

Pa'belle Fishermen Empowerment: A Communicative Action Perspective in An Industrialized Society

Ince Rahma Ismail

Corresponding Authors' Email: inrahmahismail@gmail.com
 Pascasarjana Universitas Negeri Makassar, Indonesia

Rabihatun Idris

Email: rabihatunidris@unm.ac.id
 Pascasarjana Universitas Negeri Makassar, Indonesia

Andi Ima Kesuma

Email: andiimaksuma@unm.ac.id
 Pascasarjana Universitas Negeri Makassar, Indonesia

Received: October 2023

Accepted:

November 2023

Published:

December 2023

Abstract

This research examines the empowerment process of Pa'belle fishermen from a communicative action perspective, recognizing that all their activities serve as communication tools with meaning and messages for others. The study aims to analyze the problems faced by the fishermen during the empowerment process, as well as the communicative actions they undertake and the direction of their empowerment. The research utilizes a qualitative Single Case Study approach, with 15 purposively selected fishermen as informants who have at least two years of experience working as fishermen and understand the challenges experienced by fishermen and fishermen groups. Data collection involved in-depth interviews, participant observation, and literature study, while data analysis employed a three-step technique of data categorization, data reduction, and conclusion drawing. The study findings revealed various problems faced by Pa'belle fishermen in the empowerment process, including challenges with government support such as DAU 2021 assistance, the need for "Balean" wooden stakes, nets, extension workers' limited understanding of fishermen's socio-cultural realities, and exclusive participation in meetings with village heads. Internal problems within fishermen groups were also identified, such as the lottery-based determination of Sero numbers, inadequate information dissemination from extension workers to group members, lack of coordination among members, and a group leader who is not open or independent. The study also identified the communicative actions of Pabelle' fishermen during the empowerment process. These actions included intense communication, providing self-managed assistance tailored to the fishermen's needs, active participation in every activity, conveying ideas intensively, daring to express criticism and input on occurring problems, displaying a critical perspective on illegal logging issues, as well as exhibiting power, access, and control over their resources. In terms of the direction of Pabelle' fishermen empowerment, the study suggests the need to strengthen the role of fishermen groups, the digitalization of fishermen's activities, increased environmental awareness, and the involvement of external parties outside the government. This research demonstrates that empowerment processes among the Pa'belle fishermen involve various communicative actions that convey their social situations to others. The findings highlight the key problems encountered by the fishermen, the communicative actions they undertake during the empowerment process, and the directions for further empowerment initiatives. These insights contribute to a better understanding of the empowerment process and offer guidance for policymakers and practitioners seeking to empower marginalized fishing communities.

Keywords: Pa'belle fishermen, communicative action, empowerment, fishermen poverty

INTRODUCTION

The fishing community is a distinctive social entity. In addition to being the most economically disadvantaged, fishing communities also possess distinct characteristics. Despite residing in coastal regions, the contrasting physical environments of these fishing communities give rise to distinct cultural characteristics. This is the characteristic that sets them apart from others. An exemplar of such is the pa'belle fishing village. They are a collective of fishermen who employ passive fishing techniques, specifically employing belle, with a primary emphasis on capturing Malaja fish and targeting fishing spots within the coral reef region (Congge & Gohwong, 2023). The Malaja fish is highly esteemed among the residents of South Sulawesi due to its delectable flavor, which surpasses that of comparable fish found elsewhere. Malaja fish dishes have indeed acquired the status of a specialty within Luwu Regency. Conversely, the public's fascination with Malaja fish does not match the financial gains enjoyed by the fisherman. According to the Luwu Regency PPID statistics (2017), the average household size is 4 individuals. The monthly income per household is Rp. 777,750, and the annual per capita income of the community is Rp. 2,333,250. This quantity is significantly inadequate in comparison to the inflation rate of South Sulawesi Province.

The majority of fishermen in the coastal waters of Karang-karangan Luwu Regency are engaged in small-scale fishing, limiting their ability to fully utilize the fishery resources available in the area (Halid & Sulaeman, 2021). The issue at hand is the excessive pressure exerted on coastal waters by small-scale fisherman, resulting in symptoms of overfishing. This situation has become a representation of the state of coastal waters in the Karang-karangan area of Luwu Regency (Jalil & Ali, 2003). The labor of pa'belle fisherman is characterized by its individualistic nature, as they engage in the fishing of Malaja, the primary fish commodity, with rudimentary traditional boats and fishing equipment (Ismail et al, 2023). Due to the constraints imposed by the boat and fishing equipment (belle), the fishing areas are restricted exclusively to coastal seas. Pa'belle fishermen are multi-generational fishermen that specialize in catching malaja fish to provide for their families. Consequently, the fishing process, which serves as their primary source of revenue (Umar, 2022), relies on the acquired habits they have developed during the years. Therefore, there has been minimal progress in enhancing the fishing system throughout the years.

The unsatisfactory catches have a significant influence on output, leading to a usually poor level of income and welfare for pa'belle fisherman. The pa'belle malaja fisherman employ a one-day fishing technique, which is attributed to their utilization of specific boats and fishing equipment, as well as their cultural and familial work practices. Furthermore, the fishing activity known as Malaja, conducted by pa'belle along the Karang-karangan shore of Luwu Regency, exhibits a significant and ongoing intensity. The prolonged and intense fishing activity will have an impact on the population structure of Malaja fish, as stated by Halid & Mallawa (2017).

Another constraint is the relatively limited duration of their working hours, as they engage in fishing for only one day. According on the findings from interviews performed during the initial observation, it was determined that fisherman often earn a pretty high income during the spawning season. The Malaja fish spawning season occurs quarterly, with four spawning periods each year. The duration of each spawning season is 1-2 days, hence the income received by fisherman will be determined by rather modest catches. These conditions can endanger fishermen's ability to meet the growing demands of life necessary for survival.

The government has implemented various development programs to improve the socio-economic level of *pa'belle* fishermen (Ismail et al, 2023). However, the policies and implementation of development programs for *pa'belle* fishermen are still not optimal in breaking the chain of poverty and improving their welfare. This is because the portion of development policies in the social, economic and cultural fields in fishing communities is quite complex. In addition, fishing communities have their own cultural system and are different from other communities living in mountainous areas, valleys or lowlands or urban areas (Kusnadi, 2015).

One of the inhibiting factors is that the government and third parties in the poverty alleviation programme do not pay attention to the conditions of the community itself (Iskandar et al. 2019), especially *pa'belle* fishermen. The results of pre-research observations in the field show that access to resources is still hereditary, meaning that what they do now is nothing more than continuing their ancestral heritage. This suggests that the limited resources are hampering the poverty alleviation program through improved fishing management. In other cases, one of the social capitals owned by the *Pa'belle* fishermen group is that they always prioritize togetherness in carrying out fishing activities. The nature of mutual cooperation is also still strong among fellow fishermen where it is very clear how their cohesiveness is in the pursuit of resources needed in the preparation, implementation and operation of *pa'belle* fishing gear.

It can be seen that the program is not built on the government's willingness to absorb aspirations from fishermen about the needs needed, but more importantly, how the program realized to the fishing community can touch all *pa'belle* fishing communities (Ismail et al, 2023). These problems have an impact, among others, that the programs run do not seem systematic in the sense that the programs implemented are more incidental. Regarding third parties (private sector), Pertamina Palopo Depot located in Karang-karangan Village also provides assistance to the fishing community (*pa'belle*) in the form of CSR funds, but it is not sustainable, if there is a company profit, some is shared with the community, sometimes none is shared.

Furthermore, the government's development program aimed at the *pa'belle* fishing community fails to adequately address the social manifestations of the community's experiences. This is evident in the presence of government aid programs that are ineffective for *pa'belle* fishermen. Although assistance is available, it lacks utility, has a short duration, and is not efficiently implemented by the assistants. Consequently, there are numerous issues in the field as a result of policies that do not align with the aspirations of the community. The presence of such issues indicates a lack of comprehension on the part of the government regarding the actual circumstances and requirements of *pa'belle* fisherman. Simultaneously, the community faces a dearth of knowledge regarding the means and platforms via which they can express their desires and requirements. Consequently, the government formulates assistance programs based on projections rather than on actual on-the-ground data. Hence, a predicament arises wherein the government and the community face a lack of active community engagement in expressing their desires and necessities in a discerning manner to the government. Specifically, the fishermen's critical empowerment is significantly deficient or entirely absent, and this circumstance has persisted over an extended period. Given the current circumstances faced by *Pa'belle* fishermen, it is imperative to raise their awareness about the social situation and offer them viable alternatives to achieve economic, social, cultural, and political empowerment (Ismail et al, 2023; Eriyanti et al, 2020). This will enable them to independently address their own challenges and ultimately transform their lives. Researchers must diligently investigate the issues that arise in their sector and subsequently devise solutions. Hence, the issue formulations addressed in this research are: (1) What

challenges do Pa'belle fisherman encounter during the process of empowerment? (2) What is the role of communicative actions by Pabelle' fisherman in the process of empowerment? (3) What is the objective of Pabelle's initiative to empower fishermen?

METHOD

Research Design

This study employs a qualitative research methodology with a Single Case Study approach. The rationale for selecting this approach is to gain a deeper, contextually rich understanding of the communicative actions and empowerment processes among Pa'belle fishermen. This method allows for an in-depth exploration of the fishermen's experiences, perceptions, and challenges.

Participants

The study's participants consist of 15 fishermen from the Pa'belle community. These individuals were selected purposively, with the criteria being a minimum of 2 years' experience in fishing, an understanding of the problems faced by the fishing community, and active involvement in fishermen groups. This selection ensures that the informants have substantial knowledge and experience relevant to the study's objectives. The location of the study is in Bua regency, Palopo city the province of South Sulawesi.



Figure 2. Location of the Research.

Instrument

Data was collected through a triangulation of methods to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the research problem:

In-depth Interviews: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the selected fishermen to gather detailed insights into their experiences and perspectives.

Participant Observation: The researchers engaged in participant observation, immersing themselves in the daily activities of the fishermen to observe behaviors, interactions, and practices firsthand.

Literature Study: A review of relevant literature was conducted to supplement and contextualize the primary data collected from interviews and observations.

Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis followed Miles & Huberman's qualitative data analysis framework, which involves an interactive, three-step process; (1) Data Categorization: Initially, the

collected data were organized into distinct categories. This involved coding the data and identifying themes, patterns, and notable occurrences. The coding process was both deductive, based on the pre-established research objectives and questions, and inductive, emerging from the data itself. (2) Data Reduction: Once categorized, the data underwent a reduction process to distill the vast amount of information into a more manageable and coherent form. This step involved filtering out less relevant information, clustering similar data, and focusing on the most significant themes that emerged. The aim was to distill the essence of the data that directly contributes to answering the research questions. And (3) Conclusion Drawing and Verification: The final step involved drawing conclusions from the processed data. This included interpreting the meaning behind the identified themes, understanding the relationships between them, and relating the findings to the original research questions and objectives. Verification of these conclusions was achieved by cross-checking findings with existing literature, checking for consistencies, and seeking feedback from participants or peers for validation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings 1: Problems Faced by Pa'belle Fishermen

1. Problems with the Government

a) DAU Support 2021

In 2021, the government distributed boat aid to Belle' fishermen because the fisheries service had inventoried their needs and the fishermen really needed a small boat of approximately 5 GT. They have received the assistance, it is just unfortunate that they cannot function the boat properly and there is only one boat. On the other hand, the number of user fishermen is around 10 people. As a result, they only parked the boat and never used it.

b) Fishermen needed "Balean" (wooden stakes for making Belle')

In the early days of Belle', fishermen used bamboo blades. As development progressed, Belle' began to add the use of trawlers on the sides. Fishermen had the opportunity to increase their catch by making more Sero' to trap fish. But that required a lot of wood, so trees were cut down to make the balean. Fishermen need to make Sero' every 3 months and need about 60 wooden stakes per fisherman.

c) Needs in the net or trawl

So far, the nets that fishermen use are homemade and are of poor quality and quickly damaged. In one harvest, the net has leaked here and there and most of the ropes have broken because they cannot withstand salt water and they have complained for a long time to the government through the field instructors assigned to their area. The trawl assistance disbursed by the fisheries service to fishermen is not a trawl but fishermen have received it in the form of money. But fishermen do not buy trawlers.

d) Extension workers do not understand the socio-cultural reality of fishermen

The lack of extension workers in the field and the limited knowledge of the extension workers cause the fishing community to be less able to channel their aspirations which are their complaints. It seems that there are many problems faced by Malaja fishermen independently and the extension workers are not functional. In fact, these fishermen have high hopes for the extension workers to help them overcome these problems. This is quite a dilemma because on the other hand, it seems that fishermen expect more roles from extension workers beyond their main technical duties.

e) The meeting with the village head to express aspirations was only attended by certain people.

At village meetings, there are problems that often haunt the community, especially those who do not support the current elected village head. Those who did not vote or support the village head during the pilkades are often ignored by the village head, such as not

receiving invitations to meetings at the village office.

2. Internal problems of the fishing group

a) *Sero* number determination through lottery

The *sero* sequence number is determined by drawing a number. The fisherman who gets the number that comes out of the lottery is recorded and known by all *pa'belle'* members/community. In principle, the sequence number of *malaja (belle')* fishing gear is a habit that has been passed down from generation to generation by previous *pa'belle'*. At that time, it was believed that the numbered fishing locations were lucky areas to get a good catch. In order to avoid enclosing the *belle'* location in the numbered area, a drawing approach was held which became an agreement among *pa'belle'* fishermen. The draw is carried out regularly and has become a mutual agreement. Regular in the sense that every time the *malaja* fish spawn season, a drawing of the "*belle* number location" is held. The drawing is conducted by the group leader and witnessed by all members. The drawing is conducted in a house of worship (mosque; because all *pa'belle'* fishermen are Muslims) after Friday prayers. The number of *sero (belle')* drawn based on the numbering location is 27. In all these locations, there is a location with the most potential for fish, so each fisherman hopes to get that spot with his number drawn.

Over time, a number of fishermen felt that there was unfairness or games in the drawing process by bringing up certain fishermen always getting these strategic locations and it resulted in the elimination of other fishermen from the opportunity to get these strategic locations.

b) No member coordination (uninvited meetings)

The reality is that fishermen group members often miss information and do not get it from the chairman, resulting in members not attending meetings. This is a problem for the group in Karang-karangan. It is a negligence for the group leader to oversee the progress and development of its members.

Another form of "no coordination" is that not all fishermen are members of existing fishermen groups. Either the fishermen do not know the information about the need to join a group or the average fisherman knows about it but is not invited, or the fishermen themselves do not want to join.

c) Group leader is not open or independent

In this case, the head of the fishermen's group is often not open to members or tends to go his own way, causing various responses as a form of inappropriate actions presented or shown by a group leader.

Group leaders in the research location are often not open to their members or always go their own way. This means that there is often information in the form of training invitations for fishermen groups or meetings representing their groups but the information is not conveyed to their members or there is assistance from the government for fishermen groups but the information is not forwarded to its members and at the same time the invitation is attended by the chairman himself, including boat assistance from the agency, it is not known by the fishermen and the boat assistance is received by the chairman of the fishermen group and it is claimed as the result of his own work.

Table 1. Problems faced by *Pabelle'* fishermen.

No.	Problems faced by fishermen
1.	A. Problems with the government
2.	1. DAU Support 2021
3.	2. Fishermen need "Balean"

4.	3. Needs on the net
5.	4. Extension workers do not understand the socio-cultural reality of fishermen
6.	5. Meeting with the village head to express aspirations is only attended by certain people
7.	B. Internal problems of the fishing group
8.	1. Sero number determination through lottery
9.	2. Information from extension workers does not reach fishermen group members
10.	3. No member coordination (uninvited meetings)
11.	4. Group leader is not open or independent

Findings 2: Communicative actions of *Pabelle'* fishermen as an empowerment process

1. Fishermen empowerment process

Empowerment of *Pabelle'* fishermen was carried out through several trainings by the academic team, including: (1) Business management and institutional training and (2) Bio-FAD's production training. These trainings are intended to transfer appropriate technology as an alternative solution for fishing businesses during the lean season and evaluate activities after the entire program has been implemented. Strengthening the material of business group institutional management, through simple bookkeeping with the aim of recording, reporting and analyzing business conditions and training in making Bio FAD's FADs is new knowledge that can be implemented by group managers. There was an increase in understanding from the participants, the average before the training was 46 and after the training was 72 with an average increase of 36.11%. In addition, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was also held, to listen to the aspirations of fishermen related to their common problems and find alternative solutions to these problems together.

Technically, the training was oriented towards technical issues while in terms of mindset, insight, and attitude for social and political access they conducted problem-based group discussions. Thus, the knowledge and practices provided slowly change the mindset of fishermen to be better and competitive to solve their own problems without the intervention of other parties.

2. Communicative action as a training outcome

a. Intense communication

The openness of fishermen to share the problems they face is a certain factor that attracts the interest of the academic team to empower them further with applied science and community service programs. Their openness is a positive response and an initial indicator to measure their level of response to be empowered. Through an open attitude means there is a willingness to accept and also trust other parties to be involved in their problems to be resolved.

b. Provision of self-managed assistance according to the needs of fishermen

What makes the community happy and excited is that they manage the assistance program themselves and the allocation is clear. Through the management of their own funds, they can buy their own work needs. In a meeting held to discuss the priority needs that they will provide as well as pilot fishermen, among others: (1) For sero (*belle'*) fishing gear 1 unit for 1 person. (2) 5 PK motorboat for 1 person. (3) BioFAD's FAD unit for 1 fishing group (open access for all group members).

c. Active participation of fishermen in every activity

The presence of the academic team with its empowerment program makes the

fishermen community have the spirit and passion for their future. This is evident in the active presence of fishermen in almost all activity programs held during the empowerment program. Although the duration of the program only lasts about 6-7 months, the impact left and felt by the community is very pronounced. The meeting with fishermen when the academic team introduced a miniature or sample of the *sero'* that had been made using cemented pipes and brought to the meeting also attracted the attention of the Karang-karangan village community, including those who were not fishermen. They wanted to see an alternative model to the traditional *sero'* they had been using.

d. Fishermen intensely convey ideas

During the fishermen community empowerment program, the atmosphere of the fishermen group became more lively and dynamic. This can be seen from the discussions that took place among fishermen members. This reality is a special point that gets the attention of the academic team because it shows their lively atmosphere. They talked about their problems, problems with the government, problems in Karang-karangan village and some national issues.

e. Dare to convey criticism and input on problems that occur

The courage or straightforwardness of someone to convey something wrong done by others is unusual in the fishing community. The culture of the fishing community, which is more dominated by politeness and obedience, also makes such behavior unusual. There is an assumption among fishermen that criticizing others or even those older than them is an unethical behavior.

f. Critical of the problem of illegal logging

The problem of illegal logging of trees on the coast of Karang-Karangan village has been going on for a long time. The logging was carried out by individuals who wanted to profit from the fishermen's need for balean wood. Slowly and surely, the logging began to worry the fishermen because the loss of trees near the beach began to interfere with their daily activities. Such disruptions include no longer having anything to hold back the sea breeze that blows inland and no longer having anything to hold back the land during high tide, and so on. Having power, access and control over their resources.

Table 2. Communicative action as a process of fishermen empowerment

No.	Communicative actions of fishermen
1	Intense communication
2	Provision of self-managed assistance according to the needs of fishermen
3	Active participation of fishermen in every activity
4	Fishermen intensely convey ideas
5	Dare to convey criticism and input on problems that occur
6	Critical of the problem of illegal logging
7	Have power, access and control over their resources

Source: processed primary data, 2023.

Findings 3: The future direction of Pa'belle' fishermen empowerment

1. Strengthening the role of fishermen's groups

In order to increase the role of fishermen, the government inventoried fishermen through their involvement in fishing groups. This is done by registering them but on behalf of the group. This group then becomes the name for all the roles of fishermen in providing empowerment actions. For fishermen who are not or have not joined a fishermen group, they are required to form one by following the required requirements.

2. Digitalization of fishermen's activities

Related to digitalization, the fisheries agency requires fishermen to have an identity as a marine and fisheries business actor and they will obtain an identification in the form of a KUSUKA Card which also functions as a database to facilitate the protection and empowerment of fishermen.

3. Increased environmental awareness

Environmental awareness is the understanding of the vulnerability of the surrounding environment and how important it is to protect it. Therefore, it is necessary to spread environmental awareness as the simplest way to participate in creating a better future, especially for sustainable living for future generations.

4. Involvement of other parties outside the government

Nowadays, empowerment actors are starting to be looked at by many institutions, both private institutions, government institutions and companies. Companies allocate empowerment budgets through CSR, government institutions do have budgets for it, and educational institutions also have grants for applied science and community service.

Table 3. *Pabelle'* fishermen empowerment direction

No.	<i>Pabelle'</i> fishermen empowerment direction
1	Strengthening the role of fishermen's groups
2	Digitalization of fishermen's activities
3	Increased environmental awareness
4	Involvement of other parties outside the government

Discussion

The findings of this study highlight the various problems faced by Pa'belle fishermen in Karang-karangan village. Firstly, there are issues with the government's support, particularly regarding the distribution of boat aid and trawl assistance. The fishermen received boat aid but faced challenges in utilizing it effectively. Additionally, there was a need for balean, wooden stakes used in making Belle', and improved fishing nets or trawls. The fishermen also expressed concerns about the limited understanding of their socio-cultural reality by extension workers and the exclusion of certain individuals from village meetings.

One significant internal problem within the fishing group was the system of determining the sequence number for Sero', their fishing gear, through a lottery. This process led to accusations of unfairness and favoritism, resulting in a lack of equality among the fishermen. Another issue involved the lack of coordination and information sharing within the group, leading to missed meetings and a failure to monitor the progress and development of its members. Finally, the group leader's lack of openness and independence hindered effective communication and decision-making within the group.

On a positive note, the communication aspect of the empowerment program was found to be intense and effective (Prasetio et al., 2021). The fishermen actively engaged in discussions, conveying their ideas, criticisms, and inputs on various issues. This increased openness and willingness to express their opinions marked a significant shift in their mindset and demonstrated a higher level of confidence and empowerment within the community.

The research also identified the problem of illegal logging in Karang-karangan village, which negatively impacted the fishermen's daily activities and the coastal ecosystem. The fishermen displayed a critical perspective on this issue, recognizing the negative consequences and voicing their concerns. This highlights the importance of empowering marginalized communities to address environmental issues and actively participate in conservation efforts.

Through community empowerment in Karang-karangan village, people have demonstrated their ability to achieve higher aspirations and goals, both at a personal and group level. The community's high responsiveness to change is evident in their willingness to learn and adapt to new information and knowledge. The program implementers, the academic team, effectively transferred new information to activity groups, which, in turn, shared it with each family. This responsiveness and willingness to learn show the positive impact of training and empowerment programs on the fishing communities, as highlighted in Khalid's research, et al (2022).

The fishing community in Karang-karangan village has experienced social change as a result of their participation in the empowerment programs. This change is similar to the transformation observed in Biringere Village as described by Kamaruddin et al. (2018). The old culture, characterized by a reluctance to criticize and uneasiness, has gradually been replaced by a new culture that is open and willing to address problems openly and honestly. The empowerment programs have facilitated this shift in mindset and behavior, leading to changes that encompass all aspects of people's lives at the individual, group, and community levels (Andronova et al., 2019).

The findings of this study have several implications for empowering marginalized communities, particularly in an industrialized society. Firstly, fostering open communication channels and active participation encourages marginalized communities to share their concerns and ideas (Wenzel, 2019; Xu & Kang, 2020; Tsenios et al, 2022). Secondly, involving the community in resource allocation and decision-making processes enhances their sense of ownership and agency. Thirdly, promoting a culture of constructive criticism enables communities to address challenges effectively. Finally, raising awareness of environmental issues and involving communities in conservation efforts contribute to sustainable development.

The empowerment process of Pa'belle fishermen Karang-karangan village through communicative action has demonstrated the potential for positive change and increased agency within marginalized communities. The findings and implications of this study emphasize the importance of open communication, self-management, courageous expression of ideas, and critical perspectives in empowering marginalized communities. By focusing on these aspects, policymakers and practitioners can develop effective strategies to foster empowerment and sustainable development in industrialized societies.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study sheds light on the various problems faced by Pa'belle fishermen in Karang-karangan village, including issues with the government, socio-cultural realities, internal group dynamics, and environmental challenges. Through the process of communicative action and community empowerment, significant changes have been observed in the fishermen's mindset, attitudes, and behavior. The study reveals the novelty of the research by highlighting the following key findings:

1. The intense communication and active participation of fishermen in discussions and decision-making processes demonstrate their high responsiveness to change and their willingness to share ideas and concerns openly. This signifies a transformative shift in the community's culture of politeness and obedience.
2. The provision of self-managed assistance, where fishermen have the autonomy to determine their own needs and allocate resources accordingly, has fostered a sense of ownership, agency, and responsibility within the community. This approach enhances sustainability and ensures that empowerment efforts are tailored to the specific

requirements of the fishermen.

3. Fishermen's willingness to convey criticism, express their ideas, and address issues such as illegal logging showcases their newfound confidence and ability to advocate for their rights. This demonstrates the empowering effect of the program in enabling the community to assert itself and actively participate in decision-making processes.

The study highlights the importance of improving the understanding and involvement of extension workers in the socio-cultural realities of the fishing community. By bridging this gap, extension workers can better support the community in addressing their challenges and aspirations.

Moving forward, there are several avenues for future directions in empowering Pa'belle fishermen. Strengthening the role of fishermen's groups, digitalizing their activities through initiatives (Andronova et al., 2019) like the KUSUKA Card, increasing environmental awareness, and involving other external stakeholders can further enhance the empowerment process and lead to sustainable development in Karang-karangan village.

Overall, this research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on participatory and community-based approaches to empowerment, highlighting the importance of effective communication, group coordination, and inclusive decision-making processes. By recognizing and addressing the specific problems faced by marginalized communities, policymakers and practitioners can devise targeted strategies to empower and uplift these communities, fostering their sustainable development and well-being.

REFERENCES

- Andronova, I. V., Belova, I. N., & Yakimovich, E. A. (2019, May). Digital technology in the fishing sector: international and Russian experience. In *1st International Scientific Conference "Modern Management Trends and the Digital Economy: from Regional Development to Global Economic Growth"(MTDE 2019)* (pp. 277-280). Atlantis Press.
- Congge, U., & Gohwong, S. (2023). Local development and environmental governance: Experienced from extractive industry in East Luwu, Indonesia. *Otoritas: Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan*, 13(1), 156-168.
- Eriyanti, F., Alhadi, Z., Moeis, I., Yulastri, A., & Syafril, S. (2020, April). The Impact of Government Policies towards the Economy and Education of Fishermen's Children in Padang City. In *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* (Vol. 469, No. 1, p. 012057). IOP Publishing.
- Halid, I., & Sulaeman, B. (2021). PENERAPAN TEKNOLOGI FIBERGLASS PADA PERAHU TRADISONAL NELAYAN DI DESA KARANG-KARANGAN KABUPATEN LUWU SULAWESI SELATAN. *Indonesian Journal of Fisheries Community Empowerment*, 1(2), 117-129.
- Iskandar, AM. and Halim, H. (2019). Mekanisme Pemberdayaan Gelandangan Dan Pengemis Di Kota Makassar (Studi Kasus Di Perumahan Btp Tamalanrea). *Kolaborasi : Jurnal Administrasi Publik*, 5(2) 2019. Pp. 142-153.
- Ismail, I. R., Idris, R., & Kesuma, A. I. (2023, October). Socio-Economic Conditions in Empowering Pa'belle Fishermen in Luwu. In *Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference of Humanities and Social Science, ICHSS 2022, 17 December 2022, Surakarta, Central Java, Indonesia*.

- Ismail, I. R., Idris, R., & Kesuma, A. I. (2023, April). Representasi Tindakan Komunikatif Nelayan Pabelle’Dalam Proses Pemberdayaan. In *SEMINAR NASIONAL LPPM UMMAT* (Vol. 2).
- Jalil, M. A., & Ali, S. A. (2003). Biologi populasi ikan beronang lingkis (*S. canaliculatus*) di perairan Kecamatan Bua Kabupaten Luwu. *J. Sains & Teknologi*, 3(1), 8-14.
- Kamaruddin, S. and Halim, H. (2018). *Desa Dalam Perubahan*. Makassar: Yayasan Inteligencia Indonesia.
- Kusnadi. 2015. *Empowerment of Coastal Women: Socio-Economic Development of Coastal Communities through Seaweed Cultivation*, Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu.
- Luwu Timur, P. (2017). *PPID - Pejabat Pengelola Informasi Dan Dokumentasi Kabupaten Luwu timur*. e. <https://e-ppid.luwutimurkab.go.id/>
- Miles, M. B., & Huberman, A. M., 2014. *Qualitative data analysis*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE
- Prasetio, J., Sabihaini, S., Rusdiyanto, R., Rochman, A. S. U., & Kalbuana, N. (2021). Corporate social responsibility community development and empowerment program in Indonesia. *Corporate Social Responsibility Community Development and Empowerment Program in Indonesia*, 24(1), 1-11.
- Tzenios, N., FRSPH, F., & FWAMS, F. (2022). CONTRIBUTE TO RAISING AWARENESS IN A COMMUNITY. *EPRA International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research (IJMR)*, 8(12), 122-124.
- Umar, U. (2022). Leading Sectors and Economic Structure of Luwu Timur District. *Media Trend*, 17(1), 88-96.
- Wenzel, A. (2019). Public media and marginalized publics: Online and offline engagement strategies and local storytelling networks. *Digital Journalism*, 7(1), 146-163.
- Xu, C. K., & Tang, T. (2020). Closing the gap or widening the divide: The impacts of technology-enabled coproduction on equity in public service delivery. *Public Administration Review*, 80(6), 962-975.