

ABSTRACT

During the development of Flores as a super-premium tourism destination advanced by the Indonesian Government, several initiatives emerged from the native residents to develop community-based alternative tourism destinations. One of them is Baku Peduli Weaving House Community (Komunitas Rumah Tenun Baku Peduli), in Nggorang Village, Komodo District, West Manggarai Regency, NTT Province. Deploying two important concepts in Tourism Studies – namely Sustainable Tourism and Community Based Tourism—this research examines the tourism practices in the Baku Peduli Weaving House Community.

This research uses descriptive qualitative method based on a six month field work during which the author uses the participatory observation and in-depth interviews as the data-gathering strategy. The research result shows that the practice of tourism at the Baku Peduli Weaving House Community meets the basic principle of sustainability from socio-cultural, socio-economical, and ecological aspects. Moreover, it is found that the active participation of female weavers as actors of the weaving culture and tourism activities contributes positively both to the development of the weaving culture as well as to the development of community-based tourism. The bottom-up approach, thus, pivotal for the community-based tourism model. This thesis contributes to tourism studies in Indonesia by demonstrating a development model of sustainable community-based tourism that balances the social, cultural, socio-economical, and ecological aspects. In addition, this study also shows the importance of involvement from local communities, including women, as a subject of tourism development and management.

Keywords: *weaving culture, community movement, sustainable tourism, community based tourism, Baku Peduli weaving house*