

## The Role of Women in Improving Household Economy

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**Abstract.** The participation of women in the world of work does not only contribute to changing the mindset and economic order of a region, but has contributed greatly to the economic welfare of the family, especially in the economic field. Working women can increase family income and help improve the quality of life and family health. The purpose of this study was to determine the role of women's performance in improving the family economy of the Branta Pesisir Pamekasan Village. This research method uses descriptive qualitative analysis, data collection techniques using observation, interviews, and documentation. The results of this study found that the role of women's performance in the household economy is very important, this is evidenced by the amount of income generated by women not much different from the income generated by male workers in general. This is driven by the high enthusiasm of a housewife to help alleviate the burden on the husband in the household economy, also the opportunities in natural resources, as well as the ability of human resources (in this case women) to work.

**Keywords.** Women; performance; income; Household Economics.

### 1. Introduction

Indonesia is known as an agrarian country, where the majority of the population's livelihood is farming. Most agriculture in Indonesia is managed by rural communities. In addition to an agrarian country, Indonesia is also known as a maritime country, which has a very wide sea area and has a very large coastal area as well. However, there are still many Indonesian people who are classified as poor, including Madurese.

In Madura, Pamekasan Regency was the district with the lowest poverty rate than other districts (data in 2016), namely 142,320 poor people (16.70%), Sumenep 216,140 poor people (20.09%), Bangkalan 205,710 poor people (21.41% ), and Sampang 227,800 poor population (24.11%) [1]. Consists of several strategic areas in developing the economy of the surrounding community. One area that has great potential is the coastal area, while one of the coastal areas with the greatest potential in the Pamekasan area is located in the village of Branta coast, Tlanakan subdistrict, Pamekasan Regency.

As a geographically located area in the coastal area, the majority of Branta Pesisir community jobs are as fishermen, but not only the heads of families work, but there are also many housewives who also work to help ease the burden on the family economy. Generally speaking, the person who leads the

household is male. However, due to the absence of a male figure, a female family member takes over a leadership role, in another sense the household is headed by women [2].

Women's work remains unrecognized and formally disorganized despite the fact that women's contribution to the family is very important; in many cases women are breadwinners and work longer hours than men [3]. Women entrepreneurs are women who also participate in entrepreneurial activities as a whole, and are involved in looking for business opportunities in their lives through the process of producing goods and services [4]. Entrepreneurial women are women who can play a strategic role in fostering economic and social development, especially in the small business sector [5].

The participation of women in the world of work does not only contribute to changing the mindset and economic order of a region, but has contributed greatly to the economic welfare of the family, especially in the economic field. Working women can increase family income and help improve the quality of life and family health [6].

Based on research conducted by Aswiyati that women (housewives) farmers in the economic life of their households have a fairly high role. This is due to the income of farmers housewives do not differ much from the income of husbands, so the presence of working housewives can have an influence on household economic welfare [7].

In accordance with the above research, the results of research conducted by Arsal, et al. Show that women baskets work in the informal sector to meet the economic needs of the family because the income from her husband is not sufficient to meet their daily needs so they try to find additional income. Various types of empowerment for women baskets have been carried out both from the internal basket itself and from outside. Through empowerment, they can fulfill their daily needs such as buying clothes, sending their children to school, buying rice and side dishes, and even giving donations to provide basic needs [8].

In contrast to research conducted by Aswiyati, research conducted by Kurniati shows that the average income of women workers in agro-industry is paid below the average monthly wage. However, when compared with the husband's income, labor costs are still considered insufficient. Income contribution that women workers can contribute to total family income is 19.88%. This amount is still very small compared to the contribution of income outside of wage labor which is equal to 80.12% due to the low wages received by female workers, but the time devoted to working more [9]. The purpose of this study is to analyze the role of women in improving the household economy in the Branta Pesisir Pamekasan Village.

## **2. Methods**

This research uses descriptive qualitative analysis research methods, data collection techniques using interview, observation and documentation techniques. Data analysis in this research is by taking notes, sorting out, and synthesizing data, making patterns, choosing what is important and what will be studied, then making conclusions that are easy to understand that will be shared with others.

## **3. Method**

One factor that drives women to work is because their husbands' income as fishermen is uncertain. The size of the fish catch due to wind and season factors. So that the situation makes triggering women to work because of the encouragement of the joints themselves and the emergence of enthusiasm to be able to help the husband in terms of the economy, the opportunity for Natural Resources (SDA) and the ability of Human Resources (HR) to come to work.

To support and increase the income earned by a husband, the majority of women in the village of Branta coastal work by trading fish in the market and some are selling salted fish. So that in terms of quantity, the income derived from women's performance is equivalent to the income of the husband, so that it can have a significant impact on the economic condition of the family with the emergence of adequate financial conditions in meeting family needs.

As stated by Mrs. Syarofah that the income obtained from trading salted fish is quite large, the average daily income is around one hundred thousand rupiah. Live interview. In accordance with research conducted by Firdaus and Rahadian, in his research said that increasing the wife's work participation in work is one of the strategic efforts to increase household income. And business development outside the

fisheries sector is also very important to do [10].

In line with the results of research conducted by Firdaus, research conducted by Aswiyati also said that the role of women housewives in farmers in the household economy is quite high, this is due to the income of farmers housewives is not much different from the income of husbands [7].

In other words, the role of women's performance based on the amount of income obtained does not differ greatly with the income of the husband, and sometimes even exceeds the number of husband's landings in one day which causes an adequate economic condition of the family. So that the situation is a strategic effort to help ease the burden on the family's economy and meet family needs.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Based on the results of analysis of research data using descriptive qualitative found that the performance of women in the family economy is very important, this is evidenced by the amount of income generated by housewives is not much different from the income generated by male workers in general. This is driven by the high enthusiasm of a housewife to help alleviate the burden on her husband in the family economy, also the opportunities for natural resources, as well as the ability of human resources (in this case women) to work. The results of this study are expected to be able to provide an understanding to each family about mutual support and help. a woman can also help improve the family economy by working.

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