



The Role of Counseling in the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Livestock Farmer Groups (Case Study of Livestock Farmer Groups in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency)

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Abstract. Counseling has been around since 1980, the method used is the method counseling period, but penyuluh an is considered less effective, the government adopted a policy perform the method of group counseling to guide the farmers to make the farmer group and its chairman was chosen by the farmers who are no areas these, and through group counseling livestock will be easier to record the farmers to be given counseling, this way is called a micro extension methods. Changes perceived breeders can be viewed prior to the entry of counseling and after the inclusion of counseling. The research location in the village Dukuhbadag District of Cibingbin District Brass, research was conducted in November to December 2016, through the consideration that once in shape for farmer group in the village of Dukuhbadag District of Cibingbin District Brass changes perceived livestock farmers, especially members in nangingi farmer group , as well as the effort - an effort to optimize the role of counselors in assisting farmer group.

Keywords: Extension, Livestock Farmer Group, Socio-Economic.

INTRODUCTION

The vast area of rice fields in Indonesia is also unable to make the standard of living of livestock farmers increase, there are still many livestock farmers who experience difficulties in living their lives, not infrequently we find livestock farmers are on the poverty line, increasing various needs - needs both primary and secondary needs that are usually realized by industries and also the economic crisis that has not been resolved, has made poor livestock farmers even more overwhelmed in improving the family economy.

The presence of new technological innovations produced by industrial producers whose aim is to make it easier for livestock farmers in fact still makes it difficult for livestock farmers.

Seeing this problem, the government created livestock farmer groups accompanied by extension workers to help livestock farmers improve their standard of living, through empowerment with human resource development, one of the programs that must be carried out education, skills, and jobs.

Based on the criteria used to predict a job, Spencer and Spencer (1993) distinguish competence into two categories, namely (1) *threshold* and (2) *differentiattin*. *Threshold competencies* are the main characteristics that a person must have in carrying out his work. The main characteristic is the basic knowledge or expertise related to the field of competence. *Differentiattincompetencies* are factors that can distinguish between high performers and low performers.

In the field, most farmers' perceptions of extension workers' abilities are related to extension workers' assistance regarding cultivation techniques, including knowledge of crop and livestock production. Extension workers are considered able to explain the innovation of a technology and can communicate in a language that is easy for farmers to understand. Some of the capabilities of extension workers that livestock farmers consider need to be improved are a good understanding of the resources of the target area, culture and needs of the farming community. The facts on the ground state that the equality of extension workers and farmers has not been well realized.

This is characterized by extension instructions to livestock farmers, such as making compost from cow dung and *trichoderma*. The relationship that is established is like teacher and student. The interaction between extension workers and livestock farmers does not yet reflect a balanced relationship. According to livestock farmers in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency, extension workers are still less sensitive in assisting livestock farmers because extension workers do not respond to the conditions of livestock farmers. The task of extension workers in addition to fostering livestock farmers is also to make needs plans, participate in joint training at UPT BP3K with instructors from the district and attend weekly meetings, for extension workers are still given the burden of participating in coaching activities carried out in the district. Extension activities increase again with the entry of a program or project into the target village. One extension worker built two to three villages.

In line with the flow of globalization in the form of trade liberalization, changes in consumer preferences for agricultural products and efforts towards environmental sustainability, demand a dynamic agricultural extension approach following the changes.

The problem is that the role of the influencer is only assessed as a disseminator of technology and information and information even though agricultural extension workers are required to be more towards motivators, dynamicators (mobilizers) facilitators and consultants for farmers, even adding that agricultural extension workers must be able to diagnose problems faced by clients (farmers), build and maintain relationships with client systems (farmers), anticipate adoption, and prevent termination of adoption.

In fact, agricultural extension services given to farmers have a positive and negative impact, the positive impact is that farmers get knowledge and skills in running their farming businesses and get assistance for agricultural processes, while the negative impact is that agricultural extension workers are less likely to respond to farmers' problems, do not consider the economic potential, climate, and farmers' desires resulting in many suggestions in extension services to increase productivity agricultural products and government assistance programs are not sustainable, and the quality and quantity of such assistance is still lacking.

From the above problems, researchers are interested in conducting research on agricultural extension workers, in addition, there is still a lack of research on agricultural extension workers, what is the form of the role of extension workers in the socio-economic empowerment of livestock farmer groups, in Dukuhbadag Village, what is the form of authority and competence of extension workers in the current farming community. This study aims to explain the role of agricultural extension workers in the development of livestock farming groups in Dukuhbadag Village, knowing the tasks of agricultural extension workers in the field in overseeing farmer groups in Dukuhbadag Village. The formulation of the problem that can be taken is : What is the role of agricultural extension workers for farmer groups in an effort to empower the socio-economic life of livestock farmers in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency in overcoming poverty?.

LITERATURE

Intervention

Intervention is an effort to help humans who experience internal and external disorders that cause people to not be able to carry out their social roles properly, while the method of social intervention can be interpreted as a way or strategy in providing assistance to the community (Individuals, Groups, Communities) to improve one's welfare through

efforts to re-function their social functions. The point is that every community must be able to play a role according to its role in society. Where the status is recognized by the environment and the status does not cross the boundaries of existing norms.

Humans are the object of our interventions. If the above if the above has been explained related to what methods of social intervention, what goals do we want to achieve in intervening. And whatever provisions do we have to intervene. So at this point we are talking about humans because humans are objects of interference in our social interventions.

As practitioners of social welfare change agents, we must be able to understand that humans are unique creatures, meaning that humans are different from each other, these differences are produced because of cultural differences and socialization experienced.

The second thing we must understand is that humans are *bio, psycho*, social creatures according to *Dr. Richard C Cabot*, that the diseases suffered by humans are not only caused by social-psychological, socio-economic, spiritual aspects and so on. It is a combination of these three elements. If one of these elements is damaged, it will affect other elements as well. We can take an example from the story of a mother, when the biological condition of this mother is sick, it can affect psychological and social, very sensitive irritability, so that if her child does a little wrong will be scolded. By understanding that humans as *bio, psycho*, social beings this requires that practical social welfare is able to see all problems in a broad and deep perspective.

Empowerment

Kartasasmita (1996) asserts that empowering the community is an effort to improve the dignity and dignity of layers of our society who are now unable to escape the tools of poverty and underdevelopment" Community empowerment can broadly be defined as a process that builds society through community capacity development, community behavior change and organizing society.

For change actors, what is done to target groups, both at the micro level (individuals, families , small groups), the mezzo level (Organization and Community), and the global level (International). Often identified as empowering efforts (developing target groups from a state of being helpless or helpless to having potential) in order to achieve a better life . This principle essentially encourages and guides clients to determine for themselves what they should do in relation to overcoming the problems they face. So that the client has full awareness and power in shaping his future. (To develop agricultural businesses, the

government directly appoints agricultural extension workers to assist farmer groups to carry out empowerment.

Community empowerment varies based on development goals. So that the form of empowerment in each country is different, such as empowerment in the economic sector using existing resources to improve community welfare, while environmental empowerment must be pay attention to the continuity of existing resources so that they can be available continuously. From the two fields mentioned above, it can be concluded that both have a very important empowerment role in environmental empowerment because if there is all-out exploitation of resources power that can threaten the continuity of generations that will be datang.

METHOD

Data collection is a very important step and the data used must be valid, the data collection technique used in this study uses primary data, where primary data is data obtained directly from the place of research, and to complete the data carried out is an in-depth interview with informants based on a list of questions that are closely related to the problem to be studied.

The research location was carried out in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency, The research was carried out from November to December 2016, through consideration that after the establishment of a livestock farmer group in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency, changes felt by farmers, especially members under the auspices of the livestock farmer group, as well as efforts to optimize the role of extension workers in assisting livestock farmer groups

DISCUSSION

Agricultural Extension in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency carried out by the local government to assess the performance of agricultural extension workers can be seen from the frequent visits of extension workers to the accompanied livestock groups, the assessment of extension superiors, and the form of extension services.

1. Forms of Agricultural Extension

a. Extension Field

According to the concept given by government employees at the Office of the Extension and Food Security Implementing Agency not only in the economic

sector, but also in social fields such as education and health, extension workers serve as motivators, mediators, facilitators, and communicators.

Based on the data collected, the form of counseling carried out in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan District in the socio-economic fields such as agriculture, animal husbandry and savings and loans in addition to other problems in education, health and others has been carried out in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency.

b. Extension Visit

Extension workers have the task of increasing farmers' knowledge in agriculture and animal husbandry and assisting farmers in accepting technological innovations in order to motivate farmers to increase their agricultural or livestock output. Extension workers' approaches to farmers can be individual, group and mass. But in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency prioritizes groups and individuals, the concern of extension workers can be seen how often they visit the farmer groups they assist.

c. Extension Techniques

Agricultural extension techniques used to accompany groups in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency, namely by using socialization methods and demonstration methods.

2. Extension Worker Performance Appraisal

To motivate extension workers to improve in improving the performance of extension workers to be more vigilant in carrying out their duties, extension leaders need to give special assessments and awards or rewards to extension workers at certain levels.

From the results of the interview, the extension performance appraisal process is carried out so that extension workers are motivated to improve their quality in carrying out their duties only involving the supervisor's office, not involving the farmers being fostered, because this will be less effective, agricultural extension workers should consider the value of services to farmers and the relationship is built by asking the quality of these extension workers to farmers.

Counseling has existed since 1980, the method used is the mass extension method, but this extension method is considered less effective, so the government has taken a policy of carrying out group extension methods by providing services to farmers to make the group and its chairman elected by its members, and through the extension livestock group it will

be easier to record farmers who will be given counseling, This method is called the micro-counseling method. The changes felt by farmers can be seen before the entry of agricultural extension workers and after the entry of extension services.

1. Before the entry of agricultural extension

Meang agricultural extension has existed since 1980 but in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency has only felt significant changes after the formation of livestock groups, since 2005, so from the data obtained before the entry of counseling Duuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District does not have knowledge about the selection of livestock bibit, animal feed, and livestock maintenance techniques and does not know much about the enlargement techniques that can improve Farmer income, peacocks only rely on trust and hereditary metpode from their parents first

2. After the entry of counseling

Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency formed a livestock group starting in 2005, counseling entered Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency when the government had issued a group extension policy, namely farmers were given the freedom of authority to form their own livestock groups, they determined the names of group leaders, secretaries, treasurers and the name of their group. Data obtained from interviews shows that the government extension program has been carried out for a long time, but residents of Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency, only felt the benefits of this extension in 2005, the changes experienced by farmers after entering the extension service are very noticeable, as evidenced by the increase in livestock yields, although there are still some obstacles faced so that the realization has not been maximized.

CONCLUSION

The relationship that exists between extension workers and farmers, namely the working relationship in principle, is based on the understanding that, social life is the whole of parts or elements that are interconnected between an inseparable whole, to carry out cooperation in carrying out work. Counseling in empowering livestock groups in Dukuhbadag Village, Cibingbin District, Kuningan Regency in agriculture, animal husbandry and savings and loans, to maximize counseling, the government provides assistance to farmers in the form of seeds, feed, livestock equipment, and the marketing process. extension workers approach groups using individual and group approaches, as

officers who accompany, direct and provide knowledge should also be able to pay attention to its members in farmer groups to cooperate and be well controlled. As Max Weber expressed, the group is a way of describing the legitimacy of relationships, associations, cooperation and close control within a traditional orientation. The techniques used by extension workers for counseling are socialization and demonstration.

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