The Social Capital Of Fisherman In Lohia Village, Muna Regency

Awaluddin Hamzah, Taane La Ola, La Ode Kalapana, Muhaimin Hamzah

Abstract: This study aims to describe (1) the form of social capital of fishermen community (2) the benefits of social capital for fishermen community. Data analysis was carried out using descriptive qualitative method with the stages of reducing data, describing data and making conclusions. The results showed that in choosing the members of the group, the fishermen community in Lohia Village always prioritizes trust by taking into account several aspects including kinship, position or social status, and skills. They also foster good relations with fellow fishermen with other community members in carrying out their lives in the community. The relationship is in the form of mutual help and work together in carrying out their activities, both activities as fishermen and activities in the community. They also build networks of individuals, groups, and between societies, so that harmonious relationship based on kinship can be fostered. Based on the findings, it was concluded that the social capital owned by the fishermen community in Lohia Village was trust, reciprocity, and network. Furthermore, the benefits derived from the social capital for fishermen community are cooperation, trust, a high sense of responsibility, and mutual relations between fellow fisherman communities and with other communities.

Keywords: Fishermen Community, Lohia Village, Social Capital

1. INTRODUCTION

Background
The daily life of the fishermen community in Lohia Village is affected by weak business capital conditions and a low internal financial condition of the families. In carrying out their activities as fishermen, the community still runs individually and forms small groups whose members consist of their own family members (such as children, and relatives) and invites others who live in one neighborhood. The available resources are used as the main source of capital in economic activities influenced by their financial condition. Those are also influenced by the social capital which leads to cooperative relations between individuals or community groups which support fishermen business activities optimally. The social capital can be explained as a product of human relations with each other, especially intimate and consistent relationships that refer to the aspects of trust, reciprocity, and network that have the potential for community productivity. However, it is different from financial capital since the social capital is cumulative and increases by itself. It can also be interpreted as a source that arises from the interaction between people in a community that constructs emotional bonds. By studying the three aspects, we can predict the strength and development of social capital in a society.

The Purpose of the Research
This study aims to describe several things related to the form of social capital of the fishermen community of Lohia Village, Lohia District and the benefits of social capital for the community.

Framework
To see the problems of the fishermen community, it is very important to examine the aspects of the social capital. As we know that the social capital is the ability of people to work together with one another to achieve common goals in terms of economics and other aspects of social existence which consists of three main pillars including trust, reciprocity and network. Those pillars have a very close relationship with the social and economic conditions of the community in living their lives both in the short and long term lives.

RESEARCH METHODS

Setting and Time
This research was conducted in Lohia Village, Lohia District, Muna Regency in February-June 2018. The location determination is done with the consideration that Lohia Village is one of the areas where most of the residents earn a living as fishermen, and still survive by relying on social capital as the main capital to continue the business activities.

Data Collection Method
The data in this study is qualitative discourse data from oral data (Bungin, 2001). The qualitative data in the form of oral speech are recorded from discourse that is carried out individually. The individual source then automatically becomes the informant in this study. The data collection method used in this study was an interview with several parties who were considered to be able to provide accurate information and data related to the focus of the study, such as village heads, community leaders, and fishermen communities, which contained social capital indicators consisting of the components of trust, reciprocity, and network.

Data Analysis Technique
The method used to analyze the data in this study is a descriptive qualitative analysis method, which is an analysis method where the data obtained is then processed and analyzed to draw a conclusion. Data analysis can be done through three stages: reducing the data, describing the data and drawing the conclusion (Arikunto, 1993).
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Social Capital of Lohia Village Fishermen Community

Trust
Trust here refers to a trust in terms of the fishermen cooperation in running the business. Trust is beneficial for the respondents (fishermen) to reduce expenses. With a great trust, strong solidarity will be formed and be able to make each fisherman willing to follow the rules to strengthen a sense of togetherness. The aspects of trust used as the indicators in this study include kinship, social status, and skills.

Kinship
Based on the results of this study, it is known that the fishermen see their members’ kinship in building the cooperation. Therefore, they can communicate well and understand each other in their work as the fishermen which can avoid misunderstandings and disputes. From the interview results, it is known that a fisherman is very concerned about kinship relationships in conducting the cooperation. It is done to avoid undesirable things. In addition, with the kinship, the fishermen feel comfortable in carrying out fishing activities since they already trust each other.

Position (Social Status) in Society
The results of the research on social position in the community in Lohia Village show that the fishermen in the research setting are generally ordinary people, so they can do a lot in making decisions and policies during fishing activities. From the interview results it is known that the Lohia Village people who work as fishermen are mostly ordinary people, therefore, in conducting fishing activities, the decisions and actions they take are a joint responsibility. However, there are also fishermen who work together with community leaders who have social status in the community, such as community leaders and traditional leaders, but it does not reduce the sense of kinship and they can build communication very well.

Skills
Based on the results of the study, it is noted that the fishermen who conduct the cooperation always pay attention to the skills factor. Some fishermen stated that one of the important factors that a fisherman considers in choosing his members is the skill or experience. Fortunately, in this case, most of the fishermen in Lohia Village have already had good skills and experience. Thus, the fishermen in Lohia Village are fishermen who have skills such as being able to fish and trawl fish well, and are able to run a boat or ship.

Reciprocal Relationship
Helping each other
The form of reciprocity that occurs between is to provide assistance to fishermen whose ships are experiencing fuel shortages, provide power assistance to fishing boats that lack members, and so forth. As stated by a number of fishermen who became the respondents in this study, the fishermen always help each other in carrying out their activities, providing energy assistance for groups of fishermen who lack members, providing fuel assistance for fishermen who run out of fuel while at the sea, or providing assistance services for fishermen who experience damage to the fleet when doing fishing activities. The assistance is given sincerely without expecting anything in return. Based on the results of the interview, the researcher obtained the information that the fishermen have helped each other and developed a strong reciprocal relationship so that a harmonious and balanced family relationship between one fisherman and another fisherman have been fostered. The reciprocal relations have occurred since ancient times by their ancestors. This mutual relationship between fishermen in Lohia Village does not only occur when they are at the sea, but also the activities in their environment as a community member. There are several things that have been done by the fishermen such as helping each other if there is a celebration event, giving help to the members who are experiencing difficulties such as illness, suffering from accidents and so forth.

Mutual Cooperation
The reciprocal relationship that occurs between fishermen in Lohia Village, especially in the aspect of mutual cooperation provides enormous benefits. These benefits can be felt both individually and in groups. In terms of individually, the benefits are promoting kinship and mutual understanding between one fisherman and another, as well as creating a harmonious relationship and a balanced environment. In addition, as a group, the perceived benefits are the emergence of mutual needs between fishermen with one another, as well as the emergence of high trust between fellow fishermen. The results of the interviews provide information that the mutual cooperation that occurs brings good benefits to each member of the fisherman.

Network
Network is the ability of a group of people to involve themselves in a social relationship through a variety of relationships side by side and carried out on the basis of the principles of voluntary, equality, freedom, and civility. The ability of group members or community members to always unite themselves in a synergistic relationship pattern has a very big influence in determining the strength or failure of a group’s network. Based on the results of the study, it is known that the fishermen in Lohia Village have a social network formed from the same area and have the same feeling of sympathy, namely the economic situation. Therefore, they form groups as their social network. Thus, with a social network, the fishermen who have small capital do not need to spend a lot of money doing their fishing activities; the networks which are built between individuals, groups and communities.

Network between Individuals
Based on the results of the study, it is known that the fishermen in Lohia Village have created a good interpersonal network and have been going on for a long time since these traits are inherited from their ancestors and continued for generations by both individually and in group. It is in line with the results of an interview conducted with one of the fishermen who advocated that the fishermen community in Lohia Village has built a network between individuals and run very well. Therefore, in carrying out their activities, they are open and helping one another for those who need help.

Inter-group Network
Based on the findings, the fishermen in Lohia Village created a cooperative relationship by forming the widest network.
Consequently, they had the opportunity to develop themselves and obtain convenience in carrying out their activities as fishermen. However, it needs to be noted that the network built is not binding since there is no contract between them. It is in line with the results of the interviews with several fishermen who provided information and pointed out that the fishermen in Lohia Village had formed inter-group networks, although they were not bound by certain contracts that made their members free to carry out activities outside. Fortunately, this situation did not cause disunity among group members, because they already known the characteristics of each member.

Inter-Community Network
Based on the results, inter-community network has been going on for a long time and routinely carried out by each group of fishermen. The results of the interview concluded that the fishermen community in Lohia Village, Lohia District had maintained good relations with the community for a long time. It is indicated by the existence of good and open communication between one community and another. They always have a discussion for every problem faced to find the best solution. In addition, they help each other voluntarily in carrying out their daily activities.

Benefits of Social Capital for Fishermen
Social capital is a social resource that can be seen as an investment to get new resources in the community. Therefore, the social capital is believed to be one of the main components in promoting togetherness, mobility of ideas, mutual trust and mutual benefit to achieve mutual progress. The benefit gained from the existence of social capital in the fishermen community environment, especially the fishing community in Lohia Village, is cooperation. Besides, there is a high sense of trust and responsibility, as well as a mutual relationship that synergizes between fellow members of the fishermen group, so they do their activities with pleasure and a peaceful mind.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

CONCLUSION
The social capital owned by the fishermen community in Lohia Village, Muna Regency is trust (prioritizing kinship, social status, and skills), reciprocity (helping each other in carrying out daily activities and always cooperating in completing work), and networking (fostering relationships and good communication with individual fishermen, group fishermen, and the community in general). The benefits obtained from social capital for the fishermen community in Lohia Village are cooperation, trust, a high sense of responsibility, and mutual relations that synergize between fellow fishermen communities and with other communities so there is a sense of sympathy, responsibility, trust, and mutual need.

REFERENCES