AJARCDE
ASIAN JOURNAL OF APPLIED RESEARCH FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

Journal home page: http://ajarcde-safe-network.org ISSN 2581-0405

Effectiveness of Social Forestry in Increasing Community Income in Mekakau Ilir District

Tibyan[1], Munajat[2], Fifian Permata Sari[3]

[1] *Student of Agricultural Economic Study Program University of Baturaja., Indonesia*
[2,3] *Lecturer of Agricultural Economy Study Program University of Baturaja, Indonesia*

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:
Received: 28 March 2024
Final Revision: 18 May 2024
Accepted: 19 May 2024
Online Publication: 20 May, 2024

KEYWORDS

Effectiveness, Social Forestry, Income

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR

*E-mail: munajat@unbara.ac.id

A B S T R A C T

This study aimed to assess the efficacy of social forestry in enhancing the economic prosperity of the community in Mekakau Ilir Regency, with a particular focus on farmers who engage in the cultivation of forest products as a supplementary source of income. A descriptive research method was employed, and sampling was conducted using the Slovin formula to ensure representative data collection. The study evaluated the performance of social forestry in augmenting community income by analyzing the revenue generated from forest-related activities. Key factors influencing this outcome included income, education level, and the duration of business activities. The findings revealed that the efficacy of social forestry in increasing community income stands at 49.78%, classifying it as moderately effective according to the established assessment criteria. Social forestry provides a viable method for increasing community income by diversifying livelihood sources. Although the community primarily depends on main income sources such as coffee, clove, and chili plantations, the additional income from social forestry significantly supplements their economic well-being. These results underscore the importance of integrating sustainable forest management practices with local economic development strategies to enhance rural livelihoods. Social forestry in Mekakau Ilir District has proven to be an effective approach for enhancing community revenue.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Research Background

Social forestry has developed as a crucial approach to align the goals of forest protection and community development. This strategy combines sustainable forest management practices with the socio-economic requirements of local populations, promoting both environmental conservation and economic empowerment. Within the Mekakau Ilir District, social forestry has the potential to act as a catalyst for improving the livelihoods of the community, while also ensuring the sustainable utilization of forest resources.

The Mekakau Ilir District, known for its abundant biodiversity and vast forested regions, offers a distinctive opportunity to analyze the effects of social forestry programs. Traditionally, the communities in this district have significantly depended on forest resources for their survival and economic endeavors. Nevertheless, conventional methods of exploiting forests frequently result in resource exhaustion and environmental deterioration, making it imperative to transition to more sustainable management models.
One of the social forestry schemes that manages the work area by implementing an agroforestry system is Community forest (HKm) [1]. HKm is a system and form of forest management that involves the participation of various other parties, and it can be carried out anywhere, such as in protected forest areas that have obtained HKm permits [2]. The development of Community Forests using an agroforestry pattern aligns with the main foundation of forestry implementation, namely paying attention to aspirations and involving the community. The Government is obliged to encourage community participation through various activities in the forestry sector that are efficient and effective (article 70 of Forestry Law No. 41 of 1999) [3]. Agroforestry is the optimal and sustainable use of land, combining forestry and agricultural activities in the same land management unit and paying attention to the participating communities' physical, social, economic and cultural environmental conditions [4]. Agroforestry aims to improve the welfare of village communities around the forest by providing opportunities for village

communities or farmers to grow food crops to increase population income [5]. Currently, agroforestry has become an important topic of discussion because apart from having a concept as a solution to land use problems, it is also a system used by the community to obtain various kinds of food, animal feed, and firewood needs [6]. As is the case with land use in Tanjung Besar village, the complex agroforestry system implemented by the community is expected to solve problems that often arise due to misuse of land use.

The main problem of the community in the previous decades was the limited land they owned, so the results they obtained were sometimes not enough for their family's needs [7]. Because of this, the community encroached on the forest, carrying out illegal logging, which caused damage to the forest; as a result, Tanjung Besar Village experienced relatively high deforestation due to land clearing carried out by the community entering the forest area. Based on the problem of deforestation for previously cleared land, the solution is to form community forest farmer groups. However, in recent years, forest destruction has decreased, and forest management has been carried out to meet needs and improve the community's economy [8]. Our Forest Institute (Haki) stated that deforestation or forest loss due to human activities continues in South Sumatra. Based on Haki Data, Total Land Can Be Seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Total Land Experiencing Deforestation in South Sumatra

District/City	Forest area (Ha)
Banyuasin	21,954
Musi banyuasin	9.976
Muara enim	2.038
OKI	1.724
OKU	766
OKU Selatan	576
OKU Timur	81
Lahat	55

Based on Table 1, South Ogan Komering Ulu experienced deforestation from 2016 to 2020, covering an area of 576 Ha. Community forest (HKm) is one of the social forestry schemes implemented to manage the work area as an agroforestry system. HKm is a system and form of forest management that involves the participation of various other parties, which can be carried out anywhere, such as in protected forest areas that have obtained a community forest business permit (IUPHKm) [9]**.** The success of social forestry can be seen from its effectiveness. In Mahmudi's opinion, he defines effectiveness as follows: "Effectiveness is the relationship between output and goals, the more significant the contribution (contribution) of output to achieving goals, the more influential the organization, program or activity is [10].

Effectiveness focuses on outcomes, programs, or activities that are considered effective if the output produced can meet the expected goals or is said to be spent wisely. The condition of the community in the community forest group is that they really hope for additional results by planting types of wood that bear fruit, for example, durian, petai, jengkol, areca nut and avocado. so that it can increase income from farming, while the majority of crops cultivated from generation to generation are coffee, so with the existence of an agroforestry system in the community forest farmer group in Mekakau Ilir, they are very supportive and hope that in the future it can improve the welfare of the community forest farmer group in Mekakau Ilir sub-district.

1.2. Literature Review

The word originates from the English term effective, which denotes something accomplished. The common scientific lexicon defines effectiveness as suitability for use, beneficial outcomes, or supporting objectives. According to H. Emerson, efficacy is a gauge for reaching preset objectives. [11]. This is following the opinion expressed [12]. A measure of effectiveness indicates the extent to which the goal (quantity, quality, and time) has been met. Efficiency. Based on the many viewpoints presented above, it can be inferred that effectiveness is a metric that expresses how well management has performed in terms of quantity, quality, and time, given that these goals have already been established.

The link between output and goals is known as effectiveness; the more an organization, program, or activity contributes to achieving goals, the more effective it is [13]. Effectiveness focuses on results, programs, or activities considered effective if the output produced meets the expected objectives or is said to be spent wisely.

The link between output and goals is known as effectiveness; the more an organization, program, or activity contributes to achieving goals, the more effective it is [15]. Effectiveness is also related to the problem of how to achieve the goals or results obtained, the usefulness or benefits of the results obtained, the level of functional power of elements or components, and the problems. Level of user/client satisfaction [16]. Based on the definition above, effectiveness is the suitability of a program to achieve the desired goals.

There are various evaluation approaches to assessing program effectiveness [17]. These approaches are:

The experimental method (experimental method). This method comes from control trials commonly carried out in university studies. The objective is to isolate the influence of a specific program and control for the most significant number of variables to draw broad conclusions regarding its impact.

This is a goal-oriented methodology. Program objectives are used as success criteria. It is highly sensible and useful for designing programs.

This method directs software developers by elucidating the connection between the activities provided and the desired results. A decision-focused strategy (decision-focus method). This method strongly emphasises the function that organized data plays in helping program managers do their jobs. This perspective holds that knowledge is most helpful when it helps program managers make decisions. Planning evaluations following program decision-making requirements is therefore necessary.

A method that is user-centric or user-oriented. This strategy emphasizes increasing the usage of information while concentrating on the evaluation utilization issue. The possible use of the knowledge is the primary objective. In this instance, the evaluator is aware of several factors that may affect the evaluation's utility, including how the client is approached, sensitivity, condition factors, and circumstances like pre-existing and significant organizational conditions. society and the circumstances surrounding the assessment. carried out and documented. In this method, user effort and how the information is used are more significant than data analysis techniques or outlining the evaluation's goal**.**

The strategy that responds (the responsive approach). According to the responsive approach, a meaningful evaluation looks at an issue from the perspectives of all people involved, concerned, or interested in the program (i.e., stakeholders). Since each person impacted by the program feels differently, evaluators avoid utilizing singular answers for program evaluations gathered through tests, questionnaires, or statistical analysis. The assessor tries to address queries about characterising or characterizing reality from these individuals' points of view. The evaluation's goal is to comprehend the program from many perspectives.

1.3. Research Objective

This research aims to determine the effectiveness of social forestry in increasing community income in Mekakau Ilir Regency. The object of the study is farmers who cultivate forest products as a side business.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Implementation method

Descriptive research methods are used to implement the study, aiming to precisely represent the facts and characteristics of the thing under study [18]. The population and sample strategy were determined to conduct the investigation. Farmers in South OKU Regency's Mekakau Ilir District made up the study's population.

.

2.2. Sampling method

The sampling method uses calculations using the Slovin formula with a sample size of 69 farmers. The sampling method in the research uses a group random sampling method (Cluster sampling), namely a sampling procedure where the smallest unit in the population is a collection of elements within the cluster, usually heterogeneous but between clusters homogeneous. Then, we select a sample whose members are clusters so that it is no longer a sample whose members are the smallest units of analysis [19]. So the number of samples obtained can be seen in the table below:

Table 2. Number of Respondents

No	Village	Population	Sample	Percentage
1	Pulau duku	69	17	25 %
2	Galang tinggi	78	20	25 %
3	Bunut	50	13	25 %
4	Teluk agung	77	19	25 %
	Total	247	69	100 %

2.3. Collecting data method

The data collection methods used in this research are observation and interviews. The observation method observes several aspects of a problem to obtain the necessary facts, while the interview method collects question-and-answer information [20]. Interviews involve interaction and communication by asking respondents directly to obtain information [21].

2.4. Data analysis method

The effectiveness of social forestry is the extent to which it successfully increases the income the community achieves after considering income from social forestry. Several influencing factors are income, education level, and business length.

The data analysis used in this research is that the effectiveness of counseling can be calculated using the formula: The results of the initial test and final test are scored with the following conditions: answer a is 4 points, answer b is 3 points, answer c is 2 points, and answer d is 1 point. Next, The results are tabulated and processed. The effectiveness of counselling can be calculated using a formula:

$$EP = (ps\text{-}pr) / (N.4.Q)\text{-}pr) \times 100\ \%$$

Note:
Ps = Final test (Post test)
Pr = Initial test (Pre-test)
N = Number of respondents
4 = The highest score
Q = Number of questions

Where:
Ps-Pr = Increased Knowledge
N.5.Q = Gap Value

The level of effectiveness of forestry in increasing community income can be assessed using criteria [22]:
0 – 25 % : Less effective
25 – 50% : Effective enough
50 – 75%: Effective
75 – 100%: Very effective

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The community forest located in Air Baru Village, Mekakau Ilir District, is held by KTH (Forest Farmers Group) Barisan Jaya and has an area of 250 Ha. The non-timber forest products utilised by communities around the forest include coffee, durian, rubber latex, pete, jengkol, areca nut, jackfruit, and forest honey.

The effectiveness of social forestry is the extent to which social forestry is successful in increasing the income achieved by the community after looking at income from social forestry, and there are several influencing factors, namely income, level of education and length of business [23]. The calculations used are as follows:

EP= (ps - pr) / (N.4.Q) - pr) x 100 %
EP= (1256-801) / (27.4.16)-801) x 100 %
EP=555/927 x 100 %
EP=49.78 %

The social forestry effectiveness value of 49.78% is the conclusion of the computation. According to the criteria, the degree of forestry efficacy falls between 25 and 50%, indicating that it is fairly effective. According to research, social forestry is a very effective way to increase community income when, in reality, the community depends on its primary source of income from main livelihoods like coffee plantations, clove plantations, chillies, and other sources for daily needs. The income from social forestry results is only a side source of income. Because forest products—both wood and non-wood—are readily

https://doi.org/10.29165/ajarcde.v8i2.386

accessible in highland regions like hills and valleys, social forestry impacts farmers' income and ability to support their families [24].

4. CONCLUSION

The research draws several important conclusions about the effectiveness of social forestry in Mekakau Ilir District:

Government Program for Community Welfare: Community forests are part of a governmental initiative to enhance communities' welfare near forested areas. This program allocates state forest land to local residents, allowing them to sustainably manage and utilize forest resources. The program seeks to balance ecological conservation with economic development by involving local communities in forest management.

Impact on Community Income: The analysis of the effectiveness of community forests in increasing local income indicates a 49.78% effectiveness rate. This significant figure demonstrates that social forestry programs positively impact communities' economic well-being near forests. These programs enable locals to generate additional income through various forest-related activities. **Economic Benefits for Farmers:** Community forests have proven to be quite effective in boosting farmers' incomes. By utilizing forest resources as a supplementary source of income, farmers can improve their financial stability and better support their daily needs. This dual approach of agricultural and forest-based income enhances overall livelihood security. **In summary,** social forestry in Mekakau Ilir District has shown to be a viable strategy for improving community income. The program's success underscores the importance of integrating sustainable forest management with local economic development. These findings highlight the potential for broader application of social forestry initiatives to promote rural development and environmental sustainability.

REFERENCE

[1] R. . Mulyadin, Surati, and A. Kuncoro, "Kajian Hutan Kemasyarakatan sebagai Sumber Pendapatan: Kasus di Kabupaten Gunungkidul (Study of Community Forest as Source of Income : A Case in Gunungkidul Regency , Yogyakarta)," *Penelit. Sos. dan Ekon. Kehutan.*, vol. 13, no. 1, pp. 13–23, 2016.

[2] I. A.-J. I. P. Indonesia and undefined 2011, "The Technic Of Agroforestry at The Communal Forest Areas In Pejarakan Village, District Gerokgak, Regency Of Buleleng, Province Bali) I Putu Gede Ardhana 1,*," *Journal.Ipb.Ac.Id*, vol. 16, no. 2, pp. 81–90, 2011, [Online]. Available: http://journal.ipb.ac.id/index.php/JIPI/article/view/6604

[3] I. Yeny, M. Murniati, and S. S. Suharti, "Community Participation in the Development of Agroforestry at Gedong Wani Forest Management Unit/FMU," *J. Penelit. Sos. dan Ekon. Kehutan.*, vol. 17, no. 1, pp. 49–66, 2020, doi: 10.20886/jpsek.2020.17.1.49-66.

[4] O. O. Sobola and D. C. Amadi, "The Role of Agroforestry in Environmental Sustainability," *IOSR J. Agric. Vet. Sci.*, vol. 8, no. 5, pp. 20–25, 2015, doi: 10.9790/2380-08512025.

[5] M. Amin, I. Rachman, and S. Ramlah, "Types of agroforestry and land use orientation in Simoro Village, Gumbasa District, Sigi Regency," *War. Rimba*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 97–104, 2016.

[6] S. B. Zega, A. Purwoko, and T. Martial, "Analisis Pengelolaan Agroforestry dan Kontribusinya terhadap Perekonomian Masyarakat," *Peronema For. Sci. J.*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 157–167, 2013.

[7] F. P. Sari and M. Munajat, "Analisis Luas Lahan Minimum untuk Memenuhi Kebutuhan Hidup Petani Padi Sawah di Kecamatan Jayapura Kabupaten OKU Timur," *Rekayasa*, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 157–162, 2019, doi: 10.21107/rekayasa.v12i2.5911.

[8] M. Nugroho and Y. B. Hermanto, "Community Empowerment Participation in Forest Revegetation : An Analysis Study on the Slope Communities of Mount Arjuna , Indonesia," *Soeropati J. community Serv.*, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 1–19, 2023.

[9] M. Fauzi and H. Nahlunnisa, "Studi Pengelolaan Hutan Kemasyarakatan (Hkm) Di Desa Senggigi Kecamatan Batu Layar Kabupaten Lombok Barat," *J. Silva Samalas*, vol. 4, no. 1, p. 20, 2021, doi: 10.33394/jss.v4i1.3945.

[10] R. Andriani, "Efektivitas Program Peningkatan Produksi Hasil Peternakan di Kecamatan Pinggir Kabupaten Bengkalis," *Jom Fisip*, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 1–14, 2018, [Online]. Available: file:///C:/Users/Lenovo Jan 2023/Downloads/21862-42371-1-SM-6.pdf

[11] S. Faradiba, S. Muchsin, and Hayat, "Efektifitas Kinerja Pelayanan Sensus Penduduk Berbasis Online di Badan Pusat Statistik Kota Malang," *J. Inov. Penelit.*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 277–286, 2021.

[12] N. S. Edam, S. Pangemanan, and J. Kairupan, "Efektivitas Program Cerdas Command Center Sebagai Media Informasi Masyarakat Dalam Rangka Pelayanan Publik," *Eksekutif*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1–10, 2018, [Online]. Available: file:///C:/Users/user/Downloads/alfonkimbal,+Nia+Edam (1).pdf

[13] S. I. P. Mamonto, I. Rachman, and N. Kumayas, "Efektivitas Kinalang Sebagai Aplikasi Pelayanan Publik Berbasis Elektronik Di Kota Kotamobagu," *J. Gov.*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 1–14, 2022.

[14] L. Herawati and R. Hayati, "Efektivitas Penerapan Aplikasi Sistem Keuangan Desa (Siskeudes) Di Desa Tantaringin Kecamatan Muara Harus Kabupaten Tabalong," *J. Adm. Publik Adm. Bisnis*, vol. 3 No.2, no. 1, p. 860, 2020.

[15] C. V. Amalo, "Soda Molek: Effectiveness Of Public Services In Kelurahan Naikoten II Kecamatan Kota Raja Kupang City," *J. Inov. Kebijak.*, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 17–29, 2021.

[16] M. Pago, S. Sambiran, and J. Kaawoan, "Efektivitas Penggunaan Dana Desa dalam Pemberdayaan Masyarakat di Bidang Ekonomi (Studi Di Desa Ambia Kecamatan Essang Selatan Kabupaten kepulauan Talaud)," *J. Gov.*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 1–8, 2021, [Online]. Available: https://ejournal.unsrat.ac.id/index.php/governance/article/view/34924/32740

[17] A. T. Kesuma, "Efektivitas Model Pembelajaran Satus Pada Mata Pelajaran Akuntansi Usaha Dagang," *J. Pendidik. Ekon. Din. Pendidik.*, vol. IX, no. 2, pp. 148–158, 2014.

[18] C. M. Zellatifanny and B. Mudjiyanto, "Tipe Penelitian Deskripsi dalam Metode Penelitian," *Diakom J. Media dan Komun.*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 83–90, 2018.

[19] D. Firmansyah and Dede, "Teknik Pengambilan Sampel Umum dalam Metodologi Penelitian: Literature Review," *J. Ilm. Pendidik. Holistik*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 85–114, 2022, doi: 10.55927/jiph.v1i2.937.

[20] R. W. Husnul Khaatimah, "Efektivitas Model Pembelajaran Cooperative Integrated Reading and Composition Terhadap Hasil Belajar," *J. Teknolofi Pendidik.*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 76–87, 2017.

[21] I. N. Rachmawati, "Data Collection in Qualitative Research: Interviews," *Indones. J. Nurs.*, vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 35–40, 2007.

[22] Sudjana, "Desain Kemasan Produk (Analisis Perbandingan : Efektivitas Perlindungan Desain Industri Atau Merek)," *J. Ecodemica*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 118–126, 2020.

[23] K. S. Indraningsih, "Agricultural Innovation Dissemination Strategy in Supporting Agricultural Development," *Forum Penelit. Agro Ekon.*, vol. 35, no. 2, pp. 107–123, 2017.

[24] V. Oktavia and D. Zulvia, "Pengaruh Pendapatan Asli Daerah dan Dana Perimbangan Terhadap Kinerja Keuangan Pada 19 Kabupaten dan Kota di Sumatera Barat," *Profit J. Manajemen, Bisnis dan Akunt.*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 15–25, 2023, doi: 10.36057/jips.v5i2.471.

 https://doi.org/10.29165/ajarcde.v8i2.386