

Konteks Kerentanan dan Aset Mata Pencaharian pada Petani dalam Kondisi Kemiskinan (Studi Deskriptif Petani dan Buruh Tani Teh di Desa Taraju, Kabupaten Tasikmalaya, Jawa Barat) = Vulnerability Context and Livelihood Assets of Farmers in Poverty Conditions (Descriptive Study of Tea Farmers and Laborer in Taraju Village, Tasikmalaya District, West Java)

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh tingginya angka kemiskinan pada petani dan buruh tani perkebunan teh yang menyebabkan adanya kondisi rentan untuk jatuh semakin miskin. Padahal komoditas teh merupakan salah satu potensi pertanian di Indonesia dan diminati pasar nasional maupun internasional. Kerangka mata pencaharian berkelanjutan digunakan dalam menganalisis konteks kerentanan yang dihadapi untuk membantu kelompok miskin tersebut agar lebih resilien dengan memanfaatkan aset yang dimilikinya. Penelitian ini membahas mengenai gambaran konteks kerentanan dan aset mata pencaharian yang dimiliki petani dan buruh tani teh di Desa Taraju. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan jenis penelitian deskriptif. Data penelitian dikumpulkan melalui wawancara mendalam semi terstruktur, observasi, dan studi dokumentasi. Wawancara melibatkan tiga belas (13) informan yang dipilih menggunakan teknik purposive sampling sesuai dengan kriteria yang telah ditentukan. Adapun informan yang terlibat dalam penelitian ini terdiri dari Kepala Desa, Kasi Kesejahteraan, empat Kepala Dusun, satu tokoh masyarakat, dua petani teh, dan empat buruh tani teh. Penelitian yang dilaksanakan pada rentang waktu Oktober 2022 hingga Juni 2023 menjadi basic research dalam pengembangan Ilmu Kesejahteraan Sosial, khususnya terkait asesmen kondisi kemiskinan dalam rangka upaya pencegahan dan pengentasan kemiskinan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kerentanan yang dihadapi adalah (1) guncangan berupa pandemi Covid-19, serangan hama, dan konflik sosial; (2) kecenderungan berupa upah rendah, keterbatasan modal, minimnya penghitungan biaya penyusutan, ketergantungan pada pinjaman dan bantuan, sulitnya regenerasi petani, serta perubahan cuaca, dan (3) perubahan musiman berupa penurunan produksi teh, biaya pemeliharaan tinggi, harga pucuk teh rendah, gaya hidup masyarakat terhadap konsumsi teh, serta ketimpangan penguasaan lahan. Adapun hasil penelitian berikutnya terkait aset mata pencaharian yang dimiliki adalah (1) aset sosial berupa rasa percaya antar warga dan pemimpin, norma dan nilai agama yang dipegang teguh, norma kesopanan antar sesama, sistem gotong royong dan musyawarah, tali persaudaraan/nasab yang dekat, organisasi masyarakat aktif, dan adanya kelompok tani; (2) aset finansial berupa upah, mata pencaharian alternatif, hewan ternak, dan tabungan; (3) aset manusia berupa pendidikan, kesehatan, dan pelatihan keterampilan; (4) aset fisik berupa adanya bangunan umum dan infrastruktur mendukung; (5) aset alam berupa lahan/kebun yang cocok untuk perkebunan teh, persediaan pangan, serta tipologi daerah dan suhu rendah.

.....The background of this research is the high poverty rate among tea farmers and laborers which causes a condition of vulnerable to fall into poverty. Even though the tea commodity is one of the agricultural potentials in Indonesia and is in demand by the national and international markets. The sustainable livelihood framework is used in analyzing the vulnerability context faced, to help these poor groups to be

more resilient by utilizing their assets. This research discusses the description of vulnerability context and livelihood assets owned by tea farmers and laborers in Taraju Village, Tasikmalaya District, West Java. This study used a qualitative research approach with descriptive research methods. Research data were collected through semi-structured in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation studies. The interviews involved thirteen (13) informants who were selected using a purposive sampling technique according to predetermined criteria. The informants involved in this study consisted of the Village Head, Head of Welfare Section, four Hamlet Heads, one community figure, two tea farmers, and four tea farm laborers. The research which was carried out in the period from October 2022 to June 2023 became basic research in the development of Social Welfare Studies, particularly related to the assessment of poverty conditions in the context of efforts to prevent and alleviate poverty. The results study show that the vulnerabilities faced are (1) shocks in the form of the Covid-19 pandemic, pest attacks, and social conflicts; (2) tendencies in the form of low wages, limited capital, minimal calculation of depreciation costs, dependence on loans and assistance, difficulty for regeneration of farmers, and changes in weather, and; (3) seasonal changes in the form of decreased tea production, high maintenance costs, low price of tea shoots, people's lifestyle towards tea consumption, and inequality of land tenure. The next results of this research related to livelihood assets owned are (1) social assets in the form of trust between citizens and leaders, religious norms and values that are upheld, politeness norms between people, mutual cooperation and deliberation systems, close kinship/lineage, active community organizations, and the existence of farmer groups; (2) financial assets in the form of wages, alternative livelihoods, livestock, and savings; (3) human assets in the form of education, health, and skills training; (4) physical assets in the form of public buildings and supporting infrastructure; (5) natural assets in the form of land/gardens suitable for tea plantations, food supplies, as well as regional typologies and low temperatures.