

INTISARI

Aktivitas budidaya rumput laut di Desa Kupang, Kecamatan Jabon, Kabupaten Sidoarjo telah berkembang sejak tahun 2010. Minat pasar yang cukup besar pada rumput laut meningkatkan potensinya untuk dikembangkan. Namun, kendala terhadap faktor internal maupun eksternal pada budidaya rumput laut tidak dapat dihiraukan. Program Desa Devisa terlaksana di Desa Kupang diharapkan mampu mengatasi permasalahan ketidakpastian dan keterbatasan petani rumput laut. Oleh sebab itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk: (1) Mengidentifikasi kerentanan petani rumput laut di Desa Kupang, (2) Menganalisis perubahan penghidupan petani rumput laut di Desa Kupang pasca implikasi program Desa Devisa, (3) Menganalisis perubahan strategi penghidupan petani rumput laut di Desa Kupang pasca implikasi program Desa Devisa.

Penelitian dilakukan menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif melalui kuesioner rumah tangga dan pendekatan kualitatif melalui studi lapangan. Teknik pengolahan data dilakukan terhadap perolehan data primer dengan unit analisis sejumlah 35 responden rumah tangga petani rumput laut di Desa Kupang. Pemilihan responden menggunakan metode *stratified random sampling* yang mempertimbangkan pengelompokan kelas petani berdasarkan perbedaan aktivitas dan status kepemilikan lahan. Wawancara semi terstruktur, wawancara mendalam, dan observasi lapangan dilakukan untuk mengidentifikasi dan menganalisis kerentanan, aset, akses, aktivitas, dan strategi penghidupan yang diadaptasi oleh petani sebelum dan setelah program Desa Devisa terlaksana.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat ketidakpastian seperti perubahan musim, fluktuasi harga, dan pengaruh elit lokal yang memengaruhi kondisi rentan petani. Pasca program Desa Devisa terlaksana, terdapat perbedaan yang cukup terlihat terhadap kepemilikan aset petani dibandingkan dengan sebelum program terlaksana. Namun, secara akses petani masih cukup terbatas dikarenakan lemahnya fungsi koperasi yang kemudian meningkatkan kerentanan petani akibat tidak mampu melakukan ekspor secara langsung. Berdasarkan aktivitas, terdapat peningkatan diversifikasi usaha tambak maupun non-tambak yang diadaptasi oleh petani sebagai strategi dalam menghadapi kerentanan dan mengelola aset serta akses penghidupan.

Kata kunci: Desa Devisa, petani rumput laut, penghidupan, kerentanan

ABSTRACT

Seaweed farming activities in Kupang Village, Jabon Sub-district, Sidoarjo District have been developing since 2010. Considerable market interest in seaweed increases its potential to be developed. However, constraints on internal and external factors in seaweed cultivation cannot be ignored. The Foreign Exchange Village Program implemented in Kupang Village is expected to be able to overcome the uncertainty and limitations of seaweed farmers. Therefore, this research aims to: (1) Identify the vulnerability of seaweed farmers in Kupang Village, (2) Analyze changes in seaweed farmers' livelihoods in Kupang Village after the implication of the Foreign Exchange Village program, (3) Analyze changes in seaweed farmers' livelihood strategies in Kupang Village after the implication of the Foreign Exchange Village program.

The research was conducted using a quantitative approach through household questionnaires and a qualitative approach through field studies. Data processing techniques were carried out on the acquisition of primary data with a unit of analysis of 35 respondents from seaweed farming households in Kupang Village. The selection of respondents used a stratified random sampling method that considered class groupings of farmers based on differences in activity and land ownership status. Semi-structured interviews, in-depth interviews, and field observations were conducted to identify and analyze vulnerabilities, assets, access, activities, and livelihood strategies adapted by farmers before and after the Desa Devisa program was implemented.

The results show that there are uncertainties such as seasonal changes, price fluctuations, and the influence of local elites that affect farmers' vulnerable conditions. After the Desa Devisa program was implemented, there was a visible difference in farmers' asset ownership compared to before the program was implemented. However, access to these assets remains limited due to the weak functioning of the corporative, which has, in turn, increased farmers' vulnerability as they are unable to export directly. In terms of livelihood activities, there has been an increase in the diversification of both aquaculture and non-aquaculture ventures, which farmers have adopted as strategies to cope with vulnerabilities and to manage their assets and access to sustainable livelihoods.

Key words: Foreign exchange villages, seaweed farmers, livelihoods, vulnerability