

Coffee Cultivation and Farmer Institutions in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency

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Abstract: Coffee cultivation and farmer institutions in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, cultivation has not been carried out properly, farmers have not fully cultivated coffee plants so that they are not productive in every managed land, so production results are not always optimal because cultivation is not carried out from upstream downstream. downstream and ineffective farmer institutions in the community, lack of knowledge in coffee cultivation and skills of coffee farmers, in farmer institutions farmer empowerment strategies will change the mindset and improve the quality and productivity of coffee farmers, attention from the government is very important so that it can move institutions and strengthen empowerment programs Gayo Arabica coffee farming community. This study aims to analyze and find institutions and coffee cultivation of Gayo Arabica coffee farmers, institutions that support community empowerment of coffee farmers and formulate strategies for empowering Gayo Arabica coffee farmers in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency. This study uses a qualitative approach and a descriptive type of research, with an observation and interview process to examine the cultivation and institutions of Gayo Arabica coffee farmers in an effort to empower communities through coffee farmers' institutions. The results of this study are the cultivation and institutionalization of coffee farmers, 3 aspects of limitations, namely the cultivation of coffee plants is not carried out properly so that not all land is productive, capital and availability of fertilizers and agricultural tools, institutional development of farming communities so that farmers are not skilled and professional in coffee cultivation from upstream to downstream. downstream. These three aspects affect the institutional conditions of the farming community, the strategy of community empowerment through institutions will prosper the community in farming and be professional in these institutions. Empowerment of coffee farmers is expected to be a reference and concept in self-awareness and capacity building in cultivation and institutions, development of productive land and good cultivation and institutions, provision of capital and availability of fertilizers and agricultural tools, as well as the participation of the government and stakeholders to farmers.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Coffee was first discovered in Ethiopia in the 9th century at that time coffee was discovered by a shepherd who noticed his shepherd's sheep became hyperactive after eating small grains that grew around his grazing place called Kaffa. Then came the term coffee and since then coffee began to become global, Arabica coffee began to spread to other areas, initially Yemeni and Arab residents tried to eat Arabica coffee beans and felt the additional energy.

The first country as the largest coffee producer is Brazil in 2001 9 mentioning that Brazil capable of producing up to 3.702 million tons of coffee. This number makes Brazil as a supplier of 30-40 percent of coffee in the world. The second largest coffee producing country in the world is Vietnam. In 20 19 Vietnam succeeded in producing 1.758 million tons of coffee and increased to 1.77 million tons in 2020. The production is expected to increase again in 2021 as the Vietnamese government has implemented land management, replanting at a higher rate. Colombia is in third place as the third largest coffee producing country in the world, reaching 852,000 tons in 2018

which was dominated by Arabica (Angkasa and Gandha 2019).

Indonesia is listed as the fourth largest coffee producer in the world, the coffee produced in 2018 reached 612,000 tons, per the problem is the low coffee production in Indonesia between cultivation and post-harvest which is still conventional/traditional so that every post-harvest season the coffee yields are not effective and efficient. Gayo coffee is an arabica coffee variety which is one of the leading commodities originating from the Gayo highlands, Bener Meriah, Indonesia. He has been awarded Fair Trade Certified™ from the Fair Trade International organization on 27 May 2010, Gayo Coffee received a GI certificate (Geographical Indication) submitted by the Ministry of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia Then at the Special Indonesian Coffee Event on October 10 2010 in Bali (Lasmiyati 2015).

Gayo arabica and post-harvest coffee cultivation in Rikit Musara village and almost all of Bener Meriah Regency is still not good, there are still many coffee plants that are old and there is no complete rejuvenation of coffee as well as guarantee of superior seeds to farmers, Cultivation is not up to the standard of world coffee, as is the market for Gayo coffee production abroad, coffee cultivation by farmers is still traditional and there are still many farmers who are not active in cultivating Arabica coffee from upstream to downstream, starting with superior nurseries and effective care, then spacing out as well. very influential and this problem still occurs in all coffee farmers in Bener Meriah there are still many farmers who do not use the spacing method such as the world standard is L 2.5 meters and P 2.5 meters for varieties Gayo arabica coffee, furthermore this pruning and fertilization has not been carried out effectively among coffee farmers so that all these problems have an impact on the quality and productivity of coffee.

Institutional farmers already exist, namely farmer groups under the government of the Agriculture service, this group exists in every sub-district and in the village, downstream and ineffective farmer institutions in the community, lack of knowledge in coffee cultivation and skills of coffee farmers, in farmer institutions farmer empowerment strategies will change the mindset and To improve the quality and productivity of coffee farmers, attention from the government is very important so that it can move institutions and strengthen community empowerment programs for Gayo Arabica coffee farmers. but the group does not focus on coffee cultivation they only propose a problem more to individuals, namely

requests for assistance such as superior seeds, fertilizer subsidies, so that this can only be enjoyed by a group but this is also not effective because the group is a member of the farmer and who gets seed assistance so that their fertilizer subsidy is still the same as that of farmers who do not participate in the group.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

- A. Why do gayo arabica coffee farmers not cultivate coffee plants with institutions in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, Aceh Province?
- B. How community empowerment strategy will increase farmers' knowledge and improve coffee quality and productivity in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency?

1.3 Research Purposes

- A. Find and analyze – Gayo Arabica Coffee Farmers Do Not Cultivate Coffee Plants with an Institutional System in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, Aceh Province.
- B. Finding Community Empowerment Strategies will Increase Farmer Knowledge and Improve Coffee Quality and Productivity in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency.

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Cultivation of Coffee Plants

Cultivation of coffee plants has strategic importance in agriculture, due to its unique characteristics such as taste and acidity. Coffee is a plant that is used to maintain the structure of water resources properly. Therefore, the coffee plant is said to be a water conservation plant. Coffee plants are a source of foreign exchange for the country through the export of raw and processed beans. Coffee is also a source of income for no less than one and a half million coffee farmers in Indonesia. Good and correct coffee cultivation and handling is explained in detail through Good Agriculture Practices (GAP). GAP is a work standard that is applied in every agricultural business of fruit, vegetable, biopharmaceutical and ornamental plants correctly and appropriately, so that high productivity, good product quality, optimum profit,

and can meet international standards are obtained. (Fauzi, Cahya, and Saleh 2021).

2.2 First Section

Elizabert (2019), institutional is an order and pattern of relationships between members of a society or organization that are mutually binding which can determine the form of relationships between humans or between organizations that are accommodated in an organization or network and are determined by limiting and binding factors in the form of norms, codes ethics, formal and informal rules for controlling social behavior to cooperate and achieve common goals.

Nurhidayah, Y, Etc. (2022), farmer institutions have a strategic point (entry point) in moving the agribusiness system in rural areas. For this reason, all available resources in rural areas need to be directed/prioritized in order to increase the professionalism of farmers (farmer groups). Currently, the portrait of farmers and farmer institutions in Indonesia is still not as expected. The development of farming communities through agricultural institutions/farmer groups is a planned empowerment effort that is carried out consciously and seriously through joint efforts of farmers to improve the diversity of the economic system of rural communities. The direction of farmer empowerment will be adjusted according to the agreement that has been formulated together. With high participation of farmer institutions, it is hoped that the sense of belonging from the community for all activities carried out will also be high.

There are three criteria so that farmer groups are strong and able to play an active role in fighting for their rights, namely:

1. The association must grow from the farmers themselves.
2. The board of directors comes from farmers and is elected periodically.
3. have formal institutional power.

2.3 First Section

Jim Ife explained that the definition of empowerment is to provide resources, opportunities, knowledge, and skills to citizens to increase their ability to determine their own future and participate in efforts to influence the lives of their group.

In Horista's book *Community Development*, KMN (2022), the explanations from each of the 4 perspectives are as follows.

1. The pluralist perspective sees empowerment as a process to help disadvantaged individuals and groups in society, so that they can compete more effectively. In a pluralist perspective, the empowerment carried out is to help the community by providing learning about how to use skills in lobbying, using media related to political action and understanding how the system (the rules of the game) works. So, empowerment is done by increasing the capacity of the community so that they can compete fairly so that no one wins or loses.
2. The elitist perspective views empowerment as an attempt to influence the elite, such as leaders or community leaders, officials, the rich, by forming alliances with them, or by confronting and seeking change among the elite. This effort was carried out considering that the community had become helpless because of the strong power and control of the elites.
3. The structuralist perspective views empowerment as a more challenging struggle agenda because its goal is to eliminate forms of structural inequality. In other words, community empowerment is a process of liberation that must be accompanied by fundamental structural changes and the disappearance of structural oppression.
4. Post-structuralist perspective assesses empowerment as an effort to change the discourse that emphasizes the intellectual aspect rather than action or praxis.
5. The social perspective of empowering coffee farming communities in Bener Meriah Regency must be from a social perspective where every community must be free to interact with other farmers in the sense of sharing care with each other and cooperating with each other.

3 RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive type of research. This research was conducted in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, Aceh Province, data analysis through observation and in-depth interviews with informants who are considered to know and understand the object under study, namely coffee farmers by researchers. collect in-depth information about coffee cultivation as well as community empowerment institutions for coffee farmers in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, Aceh Province.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Overview of Research Sites: Rikit Musara Village and Its People

Rikit Musara Village is one of the 26 villages in Permata District with an area of 39.83 Km². All areas in Bener Meriah Regency including Rikit Musara Village have a wet tropical climate with a minimum air temperature of 18.8 C and an average temperature of 25.8 0 C. The distance between Rikit Musara Village and the capital of Permata District is 5 Km, with the capital of Bener Meriah Regency as far as 10 Km and the distance from the Capital of Aceh Province as far as 372 Km. Rikit Musara village is a village with a mountainous topography at an altitude of 2400-2600 meters above sea level. The total population of Rikit Musara Village is 270 people, with a total of 178 households. Of the 270 inhabitants of Rikit Musara Village. With the condition of the village area which is surrounded by mountains and hills, in general the village community makes a living as coffee farmers and partly farming secondary crops.

4.2 Cultivating Coffee Plants

Coffee cultivation in Rikit Musara village has not been carried out properly, there are still many coffee plants that are old and there is no complete rejuvenation of coffee, farmers do not cultivate coffee evenly because people feel that the quality and price remain the same even though they are not cultivated, and not all land owned the community is productive in one hectare of land not entirely planted with coffee, this has happened in recent decades, the basic thing in this case is because farmers have never been promised success in farming and there is no motivation and empowerment felt by farmers, especially farmers isolated, while those who get empowerment are only for farmers in urban centers.

4.3 Coffee Farmer Institutions

So far, various forms of farmer institutions such as farmer groups that we can find in the Bener Meriah Regency area have been developed, but their development seems to be a project tool, not yet a forum for true community empowerment. As a result, their existence and performance are less than satisfactory, even if their existence is not sustainable. This can be seen that some farmer groups that exist today are only administratively registered, but their existence and activities are almost non-existent, even if they exist, they are still very limited. Therefore, the

failure of development in the agricultural sector, which is generally found in each region, is due to the unpreparedness of institutions at the farmer level in carrying out these functions. The function of farmer groups is not maximized in terms of limitations:

- 1) Ability in land management
- 2) Capital in business
- 3) Low skill (skill)

The community also hopes that the coffee farmer institutions will increase the knowledge and skills of farmers to be developed so that each land they have is productive and in coffee cultivation is also organized so as to increase their yields.

4.4 Institutional Development Strategy

In the context of empowering the community of farmer groups in Rikit Musara Village to achieve the goal, a policy strategy is drawn up in the hope that a solution will be obtained in empowering farming communities to the maximum so that it has an impact on decreasing the level of underdeveloped villages and towards village independence economically, in the Rikit Village area. Musara, especially a coffee farmer. There are two components that will be developed as a strategy for developing farmer group institutions which are highly expected to support the empowerment of farmer group institutions in Rikit Musara Village. The two components are:

4.4.1 Institutional Internal

To achieve quality farmers, it is imperative that the existing farmer groups have the motion or power that can determine and influence behavior groups and their members in achieving goals effectively. In other words the group must function effectively in the interests of its members. One of the important factors for the realization of an effective farmer group is the leadership of the members and the head of the farmer group. The group leader can be seen as an agent primary for group effectiveness, because of its strategic role in influencing or moving members in the group to achieve group goals and of the members.

4.4.2 Institutional External

Guidance from various agencies should be integrated, prioritizing the interests of farmers, in the sense that farmers are not used as objects for institutional interests that are merely project administration. The existence of effective coordination between government institutions in fostering horticultural farming communities can increase agricultural efficiency and productivity through coffee farmer

business partnerships. The government's role is more emphasized in the aspects of mediation, consultation, and facilitation in building competitive horticultural agribusiness partnerships.

This institutional strategy can improve the welfare of farmers by strengthening empowerment programs so as to make coffee farming communities independent and knowledgeable in coffee cultivation and cooperate in coffee farmer institutions.

4.5 Development of Capital Resources

As a solution in order to develop the capital resources needed by the coffee farming community, a concept is needed to reach a starting point in order to obtain a source of capital for coffee farmers in Rikit Musara Village:

- 1) Maximum land management is in accordance with the concept of field agricultural extension workers.
- 2) Processing of products that meet standards.
- 3) Opening opportunities for cooperation with financial institutions in channeling capital to farmers.
- 4) Utilization of existing farming capital sources efficiently and effectively.

4.6 Coffee Farmer Community Empowerment Strategy

Improvement of human resources With the existence of training and counseling aims to increase the knowledge and skills of farmers in terms of cultivating coffee plants. Efforts that must be made by the Bener Meriah Regency Agriculture Office must strive to create effective and comprehensive training and counseling programs and have a target for the success of the training and extension program and focus on the problems experienced by farmers, farmers also want the quality and productivity of coffee to increase .

Local government support is a system outside the farmer group institution that functions as a channel to get opportunities to obtain resource support facilities or services. As a form of government support as a facilitator in the distribution of institutional development funds for farmer groups in Rikit Musara Village, it is given or disbursed through the Department of Agriculture and Plantations and Plantations of Bener Meriah Regency and then submits it to the sub-district government to invite the village head of each recipient of the development fund assistance. institutions and everything that is channeled from the government to the community, must be evenly distributed and there is supervision to

the community so that in the form of any assistance channel it will directly impact the coffee farming community.

The role of the government in community empowerment that is participatory in nature must have concepts and development programs in the context of empowering coffee farmers and the government as a facilitator in developing farmer resources, for example; cooperation with other local governments in the context of comparative studies between farmer groups in other areas, also opens up opportunities for collaboration with private parties/institutions in the distribution of financial assistance. The independence of a society is a desirable condition, is in the process then the stage of community involvement must start from the beginning, continuously and continuously.

Therefore, the role of management in community institutions that put forward the principles of community empowerment at this time and in the future is very necessary. As a consequence, the community is able and required to understand the concepts, processes and objectives of community empowerment and be able to understand the circumstances and conditions of the institution itself in order to achieve a society that is efficient in development.

The government must also be at the forefront of ensuring the welfare of coffee farmers both in institutional cultivation and guaranteeing high coffee prices, the government must also focus on community empowerment programs not only with direct assistance to farmers, if there is any assistance the government must supervise to the farmers so that the assistance provided given can be developed and utilized by farmers properly.

5 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Cultivation of coffee in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, has not been carried out properly, all farmers are not productive in processing coffee plantations, farmers' understanding is still lacking and there are no standard provisions in coffee cultivation. Institutional development strategies in empowering coffee farmers which are then expected to become references and concepts in self-awareness and capacity building in the coffee farming community are; development strategy for empowering coffee farmers, developing effective training and counseling, providing capital,

government participation. The government should also focus on farmer empowerment programs, as well as increasing the knowledge of coffee farmers.

5.2 Suggestion

From the results of this study, suggestions are given to the government, in this case the Agriculture Service of Bener Meriah Regency, in the future, in efforts to cultivate coffee plants and empower coffee farming communities, they must first improve the quality of their human resources through training in optimizing land use. The government is more open to formulating programs in collaboration with external parties, where these programs are adapted to the characteristics of the local community, in an effort to empower coffee farming communities, especially those based on welfare improvement, so that empowerment programs are transformative, sustainable and sustainable. produce independent farming communities. In an effort to develop and strengthen farmer institutions in Rikit Musara Village, Permata District, Bener Meriah Regency, is to prepare the community itself. The government also in providing assistance to farmers must also be supervised in an orderly manner, such as the provision of superior seeds, many farmers suffer that these seeds are not being used properly, they should be monitored until the assistance is productive.

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