribution conforms to the data. Thus, in this particular situation, it can be inferred that the data follows a normal distribution. Furthermore, the P-P plot regression results show that the data in this study follows a normal distribution, with all points or data dispersed around a diagonal line and none straying away from it
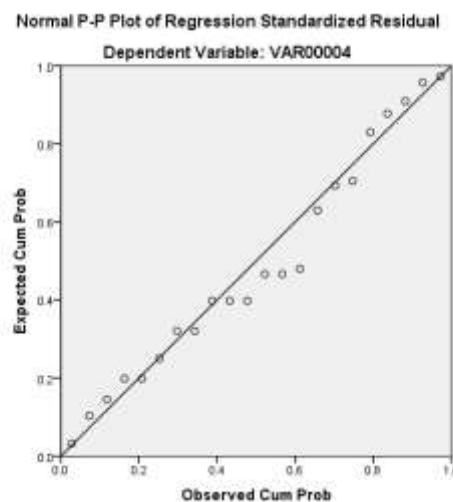

Figure 1. Graph of Normality Test
Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

If the tolerance value is ≤ 0.10 and the VIF value is ≥ 10, then it can be concluded that there is multicolinearity.

Table 2. Muliticollinearity Test Result

Variable	Collinearity Statistics	
	Tolerance	VIP
	1.000	1.000

Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

Based on Table 2, the data indicates that the tolerance value is 1,000. We can conclude that there was no multicolinearity problem in the regression model if the value exceeds 0.10 and the VIF value is below 10.

If the sig value exceeds 0.05, it indicates linearity, implying that there is a correlation between the independent and dependent variables.

Table 3. Linearity Test Result

Combined	Sig.
Linearity	0.001
Deviation from Linearity	0,664

Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

Based on Table 3, the sig linearity value is 0.010 less than 0.05, and the value of the sig deviation from linearity is 0.468 greater than 0.05. We can infer that we can use the data in linear regression. We then measure heteroscadastisity using the scatterplot graphic method. Then, the second figure below illustrates this.The scatterplot graphic shows that the dots disperse above and below the number 0 on the Y axis, exhibiting no discernible pattern. Therefore, we can conclude that the regression model of this study's results does not exhibit heteroscedasticity.
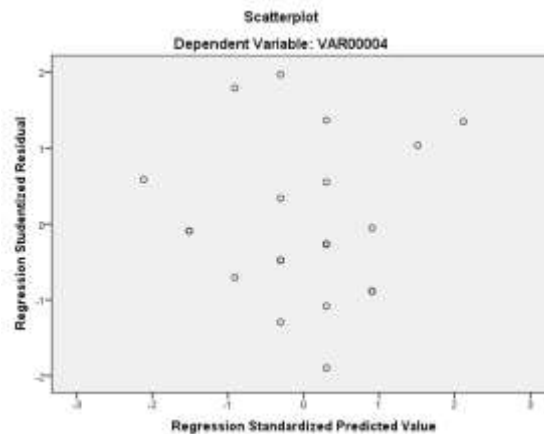

Figure 2. Heteroscedasticity Result Test
Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

Table 4. Simple Linear Regression Analysis

Variable	Linear Regression	t-account	Probability
Empowerment of the Farmers Group	0.739	4.463	0.000
R Square			0,499
Adjusted R Square			0,474

Source: Data Processing Result, 2024

The results showed a probability value of 0.000. This indicates that the probability is less than 0.05. So that the empowerment of group farmers has a significant influence on the well-being of the community. The R square value is 0.499, indicating that the empowerment of group farmers contributes 49.9% to the welfare community.

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Discussion of Research Results

The results of the research show that the empowerment of the group farmers affects the welfare community of the village of Tanjung Beringin 1. The peasantry group's contribution to empowerment is significant, but people still lack understanding of how to use the funds given to them. However, if the group is able to manage the loan fund, it will benefit from training the group to exploit the local potential by managing the agricultural land to be more productive so as to be self-sufficient and capable farmers. A group of farmers was developed to enhance their capacity to carry out their functions, develop agribusiness, and strengthen farm groups into strong and independent farmers' organizations. (Peraturan Menteri Pertanian, 2013).

The purpose of the group farmers is to: a. form the members of the village group to be able; b. to use more (optimally) all the resources available; c. to solve the problems that exist among the members of the rural group in the field of agriculture; d. to help the farm members and to give knowledge to the members who do not know to become aware. Basically, empowerment of peasant groups is still a means of settlement, reinforcement, and socialization, besides the inhibitory factors due to the still low human resources and the minimal use of technology (Mutmainna et al., 2016). The exploitation of local potential through stakeholder empowerment demonstrates an increased level of well-being. Through farm groups, they are sufficiently able to use the land that farmers own, which can increase family income and side jobs. Therefore, human resources are actors in development who know the conditions and problems of their own communities to improve the welfare community by exploiting natural resources as local potential (Endah, 2020). Therefore, human resources are actors in development who know the conditions and problems of their own communities to improve the welfare of communities by exploiting natural resources as local potential (Bustaman et al., 2021).

CONCLUSION

The analysis concluded that the empowerment of the peasant group influences the health of the village of Tanjung Beringin's population. The R square value is 0.499, indicating that the empowerment of group farmers contributes 49.9% to the welfare community.

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