

# Women Farmers Focus Strategy to Achieve Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Agriculture

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## Abstract.

Report on poverty alleviation program showed that women play significant role in the success of the program, therefore their potential should be empowered to get the maximum achievement. Since the majority (13.10 millions) of poor family are in villages with main occupation as farmers, meaning most poor family are farmers. Therefore a base information for policy on poverty alleviation program for farmers should be collected. Research on poverty alleviation program of farmers family have been conducted in Jember District – East Java in 2019. The data were collected through Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) method with respondent consist of farmers family who received poverty alleviation program “*Bedah Kemiskinan Rakyat Sejahtera (Bekerja)*” or Tackle Poverty for People Welfare in 2018 and related institution from all level who participated in the program. Qualitative data analysis were implemented and the results were presented descriptively. The results show that: 1) A lesson learned that the majority of the women (85%) were participated in carrying the implementation of the program instead the -beneficiaries target is man.; 2) Women faced on a basic constraint such institutionally that influence their access to participate optimally in the technical assistant. 3) The women participation significantly influence in the success of the poverty alleviation program. A lesson learned could be derived as conclusion is “women had not been taken in to consideration in the planning of the program”. The suggested strategy on every poverty alleviation program for farmers is through women empowerment focus strategy.

**Keywords:** women, focus, poverty alleviation

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background

Poverty alleviation through agriculture sector and rural areas is an appropriate strategy for Indonesia, since the number of poor people in the village is currently 13.10 million (60.54%) from the total poor family which is almost twice compare to the number of poor people in the city 6.89 million (BPS, 2018), detail data is presented in Attachment 1. Based on this fact, the Indonesian government had been implemented poverty alleviation programs that directly targeted to poor farmers. There are 9 (nine) out of 38 of poverty alleviation during 1970-2019 (Situmorang, 2018). Two programs that directly related to agriculture and showed positive impact especially for women are the Small Farmers / Fishermen's Income Improvement Project or *Proyek Peningkatan*

*Pendapatan Petani Nelayan Kecil (P4K)* and the National Community Empowerment Program or *Program Nasional Pemberdayaan Masyarakat (PNPM)*.

The longest Project is the *P4K*, that had been implemented during 1985-2005 (Situmorang, 2018) which initiated from the leadership of President Soeharto (1970-1998) until the beginning of President Susilo Bambang Yudoyono's (SBY) leadership (2004-2014). This long period- of the *P4K* program is caused by its success, such as: (1) 58,118 groups of small farmers / fishermen (18,197 were women's group), (2) A total of 152,716 joint business plans (RUB) have been prepared and obtained loans from banks with a total value of Rp 1,183.3 billion; (3) A total of 31,859 *KPKs* have savings in BRI with a total value of 19.4 billion and around 28,100 other *KPKs* have group savings with a total of Rp 5.9 billion; (4) The formation of a combined 1,066, of which 205 are running savings and loan mechanisms as a forerunner to MFIs, managed and controlled by members of poor families; and (5) The growth of 35 cooperatives originating from the combined *KPK*. Affandi et al. (2009) reported the hallmark of the success of the *P4K* Program in Jombang Regency that the majority of women farmers are taking a part, especially by open a new business in the form of a local small industry in accordance with the capacities and capabilities of the recipient.

The *PNPM* program is a scaling up (broader development) from poverty reduction programs, -implemented under the leadership of President SBY in 2004-20014 (Soesanta 2013). The achievements of the *PNPM* program were (1) an increase in per capita consumption of 5% compared to poor households which can increase consumption by 3% more and have the possibility of escaping poverty; (2) treatment group households have a higher chance of getting work and access to health services. Costs incurred for the implementation of *PNPM* in rural areas and the results of activities of *PNPM* in Rural Areas have a high efficiency factor. This can be seen from job opportunities, infrastructure improvements and economic productivity in the village.

The success of *PNPM* had been reported by some researchers, for example Syahril et al., (2015) found the independent of rural communities in financial assistance and has a significant effect on poverty reduction in Aceh Province. Krisnawati (2010) reported her findings in Tlanak Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency that: (1) the implementation of *PNPM-MP* in 2009 has been running quite well; (2) successfully raising awareness and activeness of the people (3) *PNPM-MP* physically as well as non-physical activities has succeeded in improving the economy by opening new business-, reducing unemployment rates and increasing people's income and welfare by meeting their daily needs and children's education costs that was handle by women.

The above programs were somehow not continued, according to Nurwati (2008) the poverty alleviation program that has been carried out so far was generally only temporary that it will only run as long as there - still had a budget or funds, after the funds run out then the program - finished.

In 2018 the Ministry of Agriculture implemented Program called "Tackle Poverty for People Welfare" or *Bedah Kemiskinan Rakyat Sejahtera (Bekerja)*. *Program Bekerja* is a program of the Ministry of Agriculture to alleviate poverty in 2018, the implementation of the rogram is based on the Government Regulation No. 15 of 2010 concerning the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction and Permentan N0 42 / Permentan / RC.020 / 11 /, and 3) Permentan No. 27 / Permentan / RC.120 / 5/2018 concerning guidelines for the implementation of the program. Located in 10 provinces, covering 100 districts and 1000 villages. The -target of the program is a poor farmer's household based on data from the Ministry of Social Affairs which is diversified by the Ministry of

Agriculture as poor farmer' family or *rumahtangga miskin petani (RTMP)*. The farmers who approved as the RTMP were given a package of farming (livestock, vegetables and annual crops) and technical assistance as well as guidelines (Directorate General of Animal Husbandry and Health, 2018) so that farmers can utilize their field optimally and finally earn income daily, monthly and annually to be a proporous family. *Program Bekerja* will be continued in the 2019 fiscal year, therefore it needs to be studied in order to obtain a lesson learn as a basis information for further improvement of the strategy, specifically for *Program Bekerja* and for other alleviation programs especially for farmers.

## 1.2. Objectives

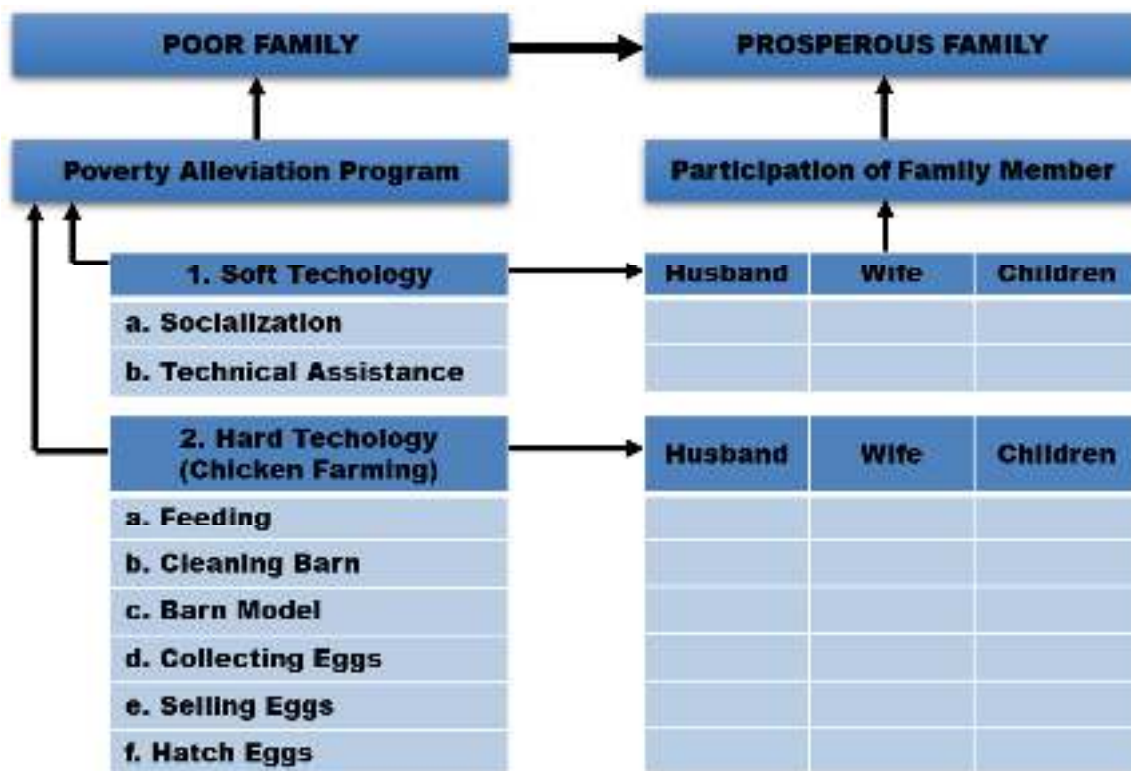
The objectives of this research are: 1) To get a lesson learned from Program Bekerja; 2) Study the women' participation in the implementation of *Program Bekerja* 3.) Analyze the contstrains of women in their participation of the program. 4) To get strategy for the better future of *Program Bekerja* and any poverty alleviation program.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1. Theoretical Framework

The Theoretical Framework of the research is described in Figure 1 that illustrate to achieve a prosperous family need the participation of the family's members in all activities implemented in the program. The implementation was started from the delivery of the soft technology such as socialization and technical assistance and hard technology namely the chicken raising, therefore the participation of women need to be – analyzed.

Figure 1: Figure Description



Source: Tarigan and Wahyuni (2019)

## 2.2. Locations

The location was selected purposively in a District from- 3 (three) Districts which - received *Program Bekerja*, namely Jember District, East Java Province. There are 3 (Three) Sub-Districts which a village was taken from each district namely Sumber Lesung Village - Sub-district of Ledok Ombo, Karangrejo Village - Sub-district of Gumukmas and Sumber Ketempa Village - Sub-District of Kalisat were selected as the research locations.

## 2.3. Data

Data consist of secondary and primary, the secondary data were obtain from some report of the Central Bureau of Statistics and related institute of the program at National to village level such as:

- National : Directorate General of Livestock Services and Animal Health (*Dirjen PKH*)
- Province : Regional Planning Agency (*BAPEDA*)  
Agriculture Service (*Dinas Pertanian*)
- District : Food Security and Animal Husbandry Services
- Village : Village Officials

The primary data were collected from the *RTMP of Bekerja Program* , key informant and field observation.

## 2.4. Analysis

A qualitative analysis applied RRA .Rural Resarch Appraisal (RRA) is a method in collecting information/data by "outsiders" and analyzed by themselves. The implementation of the RRA requires a small multi-disciplinary work team, focused on understanding aspects of research at the local community level combined with scientific knowledge. The principle of implementing RRA is Triangulation: Reviewing secondary data, field observations and key informants (Faturrochman, 2015) and Saputro (2015). The focus of the research is the "Household" therefore information on the participation of the household member in the program were collected, followed by information on the constraint they faced to.

## 2.5. Results

### 2.5.1. Lesson learned from *Program Bekerja*

A lesson learned on the implementation of *Program Bekerja* obtained from the Province Level was that the Department of Agriculture of East Java Province has not been involved in *Program Bekerja* in 2018. The reason is that the central government not aware of the variation agencies in the regions, therefore the *Bekerja Program* were not directed appropriately. In Jember District, the Agriculture Department have no authority in the field of animal husbandry, but under the Food Security Department. On the other hand, the companion of the program is the *Penyuluh Pertanian Lapangan (-PPL)* or field agriculture extention Services which is under the District of Agriculture Department who have no authority to allocate insentive for PPL. The consequence is the monitoring and evaluation (monev) was not reported as targeted. To handle the monev activities The Regional Planning Agency (*BAPEDA*) provide an additional incentive of

IDR 500.000/month for 10-month contract to PPL with the task of money the program then reporting to the district.

The program's location was determined topdown, forgetting that each region has authority over the welfare of their community. To anticipate an undesirable event that might occur to the recipients of the program, Jember Regency did a re-verification of the RTMP that had been determined by the program. The verification team consisted of BABINSA, KAMTIBNAS and the head of the village, call *Tiga Pilar* or three Pillar as the spearhead of the success of every program- that are implemented in the village.

At District Level, as already mentioned the responsible institution is the Food Security and Animal Husbandry Services which have certain goals therefore the program is integrated in overcoming the stunting program. However the program implementer is the Farma Veterinary Center (PUSVETMA) under the Directorate General of Husbandry and Veterinary which has difference goal such as increasing - the chicken population, while the Food Security and Animal Husbandry Services emphasize on food stunting.

The total number from reverification of the RTMPs were 12,660 out of the original verification of 12,698. The program packages include: 1) Jowo Super Chicken (JOPER) aged 4 weeks dropped since September 26, 2018 until the last dropping in November 2018; 2) Feed for 4 months plus vitamins and disinfectants. The package was given to 3 districts namely 12 villages in Kalisat, 10 villages in Ledokombo and 8 villages in Gemukmas with each recipient of the Kalisat District program receiving 5,921 RTMP, 3,770 RTMP, 3,969 RTMP; 3) Barn; 4) Technical Guidance and 5) Assistance from the Sub-District of Social Welfare staff (TKSK) from the Social Service for each sub-district. The difference between planning and implementation at the provincial level also occurs at the district level to the RTMP as stated in Table 1.

Table 1: The design and the implementation and the impact of BEKERJA program in 2018

Aspects	Design	Implementation	Impact
Goal	Increase the chickens population	Overcome stunting	Very low
Institution	Department of agriculture	Food Security and Animal Husbandry Services	Intervention of other institution ( <i>Bappeda</i> )
Verification	Department of agriculture	Regional Planning Agency ( <i>BAPEDA</i> )	Reverification
Strategy	Optimization of yard	Chicken development	Not optimal
Socialization target	Extention Service officer	Plus Three Pilar	Better results
Main Package	Integrated, Chicken (C)+Fruit (F)+ vgetable (V)	Only chicken	Not optimal
Supporting Package	C (barn, feed, medical) F (seed + Fertilizer) V ((seed + Fertilizer)	Chicken (cross breed, varies age) Barn: new and still smell he bamboo aroma-not good for chicken. Feed not enough Desinfectant unfamiliar	Chicken (new breed): Farmer unfamiliar, caused most chicken dead
Responsible institution	Various institution	Various institution	Segmented
Dropping	Step by Step, on time	Step by Step behind schedule	Not enough, Feed unaffordable
Receiver ( <i>RTMP</i> )	Household based on ID	Household based on ID	As planned
Technical	Before distribution	Along with distribution,	Not efficient

assistant		breafly	
Technical assistant Receiver	Head of household (ID)	Household ID, For some reason could be represented	As planned
The cicken mangement Coach	Family (ID)	Mostly women	Unskilled coach
	To be independently	Implementation timing of program	Not sustainable

Source: Primary data, 2019

Information from the Sub-District Level: The program starts with RTMP verification which is carried out by RT and RW. Furthermore, invitation to joint the socialization was held by the Department of Food Security and Animal Husbandry for the village head, BABINSA and KANTIBMAS who expected to deliver their knowledge to the RTMP.

The dropping of the package of chicken were attended by the head of the district, the head of the PUSVETMA and the whole RTMP (the head of the household as in the ID). In this event, socialization about how to raise livestock also explain briefly. Before the chickens were dropped, some requirements such as the barn for the chikens must be ready and 200Kg feed for the chickens already prepared. The chickens' were in a month age, the breed is Joper (*Jowo peranakan*) or crossing between *ayam kampung* and layer chicken that is placed in a box of 50 unsexing chickens, completed with a plastic bottle for watering the chickens as well as some medicine were delivered to RTM. All RTMP who received the programs' package must have an authentic evidence such as photo and ID. Below are photos of 3 (three) RTMPs representing 20% of the total RTMPs who still raised their chicken during the field team visiting (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Representative of the exsisting RTMP



Source: The teams' documents ( 2019)

The question is, what about the other 80% RTMPs ? The answer is “they have no chicken any more” because the chickens were dead. The following reasons might explain and answer the reasons of the dead chickens.

1. Farmers had not received brochure for the chickens raising, therefore when they faced problem directly report to the Head of Hamlet or *Kepala Dusun* (Kadus) which they consider key person for all matters of in the village meanwhile *Kadus* never received any technical assistance about raising chickens.
2. The age of the chicken were varies, the consequences are: a) younger chicken has not enough body endurance so it caused dead. b) The life younger chicken need more feed meanwhile the amount of feed provided were in the same amount.
3. Varies of age caused varies in the time to lay eggs (the older chicken lay the egg sooner).
4. The chicken is a new breed which need a special treatment such as raised in a age with feed available in the feeding box at any time, while they used to raise chicken in traditional way, no barn with no special feed.
5. Chicken taste is less tasty compared to Kampung chicken
6. In other Sub-district, reported that level the chicken death-also caused by the differences of chicken ages, especially in the second dropping, chickens were smaller and younger so that most were died when it was dropped during rainy season, and chickens become so week then die gradually in during the first month after dropping and only 50% left.
7. Another factor is that RTMP have no experience on how to raise chickens in a large number, as they usually only have 2 chickens to 5 chickens without any special care from farmers.
8. The unsexing chicken were confusing the farmers, especially related to the decision to sell the cock .

Behind the various problems that have been described, there are found some RTMPs that still have a full number of chickens as the original number “50 chickens” even more, could consume the eggs and the chicken meat, and got additional income for the family. The answer is there was wife/women participation directly in raising chickens farming (Table 2).

*Table 2: The Husband and Wife Participation in the Technical Chicken Farming*

No	Activities in The Chicken Farming	Family Members Participation (%)	
		Husband	Wife
1	Feeding	10	90
2	Cleaning barn	20	80
3	Health care	10	90
4	Collecting eggs	10	90
5	Selling eggs	10	90
6	Hatch eggs	20	80
	Average	15	85

*Source: (primary data, 2019)*

However, the above participation was not supported by their access toward the soft technology such as the socialization of the program delivered in the special even during the dropping of the chickens (Table 3). Without participating in the socialization, the wife/woman would not understand the purpose of the livestock package they received, then how it should be implemented. Ask the solution to the husband would not possibly obtained an appropriate answer they faced because the majority of the husband did not quite understand the socialization that was only received in a short time while the information received was mostly new for them.

Table 3: The Husband and Wife Participation in Soft Technology in Chicken Farming

No	Soft Technology	Family Members Participation (%)	
		Husband	Wife
1	Socialization of the program	80	20
2	Technical Assistancies	80	20

Source: Primary data, 2019)

Most farmers faced by some constraint in the chickens management, especially women who directly deal with the daily activities as mention in Table 4. How to solve the problem? A success story from RTMPs may help how to overcome inorder to achieve the goals of the program.

In Gumuk Mas sub-district, one of the RTMPs was found to be successful in raising chickens from the *Bekerja* Program package. A family of farmers who experience in native and Bangkok chickens raising. The successful of the raising is through the following management: When the chickens received have shown its sex (around of 3 months age), a number of 28 birds found as cocks, of which 12 are sold for IDR30 000 per head. Money of IDR 360 000 was allocated to buy feed for the needs of all chickens for one month because of the daily feed cost of IDR 20 000 and the supply of medicines if needed any time, namely eye drops, eye warts and nasal drops to threat mucous of the nose.

Table 4: The Womens' Constraints in the Implementation of the Program BEKERJA

Technical Aids	Constraint		Consequence
	Policy	Technical	
Breed	Centralistic: Jopen/cross breed	Not familiar	The management system not appropriate
Feed	Grower, limited, scheduled dropping	Not familiar, unlimited, behind the shedule	Not enough feed, unaffordable, production not on time
Barn	Certain size, to small and new	Crowded, still emits a specific odor of bamboo material	Cannibal, poisoning
Raising system	In the cage	No cage	Natural anemias, diseases
Assistant	Only recipients	No opportunity	Practice traditional system
Medical service	Animal health service	Not enough veterinarian	No solution

Source: (Primary data , 2019)

Information of the medicines was obtained from the companion who was also tasked in providing artificial insemination (AI) services. -Because the family owned 2 cows belong- to the village's head who was being driven. The AI officer was given the additional task in monitoring the development and health of the working chicken program. officer of UPKK is responsible for 100RTM, but there was an UPKK who has to handle 600 RTM so that not all RTMPs are monitored.

From the remaining 16 male chickens, 4 chickens are set aside as the male of the 22 chickens existing female chickens, the rest were sold in stages to maintain the feed needs and successfully consumed as many as 15chickens. From the exsisting 22 chickens, 15 chickens were sold gradually to buy feed and the family's needs, so now there are only have 7 chicken hens that left only 1 cock. From the 7 chicken hens, there was a hen laying eggs, incubating and has just hatched the eggs. One hen produces about 15 eggs, 10 eggs are hatched, the rest was eaten or sold 5 eggs –with IDR 1,500 / egg. After the chicken grow at 3 (three) mounths age, it sold again. This management cycle successfully achieve the programs goals, increase the consumption of protein and increase the family income.



### 3. Conclusion

- a. There is bias in terms of the design and the implementation of the program. That was start from the institutional aspects, system on the verification of the RTMP, packages, technical guidance targets, and guidance between design and implementation of the program made the program was not optimal in alleviating the poverty.
- b. Women participate dominantly in production activities but faced some problems both in the institution and in technical access.
- c. Women as the main participant in the implementation of the program, but they have not been considered in the planning of poverty alleviation programs.

### 4. Policy Implication

Women as the main actors in farming livestock as part of agriculture should be considered in the planning of poverty alleviation programs related to agriculture.

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## Attachment 1.

Table 1: The Development of Poor Population in Indonesia March 2014-September 2018

Year	Total of poor population (Millions)			Percentage of The Poor People		
	City (C)	Village (V)	Total (C+V)	City (C)	Village (V)	Total (C+V)
Mar 2014	10.51 (37,16)	17.77 (62,84)	28.28 (100)	8.34	14.17	11.25
Sep 2014	10.36 (37,36)	17.37 (62,64)	27.73 (100)	8.16	13.76	10.96
Mar 2015	10.65 (37,25)	17.94 (62,75)	28.59 (100)	8.29	14.21	11.22
Sep 2015	10.62 (37,25)	17.89 (62,75)	28.51 (100)	8.22	14.09	11.13
Mar 2016	10.34 (36,92)	17.67 (63,08)	28.01 (100)	7.79	14.11	10.86
Sep 2016	10.49 (37,79)	17.28 (62,21)	27.76 (100)	7.73	13.96	10.70
Mar 2017	10.67 (38,42)	17.10 (61,56)	27.77 (100)	7.72	13.93	10.64
Sep 2017	10.27 (38,64)	16.31 (61,36)	26.58 (100)	7.26	13.47	10.12
Mar 2018	10.14 (39,08)	15.81 (60,92)	25.95 (100)	7.07	13.20	9.82
Sep 2018	10.13 (39,46)	15.54 (60,54)	25.67 (100)	6.89	13.10	9.66

Source: (Author, 2019)