

NEW HOPE IN A NEW LAND

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Abstract

Home is an essential sanctuary for all living beings, holding profound significance regardless of time or place. Ensuring the well-being of our habitation sites is imperative, necessitating vigilant protection and prudent care. Both local and central governments have embarked on diverse avenues to secure improved living conditions in novel environments. This paper endeavors to illuminate the landscape of capacity building initiatives and improved environmental conditions, encompassing not only the current inhabitants but also extending to the broader community. These endeavors harbor long-term implications, benefiting society and governance structures, and casting a positive influence on forthcoming generations. The responsibility of the succeeding generation lies in the preservation, cultivation, and effective management of newfound environmental potential, offering benefits to all stakeholders. Equipping communities and future generations with the requisite training to harness and nurture environmental resources emerges as a pivotal strategy in realizing this potential.

Keywords: *Natural Resource Potential, Society, Transmigration*

1. INTRODUCTION

The environment is a place to live with all the potential needed by every living thing that lives in the area. Land that is generally built and developed for new residential areas is not land that can only function as a residence. Because a good place to live is a place that provides comfort, safety and the ability to provide more than just a place to live (Nikuze et al., 2019). A place to live will be the place to look for after a day of activities or traveling from anywhere.

Indonesia with its vast territory has many places that are still not occupied by a large population. This vast area is an alternative for the government to provide opportunities for people in parts of the island of Java which are considered already densely populated to move their homes. This is an opportunity for many community members on the island of Java to be able to live and have a larger residential area, so that it can function as land for farming. This multifunctional land eventually becomes an advantage for immigrant communities who have the intention to improve economic conditions in the future, so that the surrounding natural conditions will be better because they are maintained (Nababan & Regina, 2021).

Indonesia as a maritime and agricultural country is considered a country that has agricultural land conditions with a fairly good fertility rate. The climate and the effects of volcanic eruptions which are widely owned by this country make the soil in Indonesia very fertile. Fertile soil conditions require skills and creativity to process them properly.

For transmigrants, the availability of sufficient water and fertilizer will greatly assist the processing of their agricultural land (Quetulio-Navarra et al., 2012).

The process of producing valuable agricultural products for landowners and other areas outside the transmigration areas also requires government support. Transmigrants in general will try to process and develop agricultural skills and products in a variety of ways at their disposal. Because transmigrants who generally come from the island of Java not only intend to change their place of residence, but they also want to open up new potential business fields. For example, by providing complementary needs for farming and other daily needs, which they need or are needed by other transmigrants (Monteiro et al., 2021).

From these activities, profits will be obtained that are used to develop other business activities (MacKay, 1995). In order to support the development of transmigrant land, the local government as the authorized officer will generally try to process the development of the necessary facilities and infrastructure. Because good facilities and infrastructure will be very helpful and support the development of the economy and other fields. The process of developing many other fields will become more open in a certain time not long (N. Lee, 2014). Furthermore, this study aims to underline the importance of these efforts in fostering economic diversity and expanding opportunities for sustainable livelihoods while ensuring the preservation of natural resources for present and future generations.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Transmigration

Housing is one of the basic needs that must be met by anyone. Every living thing definitely needs to have it with various processes. They will all have it somehow in how long. One of the processes of having a place to live can be chosen, among others, by going through the transmigration process (D. Lee et al., 2014).

The transmigration process has been carried out by the Indonesian government since several decades ago. This program was initially run in order to reduce population density on the island of Java. Apart from that, it is also to distribute the population in all the islands in Indonesia, especially in the other four major islands. Apart from aiming to reduce population density on the island of Java, the government program (transmigration) also functions to reduce the number of residents in areas that have a level of natural disaster hazard, but also to reduce the number of unemployed on the island of Java in particular and in Indonesia in general (Kiggundu, 2012).

2.2. Society

Society in general is a group of people who live or occupy a certain area together for quite a long time or certain times. This group of people occupy the area because they are native to the area or because of certain needs. These specific needs are usually caused by work, so they have to stay in the area for a certain period of time. Besides that, they can all move to other areas without a long time in order to complete their other matters (Jessoula, 2015).

In Indonesia, society in general will accept any changes for the common good. Because every community in Indonesia has the same cultural basis, namely mutual respect and respect for cultural differences wherever they are. Generally, the same

cultural values will bring the same point of view for progress and the common good for the nation and state. So that if a member of the community has to move to a place of residence for a specific purpose, there will be minimal misunderstandings with indigenous people or those who have been members of the local community for a longer time (Correa-Velez et al., 2014).

2.3. Natural Resource Potential

The potential for natural wealth in every region of Indonesia is almost certainly not the same. Each region in the western, central and eastern parts of Indonesia has its own characteristics (Klein, 1996). Although in fact there are slight similarities between these areas, for example related to the existence of rainforests in each of the western, central, eastern regions. In addition to tropical rain forests with all the natural wealth in them that cannot be found in rain forests of other countries, fertile soils in almost all regions of Indonesia are the country's other largest potential natural wealth.

Fertile soil in almost the entire territory of the Indonesian state is a potential natural wealth that must be maintained by all residents of this country wherever they are (Lai et al., 2021). Soil fertility in Indonesia must be maintained in several ways, including keeping its fertile soil layer from being eroded by rain when the rainy season arrives. Maintaining the fertile soil layer can be done, among others, by planting trees or plants that have large roots. Because the roots are large and grow deep into the ground, they will be able to hold the soil around where they grow and absorb rainwater properly to be stored as a supply and even able to maintain the viability of the surrounding springs in the dry season.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This paper endeavors to present a qualitative and descriptive analysis of the manifold advantages and positive attributes stemming from the cultivation and management of fertile lands across various regions of Indonesia. The focal point of this exploration is the transmigrant community, who, through their dedicated efforts, become beneficiaries of the opportunities that these lands offer. The narrative aims to underscore the reciprocal relationship between the transmigrant community and the land, showcasing how their diligent cultivation leads to a mutually beneficial exchange.

Central to this examination is the concept of "acceptance," as the transmigrant community embraces both the responsibilities and benefits that arise from cultivating these lands. The paper delves into the multifaceted nature of this dynamic interaction, encompassing not only the physical act of cultivation but also the broader socioeconomic and environmental implications. By shedding light on the journey of the transmigrant community as they harness the potential of these fertile lands, the paper underscores the symbiotic relationship that forms between "giving" - the land's bestowal of prosperity - and "acceptance" - the community's active role in nurturing and capitalizing on these opportunities. Through this exploration, a comprehensive understanding emerges of how fertile lands can catalyze sustainable growth and prosperity within the transmigrant community.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Indonesian nation has an area divided into western, central and eastern parts with many small and large islands that are part of each part. Of the five major islands owned by the Indonesian nation, Java Island is an island that is considered to have a density far above the other four major islands, apart from the small islands around it. the potential for abundant natural wealth from the side of the western, central and eastern regions it has. The potential for abundant natural wealth is something that must be maintained and processed and managed properly and wisely by all residents or the local community and the surrounding area (Jessop, 1998).

For this reason, the government of the Indonesian state since several decades ago has established a transmigration program. Initially, the transmigration program only aimed to reduce the population on the island of Java, which was initially considered to be overcrowded (Heisler, 2020). The purpose of placing new residences for these transmigrants is other large islands in Indonesian territory, namely Kalimantan and Sulawesi. Meanwhile, on other islands, if you meet residents who come from Java, it is generally because they are undergoing a transfer of duties or a new assignment from the office where they are assigned.

Another objective of the transmigration activity program is to reduce the number of people who do not have permanent jobs on the island of Java. Next is moving people or residents who previously lived in areas with a high level of natural disaster hazard (Aldrich, 2012). The third is the community or residents who really don't have a place to live and also don't have a permanent place to live. These two conditions ultimately become reasons for saving the community or residents in these three conditions, so that they all become a society that has positive values and better economic capabilities in the future (Bang & Few, 2012).

For transmigrants and people who have experienced resettlement to a new area, it will indirectly bring about changes in many ways. The important thing that must be faced is cultural differences in association, even though the cultural roots of the Indonesian state have the same views and thoughts, namely mutual respect, respect and mutual help. However, fundamental ways of associating must still be considered properly, so as not to violate it. In addition, the transfer of knowledge will certainly occur automatically between indigenous people and transmigrants or non-transmigrant newcomers (Hikichi et al., 2016).

In order to develop the capacity of the land where they live and their surroundings so that they are able to produce abundant and optimal agricultural products, transmigrants or newcomers will do many things. One of the things that can be done at the beginning is cooperation in order to develop the ability and creativity to process and manage by parties who are supportive and have competence (Tjitropranoto, 2003). Efforts to develop capacity and creativity in managing residential land to become land with high economic value are carried out together with representatives from the local government. Studying with representatives of the local government or agricultural extension officers is certain to develop skills and creativity, so that positive results and high economic value can be achieved properly (Capistrano-Doren & Luna, 1992).

Activities to develop capacity and creativity for transmigrants and other migrants together with the local government can be carried out by means of assistance. Positive information sharing activities that support the process of developing land management and management so that it becomes productive and has high economic value (Choudhury,

1995). The process of developing capacity and creativity needs to be carried out together because there are many potential local assets that must be maintained, preserved, processed and managed properly and wisely. Mentoring activities are very good things to do in order to obtain the results expected by both parties in the short term and in the long term (Slamet, 2001).

The positive results of transmigrant cooperation and hard work with the local government for decades in the new land of hope are increasingly visible in the current era. In addition to the number of residents who have increased from the number of residents in the previous few decades. Residential areas and land that have been cultivated and managed with enthusiasm and well by transmigrants seem to be increasingly inviting people from other areas to live and settle in these areas and develop them (Gourlay et al., 2011). Because there are many fields that can be developed in transmigration areas, including by opening English villages, such as those in the Kalimantan transmigration area, so indirectly the skills of the community, in this case the local young generation can improve foreign language skills.

With the development of the ability of the community through the younger generation, it will indirectly increase the ability to help develop the region. The younger generation in the area will eventually help introduce people outside their area of residence to their ability to speak foreign languages (Gourlay et al., 2011). Communities in the surrounding areas will be interested in coming to this transmigrant area to study, and will indirectly increase the income of the surrounding community because small businesses will grow. And when small businesses or micro, small and medium business activities grow, it will automatically open up new jobs for those in need.

Apart from that, the transmigration area in the North Kalimantan area is also growing and developing towards an independent transmigration area. The transmigration community in the North Kalimantan region is increasingly developing their ability to explore the potential of local natural wealth that they have and then manage it (Council, 2015). Hand in hand with the local government, the people in the area are increasingly increasing their efforts to develop their regional potential. So that it is possible for investors to participate in development, in fact the area has begun to develop new locations for prospective new transmigrants who wish to live in independent transmigration areas or areas.

Likewise with other transmigration areas in other areas on the island of Kalimantan, as well as on other islands (Aminah, 2021). Cultural diversity makes transmigration areas of high tolerance with increasingly better community skills in many fields. The economic capacity of the community in these areas is also stated to be increasing by the regional and central governments. Because the value or amount of community economic activity through micro, small and medium enterprise activities is known to be growing, this proves that transmigration areas are capable of changing and getting better in many areas of society (Rogers & Kincaid, 1981). The success of transmigration areas serves as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of communities when given the opportunity and resources to thrive. The upward trajectory of these regions elucidates the potential for transformation, where the symbiotic relationship between cultural diversity, economic progress, and social tolerance generates a cycle of development that benefits both the community and the nation as a whole.

5. CONCLUSION

The transmigration initiative, a longstanding government effort, stands as a positive endeavor aimed at enhancing various sectors, notably the social sphere. The positive impact on the social sector creates a ripple effect, leading to overall improvements in interconnected fields. Addressing challenges in human resources, a prevalent concern for governments, and catalyzing growth in the tourism sector are among the anticipated outcomes. The abundant natural resources in transmigration areas offer short- and long-term income opportunities for both the community and the government, solidifying the program's viability and effectiveness.

To ensure the continued success of the transmigration program, collaborative efforts involving the government, communities, and competent institutions are imperative. This collective approach, fostering synergy among stakeholders, extends beyond mere cooperation to holistic development. The program's goal is to transform these new lands of hope into thriving communities where economic hardships faced by transmigrants in their places of origin can be alleviated. By capitalizing on the untapped potential of natural resources, these areas hold promise for prosperity. In this journey, the collaboration between transmigrants, governmental bodies, and expert institutions will be pivotal in nurturing sustainable community growth and progress.

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