

Rural Community Resilience: Gambir Fluctuations as Main Livelihood in Kapur IX District Nagari Koto Bangun

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Abstract. Gambir is the main source of livelihood for Kapur IX Nagari Koto Bangun sub-district. This study aims to analyze the resilience of rural communities: Gambir fluctuations as the main livelihood in Nagari Koto Bangun. This study uses a qualitative approach and data collection methods, namely in-depth interviews, non-participant observation, and document data collection. The way to obtain informants in this research is by using proportional sampling technique. This study shows that the process of resilience of gambier farmers in gambier price fluctuations in Nagari Koto Bangun. This study shows that the price of gambier fluctuates which makes gambier farmers take rational actions in maintaining the economy, especially in the family. The resilience of the gambier farming community is carried out by living frugally, opening other businesses, especially small stalls and borrowing money from gambier middlemen as an alternative to being able to rise from fluctuations in gambier as their main livelihood. Gambier fluctuations occur because of changes in the ups and downs of a variable that occurs due to market mechanisms. Changes in market mechanisms make people to take action to keep rising from Gambier fluctuations by making efforts that are rational. Novelty in this study is a rational action as an action in strengthening resilience to image fluctuations.

Keywords: *Rural Community Resilience; Gambir Fluctuations; Livelihoods*

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country that has a population that has many livelihoods as plantations, farmers, livestock, fishermen, and services. One type of plantation livelihood is gambier farming. Plantations were an important aspect of the economy in Indonesia during the colonial period which served as an extension of western agrarian development (Selfi Mahat Putri, 2013); (Irwan, 2015c); (Rana EL Rawas, Inês M. Amaral, 2020).

Indonesia exports 80% of the world's gambier needs (Fina rahmadini, 2015). One of the provinces in Indonesia which is the center of the largest gambier production is West

Sumatra Province. West Sumatra Province is around 80% to 90% of the total national production. The provinces of West Sumatra that produce gambier plantations are Lima Puluh Kota Regency and Pesisir Selatan Regency (Nasrul Hosen, 2017). The Fifty Cities District is to the east of Agam. Lima Puluh Kota Regency is a district located in a valley located on a high land which has an altitude of less than 1,500 feet.

Gambir is the main livelihood for the people of the Lima Puluh Kota Regency, especially in Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun (Yusrizal Husein, 2018). Gambir is a type of plant that has a long life that is hard.

Gambier plants can last a long time because the age of gambier plants can reach the age of 80 years. Usually gambier plants live in the forest. Gambir is used as an income for people who have gambier plantations. Gambir is a type of plant whose sap is processed by drying (Salman ali musa, 2019). Gambir is also a type of plant that is usually used for betel nut by the people of Indonesia. Gambir is considered to be able to change the livelihoods of farmers in Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun from rice fields to gambir livelihoods.

There is a processing process for gambier farmers in Lima Puluh Kota Regency, Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun in carrying out "Mengampo" or the process of cooking gambier leaves in the kampang (house for processing gambir leaves). Gambier age is good and suitable for harvesting and processing is one that has more than one year of age (Adzmi dholimi, 2006); (Irwan, 2015b). In the process of processing or cooking gambir leaves, initially, farmers go to the gambir fields to pick gambir leaves, the second one, farmers bring gambier leaves to their home. campan for processing, the third is the farmer boils the gambir leaves into a "Kanca" or large skillet that can cook more gambier leaves, the fourth process is squeezing or separating the sap from the gambier leaves to get maximum results and keeping the gambier in the container. After that, the farmers wait for the gambir sap to freeze for up

to 1 to 2 days to be printed with a special print that has been provided

The formation of gambier prices is still determined by the fluctuating gambirimporters. one of the Kapur IX sub-districts whose livelihood is gambier is the Koto Bangun community which has 3 nagari. Nagari Koto Bangun hopes that the price of gambier will return to stability and can again improve the welfare of the lime IX community, specifically Nagari Koto Bangun. The price of gambier in 2022 in April and May is Rp. 20.000,00 per kg and in June Rp. 25,000.00 per kg. We can see that the price of gambier fluctuates in Nagari Koto Bangun.

Fluctuation is the occurrence of instability and imbalance in the price of an item. Gambier price fluctuations in Nagari Koto Bangun resulted in unstable economy in Nagari Koto Bangun. When the price of gambier is stable, the economy and life of gambier farmers will improve and prosper. However, if the price of gambier decreases, then the economy of the people of Lima Puluh Kota Regency, Kapur IX District, precisely in Nagari Koto Bangun, is unstable or experiences a crisis on the economy of the people who have gambir livelihoods. This is in line with (Aulia Azzahra, 2021) research that fluctuations in The price of gambier commodity in Nagari Koto Bangun, Kapur IX sub-district makes the community carry out a survival strategy. Survival strategies are steps in meeting economic needs. Therefore, this

study aims to analyze the resilience of rural communities: Gambier fluctuations as the main livelihood in Kapur IX sub-district, Nagari Koto Bangun.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive type (Nela novita, 2019). Qualitative research focuses its attention on analyzing phenomena, especially those related to fluctuations in gambier as the livelihood of Kapur IX Nagari Koto Bangun sub-district. Data collection methods in this study used several ways, namely in-depth interviews, non-participant observation, and document data collection. The method of obtaining informants in this research is by using proportional sampling technique. It considers and establishes criteria as informants in this research. The unit of analysis of this research is that rural communities are people in rural areas who experience gambier fluctuations. Document analysis in this study uses the model of thinking of Miles and Huberman (Miles B Matthew, 1992). Data analysis was carried out in several stages starting from data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. Novelty in this study is a rational action as an action in strengthening resilience to image fluctuations.

DISCUSSION

Overview of Gambier in Nagari Koto Bangun

Nagari Koto Bangun is located in Kapur IX District, in the District of Fifty Cities. The residents of Nagari Koto Bangun, the majority of the population, have a gambier livelihood. Gambier is a plant originating from the province of West Sumatra which is located in one of the regencies, namely the Lima Puluh Kota Regency, Kapur IX District, precisely located in Nagari Koto Bangun.

Based on the geographical location of Kapur IX Subdistrict, Nagari Koto Bangun with boundaries of 4 areas, namely: in the east with Pangkalan Koto Baru sub-district, in the west with Pasaman Regency, in the north of Riau Province and in the south with Bukit Barisan District. Kapur IX sub-district has an area of 723.36 Km² with a population of 29,977 people in 2022. With 14,543 women and 15,434 men with 7 Nagari including Muaro Paiti, Koto Bangun, Durian Tinggi, Sialang, Galugua, Koto Lamo, Lubuak Alai (Mitra Gustari, 2021).

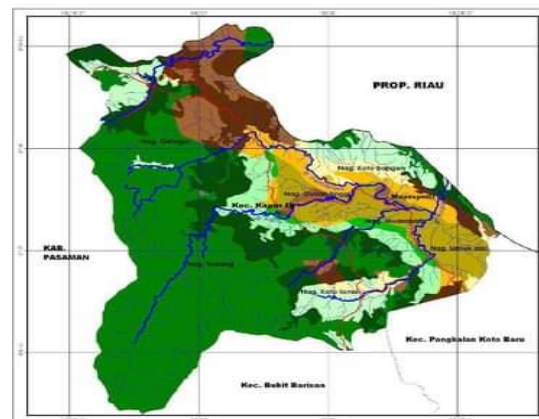


Figure 1. Map of Nagari Koto Bangun

Gambir is a plant that can be used to eat betel (Palmarum Nainggolan, 2012). Gambir eaten together with betel. According to Gambir is one of the complementary ingredients in chewing. According to (Sabarni, 2015). Gambier has many benefits, one of the benefits of gambier is that it can be used by the community as medicine. Gambir can be used as a throat medicine, strengthening teeth, acne, mouth disorders, and so on (Doni Sahat Tua Manalu, 2019). Gambir can also be used as a medicine for bleeding, thrush, allergies, and antifungal (Tua Manalu & Armyanti, 2019) (Irwan, 2015a). In addition, gambier can also be used to treat stomach pain or diarrhea (Jackson Fransiskus Sagala, 2015).

The ups and downs of gambier prices greatly affect the economy of gambier farmers in Nagari Koto Bangun (Ermiati, 2001). If the price of gambier reaches a higher number, the economy will be good and the people living do not feel that they are living in poverty. However, when the price of gambier is low below the average, the community's economy is unstable and it will be difficult to build the income they get (Aulia Azzahra, 2021); (Irwan, 2015b).

It's so different when the price of gambier is expensive compared to when the price of gambier is cheap when the price of gambier is Rp. 60,000.00-Rp.80,000, per kilo. If the price of gambier rises, then the life of the people of Nagari Koto Bangun is very good and what they want can be bought, because

their income is high (Putri, 2013). Meanwhile, when the price of gambier is Rp. 20,000.00-Rp. 25,000.00 per kilo, the life of the people of Nagari Koto Bangun is very minimal. The income of the people of Nagari Koto Bangun per month is not evenly distributed. If the price of gambier is Rp. 20,000.00-Rp. This means that the economy has not been able to meet the needs of the economy properly because the income will be shared with other farmers. On the other hand, if the price of Gambir is expensive, Rp. 60,000-Rp.800,000.00 per week with a weight of 95kg, farmers can earn as much as Rp. 5,700,00 per week. This means that farmers have been able to meet the economic life and meet the needs of life well even though they are divided by three with other farmer.

Gambir Price Fluctuations in Fifty Cities District, Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun

According to fluctuations are changes in the rise or fall of a variable that occur due to market mechanisms. Fluctuations are changes or changes in the price of goods that do not fluctuate (Kadek Yuliani, 2007). The occurrence of fluctuations can affect the economy of the community, especially the economy of the people of Lima Puluh Kota Regency, Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun. Because gambier is the main livelihood for the people in Fifty Cities

District, Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun.

The occurrence of fluctuations in gambier prices in Lima Puluh Kota Regency, Kapur IX Sub-district, Nagari Koto Bangun which fell drastically caused obstacles and threats to gambier farmers and traders, both big traders and small traders (Suardi tarumun, 2019). When the price of gambier rises, large and small traders buy gambier from farmers at a high price. When traders sell again, the price of gambier has decreased. This can cause a threat to the economy of traders. Traders can experience losses because of the uncertain and fixed price of gambier. In addition, what causes a threat to traders is the shrinkage of gambier. The shrinkage of gambier can cause a shortage of gambier buyers. On the other hand (Mariyati & Chomsyatun, 2016) it can be seen that due to fluctuations in the price of gambier in Nagari Koto Bangun, making gambier farmers unable to survive with this livelihood, farmers sell their plantations to get money as capital in running a new livelihood. There are also children from these farmers who drop out of school due to economic constraints.

Gambier Farmers' Resilience in Gambier Price Fluctuations

Resilience is a way, step, and strategy taken by a person in facing challenges in his life. Resilience is a process carried out by a person to adjust himself to the pressures of life.

Resilience that can be done by people who have a livelihood in gambier in Nagari Koto Bangun is to find alternative ways. The alternative ways are:

Frugal Life

Saving money can be an alternative way to deal with the challenges of fluctuating gambier prices in Nagari Koto Bangun. Farmers have to save on household expenses. For example, if the household expenditure is usually Rp. 800,000 a week. Now it must be reduced to Rp. 500,000 a week. In addition, the purchase of necessities must be frugal. Prioritize basic needs rather than side needs. Membuka Usaha Lain.

Opening Another Business

When gambier price fluctuations occur, gambier farmers must open other businesses that can help stabilize their economy. For example, by opening a small shop. By opening a small shop, it can help farmers' income problems in fluctuating gambier prices in Nagari Koto Bangun. So that farmers can still meet their daily needs properly.

Borrowing Money from Gambier Middlemen

Borrowing money from gambier middlemen is one way to get up in the face of gambier price fluctuations. Borrowing money from middlemen will help farmers to survive and meet their daily needs. Gambier farmers

can borrow money to be used as capital in opening other businesses as a side income to help their family's economy (Parlina, 2017).

CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that gambier is used as the main livelihood of the people in Kapur IX District, Nagari Koto Bangun. Now the people of Kapur IX Subdistrict, Nagari koto Bangun are experiencing problems with their livelihoods as their main livelihood, namely fluctuations or fluctuations. Gambier price changes that are not permanent. Due to changes in the price of gambier which are not settled in Kapur IX sub-district, Nagari koto Bangun, the economy of the community, especially gambier farmers, is constrained and threatened. In addition, the occurrence of non-permanent fluctuations in gambier prices also affects the economy of gambier traders, both large and small traders. Because traders buy gambier from gambier farmers at high prices. But when traders sell again, the price of gambier has decreased. So that makes traders experience losses, because the capital issued is higher than the price of gambier sold. Therefore, there is resilience that can be done by gambier farmers in Kapur IX District, Nagari koto Bangun to still be able to rise from the fluctuations in the price of Gambier. Among them are by living frugally, opening small stalls and borrowing money from gambier middlemen.

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