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**FARMERS' PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS ALLOCATION OF VILLAGE FUNDS
FOR MANAGEMENT OF BUMDES MOVING IN AGRICULTURE IN TIDAL LAND
OF BARITO KUALA REGENCY, INDONESIA**

Budiwati Nina*, Rosni Masyhudah

Study Program of Agribusiness, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Lambung Mangkurat,
Banjarbaru, Indonesia

*E-mail: ninabudiwati@ulm.ac.id

ABSTRACT

Village-owned enterprises (BUMDes) are very important for the community to develop the village economy, for those villages receive assistance from the district government in the form of village funds that are distributed to BUMDes. There are 133 BUMDes in Barito Kuala Regency, 33 of which are engaged in agriculture. Barito Kuala has agricultural potential with tidal land, so that the existing villages form BUMDes which are engaged in agriculture. Based on this, a study was conducted to determine farmers' perceptions of the allocation of village funds used for the management of BUMDes engaged in agriculture on tidal lands of Barito Kuala Regency, as well as the relationship between farmers' perceptions and the characteristics of the farmers themselves. The analysis carried out is the interval method with categories. The number of samples had taken as many as 60 respondents. The majority of farmer respondents are in the 41-45 year age group, with the highest average education level from junior high school and below, and with the number of members mostly in the number of household members of 2 people, and with the most arable land area of 0,75-1 ha.

KEY WORDS

Village fund allocation, BUMDes, Tidal Land.

Village Perceptions are responsible for improving the welfare of the community (Effendi, 2008), community welfare is a condition that shows the state of community life which can be seen from the standard of living of the community (Seran et al., 2017). The common vision for the development of independence, equality, respect, and respect for human values and local wisdom of rural communities, especially in terms of cooperation (gotong royong) and self-reliance is expected to be able to strengthen village community governance, so that villages receive special attention from the government for provide direction, management of development and capital assistance to overcome poverty and social welfare problems (Sumarni et al., 2020).

One of the institutions that will build and support the economy of rural communities is the Village Owned Enterprise (BUMDes). Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) are village economic institutions or bodies that are formed and owned by the village government, managed economically, independently and professionally with total capital and most of it is village wealth (Dewi, 2014).

The Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) were formed with the aim of gaining profits in order to strengthen the village's original income, improve the village economy and prosper the village community (Budiono, 2015). The existence of Village Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) is very important because it functions as a driving force for the village economy and the welfare of rural communities (Umanailo et al., 2018).

The goals and objectives of Village Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) can be achieved if they are managed in a directed and professional manner. Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) are a solution to problems that occur in the village and are expected to encourage and move the village economy (Agunggunanto et al., 2016). The presence of Village Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) is expected to make village communities more independent and more prosperous. However, considering that it is still a new thing in its existence, it is not surprising that in practice there are still several obstacles that arise, especially in terms of formation and



management (Zulpikar, 2018). The allocation of Village Funds is expected to improve both physical and non-physical aspects of development in order to encourage community welfare (Sulastri, 2016).

The implementation of the Village Fund Allocation (ADD) is carried out physically and non-physically related to village development indicators (Irma, 2015). Indicators of village development include education level, income level, and health level. With the provision of Village Fund Allocations (ADD), physical development has so far been considered sufficient to meet village facilities and infrastructure; however, villages are still far from being successful in terms of physical development. In relation to the provision of Village Fund Allocation (ADD) it is hoped that villages can be more independent and innovative in utilizing existing potentials, and direct assistance allocated to village governments is used to improve community service facilities, village institutions and infrastructure that are needed and prioritized. by the community, where the utilization and administration of its management is carried out and accounted for by the Village Head.

Given the importance of village-owned enterprises for the community to develop the village economy, it is determined that villages receive financial assistance from the district/city government in the form of village funds which are channeled to BUMDes in order to improve the economy and prosper the people in the villages of Barito Kuala Regency.

There are 133 Village Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) in Barito Kuala Regency. As for the number of 133 BUMDes that are engaged in agriculture, as many as 33 BUMDes. This is because, Barito Kuala Regency which has agricultural potential with tidal land, so that the existing villages form BUMDes which are engaged in agriculture.

Based on this background, according to the researcher, it is necessary to conduct research to determine farmers' perceptions of the allocation of village funds used for the management of BUMDes engaged in agriculture on tidal land, Barito Kuala Regency.

METHODS OF RESEARCH

The research location is Barito Kuala Regency. This location determination was determined purposively with the consideration that Barito Kuala Regency is the Regency that has the most extensive tidal land in South Kalimantan. The subjects in this study were respondents and informants. The unit of analysis in this study is the farmer who cultivates in the research area. The sampling technique in this research is multistage simple sampling. Multistage simple sampling was chosen because the population of farmers who work on tidal land areas where there are BUMDes in the agricultural sector is spread over the villages, so it is necessary to take several villages and from these villages only 60 respondents were taken to be used as research samples.

The selection of informants was carried out purposively through the snowball sampling technique which was needed to obtain continuous information between one informant and another. The informants in this study were several people consisting of community leaders, village heads, BUMDes administrators, and village consultative bodies.

To answer the first objective, namely the perception of farmers on the allocation of village funds used for the management of BUMDes engaged in agriculture on tidal land, Barito Kuala Regency was carried out qualitatively, quantified by the interval formula, to be categorized into 3 categories.

$$Interval = \frac{Range (Highest\ Score - Lowest\ Score)}{Number\ of\ Classes} \quad (1)$$

Where: Highest Score = Number of Questions × Weighted Highest, Score Lowest Score = Number of Questions × Weighted Lowest Score; Perception level is high, if (perception score Highest score – Interval); Perception level is moderate, if (Lowest Score + Interval and or perception score Highest Score – Interval); The level of perception is low, if (perception score Lowest Score + Interval).



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Respondents in this study are fathers and housewives of farmers in village locations whose BUMDes are engaged in agriculture. The characteristics of pineapple farmer households that became the independent variables in this study included age, number of dependents/household members, formal education, and farm area.

In general, age can determine a person's physical condition in working to meet food needs. If someone is outside the productive age, then that person's ability will be reduced in doing a job (farming). The age distribution of farmer respondents who are in village locations whose BUMDes is engaged in agriculture can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1 – Distribution of respondents by age group

No.	Age Group	Percentage (%)
1.	< 30 years	5
2.	30 – 35 years	11
3.	36 – 40 years	15
4.	41 – 45 years	35
5.	46 – 50 years	25
6.	> 50 years	9

Based on the data presented Table 1 shows that the majority of respondents are in the 41-45 year age group, while the distribution of respondents at least found in the age group <30 years. This means that most farmers in the study area are dominated by the elderly group, although still in the limit of productive age.

In general, age can also be an important point that is positively related to life experience. The higher a person's age, of course, the more life experiences they will have. Many life experiences will shape a person's way of thinking and also shape the way that person makes decisions.

Through education one can improve the quality of oneself, because education when viewed from the farmer's perspective is a process so that one can change for the better, starting from knowledge, skills and attitudes. Formal education is a form of education that is officially recognized by the government. The higher a person's education, of course, the better the way that person thinks in making decisions. The distribution of farmer respondents based on their level of formal education can be seen in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Distribution of farmer respondents by level of formal education

No.	Formal Education	Percentage (%)
1.	No School	3
2.	No Graduated from Elementary School	5
3.	Graduated from Elementary School	22
4.	Not Graduated from Junior High School	4
5.	Graduated from Junior High School	35
6.	Not Graduated from High School	16
7.	Graduated from High School	14
8.	Not Graduated from Higher Education	1

Based on the data presented in Table 2, it shows that there are still many farmers with low education. The number of farmers with junior high school education and below is 69%, there are even farmers who do not receive school education, so that the role of agricultural extension workers as agents of change who provide counseling as a form of adult education is very important for farmers to increase their knowledge.

The number of household members is the total number of household members, but not including the head of the household. In general, the more members of the household, the more expenditures, especially food expenditures. However, the more members of the household who can play a role in helping in work or business, it can certainly increase the value of income. The distribution of respondents based on the number of household members can be seen in Table 3.



Table 3 – Distribution of respondents based on the number of household members

	Number of Household Members	Percentage (%)
1.	None	1
2.	1 person	6
3.	2 people	35
4.	3 people	27
5.	4 people	22
6.	> 4 people	9

Based on the data presented in Table 3, it shows that the distribution the most respondents found in the number of household members 2 people as much as 35%. While the number of household members is more than 4 people as much as 9%.

Land is a factor of production of a farm, the larger the area of land owned, the more production will be produced. Although it can be known, there are other production factors that determine the production results of a farm. This also applies to every farm, as well as to food crop farming. The distribution of respondents based on the area of arable land can be seen in Table 4.

Table 4 – Distribution of respondents based on the area of arable land

no.	Farm Land Area	Percentage (%)
1.	< 0.25 hectares	3
2.	0.25 - 0.5 hectares	8
3.	0.5 - 0.75 hectares	26
4.	0.75 - 1 hectare	42
5.	> 1 hectares	21

Based on the data presented in Table 4, it shows that most respondents have land area between 0.75 – 1 hectare. But there are still farmers who have a land area of less than 0.25 hectares as much as 3%, and an area of land between 0.25 - 0.5 hectares as much as 8%.

The dominant type of farming commodity cultivated is food crops in the form of rice as the main commodity. For other commodity crops, which are also quite a lot, are citrus plants and oil palm plants.

Data analysis by making categories is used to determine the level of farmers' perceptions of the management of agricultural BUMDes that use village fund allocations in tidal lands of Barito Kuala Regency using three categories, namely good, sufficient and less. This level of perception is divided into six indicators that are seen, namely: cooperative, participatory, emancipatory, transparent, accountable and sustainable. If viewed as a whole, the level of farmers' perceptions of the management of agricultural BUMDes using village fund allocations can be seen in Table 5 below.

Table 5 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception of BUMDes management

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 66	Good	13	22
42–66	Enough	26	43
< 42	Less	21	35

Based on the data presented in Table 5, it shows that the farmers' perception level is the most dominant in the sufficient category as many as 26 respondents or 43 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes is 13 respondents or 22 percent, and 21 people or 35 percent who have a poor perception.

On the cooperative side, the perception that is assessed is that the community participates in the management of BUMDes, the management is capable of managing BUMDes, and the management and the community can work together in the management of



BUMDes. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions from the cooperative side can be seen in Table 6 below.

Table 6 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception from the cooperative side

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 11	Good	18	30
7 – 11	Enough	27	45
< 7	Less	15	25

Based on the data presented in Table 6, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant cooperative side in the sufficient category as many as 27 respondents or 45 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes from the cooperative side are 18 respondents or 30 percent, and 18 people or 30 percent who have less perception.

On the participatory side, the perception that is assessed is that the community provides support in the management of BUMDes, BUMDes management participates in contributing voluntarily without being asked, and the community and administrators participate in improving BUMDes business. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions from the participatory side can be seen in Table 7 below.

Table 7 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception from the participatory side

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 11	Good	9	15
7 – 11	Enough	33	55
< 7	Less	18	30

Based on the data presented in Table 7, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant part of the participatory side in the sufficient category is as many as 33 respondents or 55 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes from the participatory side is 9 respondents or 15 percent, and 18 people or 30 percent who have a less perception.

On the emancipatory side, the perception that is assessed is that all components that participate in the management of BUMDes are treated equally without distinguishing between groups, all components that participate in the management of BUMDes are treated equally regardless of ethnicity, and all components that participate in the management of BUMDes are treated equally regardless of religion. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions from the emancipatory side can be seen in Table 8 below.

Table 8 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception from the emancipatory side

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 11	Good	24	40
7 – 11	Enough	35	58
< 7	Less	1	2

Based on the data presented in Table 8, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant emancipatory side in the sufficient category is as many as 35 respondents or 58 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes from the emancipatory side are 24 respondents or 40 percent, and 1 person or 2 percent who have a less perception.

On the transparent side, the perception that is assessed is that all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes have an influence on the public interest, all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes are open, all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes are known to all levels of society, and all expenses and income of BUMDes are known. all walks of life. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions from the transparent side can be seen in Table 9 below.



Table 9 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception from the transparent side

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 15	Good	6	10
9 – 15	Enough	33	55
< 9	Less	21	35

Based on the data presented in Table 9, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant transparent side in the sufficient category is as many as 33 respondents or 55 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes from the transparent side is 6 respondents or 10 percent, and those who have a less perception are 21 people or 35 percent.

On the accountable side, the perception that is assessed is that all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes can be accounted for technically, and all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes can be accounted for administratively. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions from the accountable side can be seen in Table 10 below.

Table 10 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception in terms of accountability

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 7	Good	4	7
5 – 7	Enough	33	55
< 5	Less	23	38

Based on the data presented in Table 10, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant accountability side in the sufficient category is as many as 33 respondents or 55 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes from an accountable side is 4 respondents or 7 percent, and 23 people or 38 percent who have a less perception.

On the sustainable side, the perception that is assessed is that all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes continue to develop, all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes can be well preserved, and all activities carried out in the management of BUMDes are sustainable. The distribution of respondents based on perceptions in terms of sustainability can be seen in Table 11 below.

Table 11 – Distribution of respondents based on the level of perception in terms of sustainability

Criteria Score	Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
> 11	Good	9	15
7 – 11	Enough	41	68
< 7	Less	10	17

Based on the data presented in Table 11, it shows that the level of farmers' perceptions of the most dominant aspect of sustainability in the sufficient category is 41 respondents or 68 percent. While the number of respondents who have a good level of perception of the management of BUMDes in terms of sustainability is 9 respondents or 15 percent, and 10 people or 17 percent have less perception.

CONCLUSION

The majority of farmer respondents is in the 41-45 year age group, with the most education average at the level of education from junior high school and below, and with the most members at the number of household members is 2 people, and the area of arable land is mostly 0.75-1 hectare. The most dominant level of farmer perception in the sufficient category is 43 percent, the rest are in the good category as much as 22 percent and less as much as 35 percent. In terms of transparency and accountability, the perception of farmers is still lacking quite a lot, compared to the level of perception as a whole.



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