

## **ANALYSIS OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF SOCIAL CAPITAL WITH POVERTY OF FISHERMEN IN BONTO BAHARI VILLAGE, BONTOA DISTRICT, MAROS DISTRICT**

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### **Abstract**

*This research aims to determine the relationship between social capital and the poverty of fishermen in Bonto Bahari, Bontoa District, Maros Regency. The type of research used is quantitative research. The types of data utilized are primary data and secondary data. The data analysis technique used in this research is Structural Equation Modelling. (SEM). The results of this research indicate that the social capital in terms of community trust is quite good in improving the welfare of poor families. The social capital of social networks in the research area is relatively good for enhancing the welfare of poor families, and the social capital of social norms in the research area is also relatively good for improving the welfare of poor families.*

**Keywords:** Social capital, trust, social networks, social norms, poverty.

### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk Untuk mengetahui hubungan modal sosial dengan kemiskinan nelayan Bonto Bahari, Kecamatan Bontoa Kabupaten Maros. Jenis Penelitian yang digunakan yakni penelitian kuantitatif. Jenis data yang digunakan yakni data primer dan data sekunder. Teknik analisis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini yakni Structural Equation Modelling (SEM). Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa Modal sosial tingkat kepercayaan masyarakat peneliti cukup baik terhadap meningkatkan kesejahteraan keluarga miskin, Modal sosial jaringan sosial masyarakat di daerah peneliti relatif baik terhadap peningkatan kesejahteraan keluarga miskin dan modal sosial norma sosial masyarakat di daerah peneliti relatif baik terhadap peningkatan kesejahteraan keluarga miskin.

**Kata Kunci :** Modal sosial, kepercayaan, jaringan social, norma social, kemiskinan.

## INTRODUCTION

Fisheries are one of the main subsectors in South Sulawesi. Based on data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the fisheries subsector accounts for 8.52% of the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) and 39.26% of the Agricultural Business Field (LU) in South Sulawesi. This share is the highest compared to other subsectors within the Agricultural Business Field. The importance of the role of this fisheries subsector cannot be overlooked. The number of fishermen recorded in South Sulawesi in 2019 was 103,119, placing it as the third highest in the Sulampua region (Sulawesi, Maluku, and Papua), after Maluku and Southeast Sulawesi. Meanwhile, the fisheries subsector also plays an important role in supporting the performance of the processing industry in South Sulawesi, with around 67.57% of the inputs for the processing industry coming from the fisheries sector. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (2023), the total production of fishery products in Maros Regency reached 19,577 tons, with marine capture fisheries contributing 14,960 tons and inland freshwater fisheries contributing 4,617 tons. The significant production from these fishermen makes Maros Regency one of the regions with considerable fishery production in South Sulawesi.

The fishermen's attachment to their traditions and identity often becomes an obstacle in facing changes in economic conditions. The limited access to education also restricts fishermen's opportunities to market their catch. In addition, the social norms and values that prevail among fishermen can also influence their perception of poverty, making it difficult for them to escape from a poor environment.

According to Bappenas (2005), poverty is a condition in which an individual or a group of people, including men and women, is unable to fulfill their basic rights to live with dignity. These fundamental rights involve basic needs such as food, health, education, employment, housing, clean water, land, natural resources and the environment, protection from threats or acts of violence, as well as the right to participate in social and political life for both women and men. Bappenas adopts key approaches to fulfill the basic rights of communities experiencing poverty. One of the main issues affecting the lack of public attention towards fishermen is the low priority given to the marine and fisheries sector in the development policies that have been implemented. The impact is that the lack of empathy and attention to the challenges faced by fishermen becomes evident. Only after the establishment of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries in 1999 did public awareness begin to develop slowly. Nevertheless, in the era of regional autonomy, the central government's efforts to pay serious attention to the development of the maritime and fisheries sector have not yet been fully integrated with regional development policies.

The social modal perspective emphasizes the importance of togetherness and group energy in modern society. The main elements of social capital include

participation in networks, reciprocity, trust, social norms, values, and proactive actions. These elements influence all community activities, especially in the implementation of development. (Hasbullah & Jaousairi, 2006).

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The method used in this research is quantitative research. Location and Time of Research, The location chosen for this research is Bonto Bahari Village, Bontoa District, Maros Regency, and the research was conducted in September 2023. Population and Sample , The population in this study consists of all fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village, Bontoa District, Maros Regency. The number of samples determined by the researcher is 30 fishermen from the total number of active fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village, Bontoa District. Types and Sources of Data, The types of data used in this research are primary data and secondary data. The primary data in this study was obtained from fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village, Bontoa District, Maros Regency. The secondary data in this research includes the area of the research location, population size, livelihoods, education, and so on..

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **The Influence of Trust on the Well-being of Fishermen**

The level of an individual's trust is reflected in what is said, the agreements made, and the consistency of actions in the relationships between individuals or groups in society. This can be regarded as a measure of trust, as outlined by Suardi in 2014. This illustrates how social capital becomes an important factor in efforts to improve welfare, as a manifestation of individual social motives within the community.

Data shows that the community's trust in the research area is quite good regarding efforts to improve the welfare of poor families, with each indicator playing a role in building the level of trust. This is reflected in the willingness to lend rice, money, and personal belongings. However, from this data, it can be concluded that although trust is seen as a positive aspect of social capital, its level is still considered low. This can be seen from the fact that the respondents' willingness to lend depends on the economic conditions of the community, so they adjust what they provide according to their economic situation. Furthermore, observations indicate that all three indicators received similar responses, with the majority of respondents agreeing, which suggests that trust alone is sufficient to significantly influence well-being without support from other aspects such as social networks. Trust gains greater effectiveness in enhancing well-being when related to social networks, and its contribution is comparable to that of human capital dimensions. Limitations in social networks can indicate a low level of confidence, which is reflected in the participation of individuals or families in the organization.

Alfiasari's research (2008) shows that a decline in trust among communities can hinder the dynamics of social life. A lack of trust between individuals can lead to mutual suspicion that obstructs the improvement of the quality of life together. However, if trust among community members can be strengthened, it can become a potential asset that drives social progress and overall welfare enhancement.

### **The influence of social welfare networks for fishermen**

on the important role of social networks in shaping community welfare is reflected in aspects of participation in community activities, the level of trust among individuals, and social relationship networks. (Putnam, 2000).

Data shows that the level of social networks in the research area is relatively good, contributing to the improvement of the welfare of poor families, with each indicator playing a role in the social network variable. This is obtained from the implementation of the relationship between the government and institutional bodies with the fishing community.

Based on this, it shows that social networks, as one form of social capital, are classified as good but still relatively low. This can be evidenced by the willingness of respondents to respond to the government's presence in its policies, as well as the attitude of the fishermen themselves in directly relating to their social lives.

In addition, it was identified that the three indicators have answers that tend to be homogeneous, namely between the responses of strongly agree and agree, and that trust cannot maximally influence well-being.

Regarding the research conducted by Dr. Anisa. (2023). It shows that social networks have a significant impact on poverty among fishermen. His findings indicate that fishermen with strong social networks tend to have better access to resources or information that can help increase their income and reduce poverty levels. In addition, the research results also show that active participation in groups or communities can enhance access to important resources and information that are crucial for reducing poverty.

### **The Influence of Social Norms on the Well-being of Fishermen**

Social norms are usually reflected in the behavior, interactions, and decisions of individuals within a community. These norms affect daily life in the economic well-being of fishermen.

Data shows that the level of social norms in the research area is relatively good, contributing to the improvement of the welfare of poor families, with each indicator playing a role in the social norms variable. This is obtained from the reflection of each item, first on adherence to social norms reflected in the attitude of tolerance and the spirit of mutual cooperation demonstrated by the fishermen. The ease of obtaining assistance from others is reflected in the aid provided to fishermen who cannot go to

sea due to bad weather. The readiness to help others is evident in offering support, both in the form of labor and money, to fellow fishermen in need. Meanwhile, participation in joint activities to assist those in difficulty is reflected through involvement in helping fishermen who are facing disasters. Based on that reflection, it shows that social norms, as one of the forms of social capital, are categorized as good but relatively low. This can be evidenced by the willingness of respondents in the participation of fishermen in social norm activities. In addition, it was identified that the three indicators have answers that tend to be homogeneous, namely between strongly agree and agree, and that trust cannot maximally influence well-being.

Related to the research conducted by Sasonto (2022), it shows that social norms in the fishing community have a significant impact on poverty. The analysis shows that norms that encourage cooperation, mutual assistance, and resource sharing among fishermen can effectively help reduce the level of poverty. In addition, social norms that promote loyalty to the community and a spirit of solidarity have also proven to have a positive impact in creating a more inclusive and sustainable economic environment for fishermen.

Based on research by Putnam (1995), trust is considered the foundation of social capital in society. Trust facilitates cooperation among individuals. The stronger the trust among them, the more solid the cooperation that can be built. There is an assumption that individuals with a high level of trust tend to have a wide social network. Additionally, a broad social network can also be caused by individuals who adhere to prevailing norms. Therefore, it is assumed that individuals who have a high level of trust and comply with norms are likely to have an extensive social network.

The existence of a wide social network can enhance individuals' ability to collaborate, which in turn can contribute to their well-being. Therefore, if fishing communities have strong social capital, particularly in terms of social networks, they can leverage it to improve their welfare.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the research results titled "Analysis of the Relationship Between Social Capital and Poverty Among Fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village, Bontoa District, Maros Regency," the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The social capital of fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village is measured through three variables: trust, social networks, and social norms. The trust variable consists of three indicators, including trust among fellow fishermen, trust in the government, and trust in institutions.
2. The social network variable is formed by three indicators, which include cooperation with the government, ties with institutions, and participation in activities focused on the common good.

3. The social norm variable is formed by four indicators: adherence to norms, ease of receiving help from others (for example, related to finances), willingness to help those in need, and involvement in joint activities to assist those affected by disasters.
4. Social capital has an impact on the poverty of fishermen in Bonto Bahari Village, as obtained through SEM-PLS analysis. Based on the hypotheses tested, it was found that trust and social norms have a negative impact on poverty, while social networks have a positive impact on the welfare of fishermen in poverty.

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