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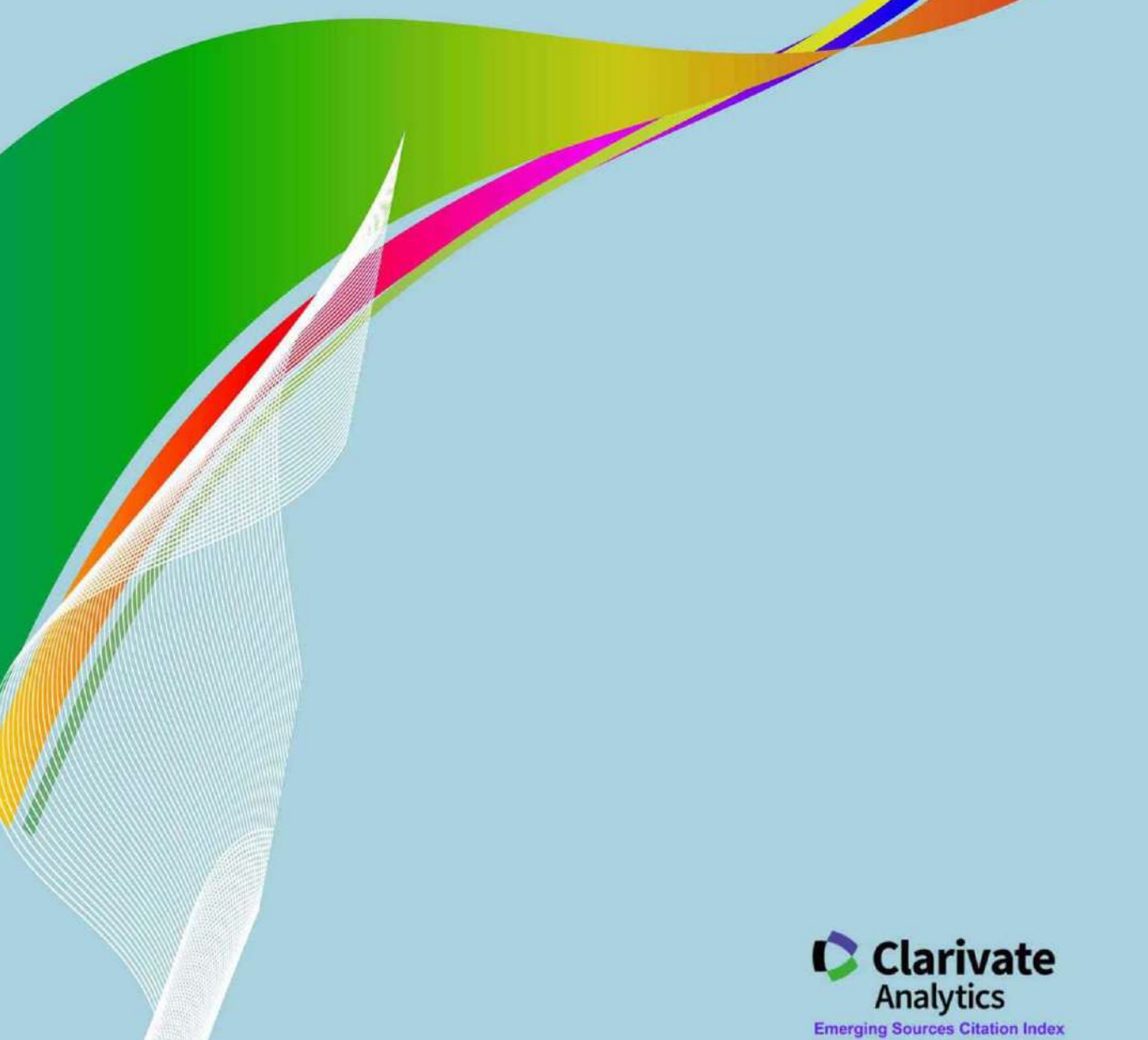
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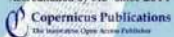
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**The Role of Government in Illegal Fishing Prevention to Increase  
Fishermen's Economic Welfare in Aceh Province**

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## THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN ILLEGAL FISHING PREVENTION TO INCREASE FISHERMEN'S ECONOMIC WELFARE IN ACEH PROVINCE

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### Abstract

*This research was conducted in order to assist the government to develop strategies and programs of poverty among fishermen in Aceh province. Aceh certainly has huge marine and fishery potentials, but the problem of fisherman poverty is still a major factor in the value of national poverty. The population of this research was fishermen in Nagan Raya, Pidie Jaya, Lhokseumawe, and Aceh Timur districts. Samples of the Active Fishermen are that society under the supervision of the Fisheries and Panglima Laot office. The results of this study indicate the lack of government's role in preventing illegal fishing hence there are still many illegal fishing cases that occur in the fisherman's area, causing fishermen not to get maximum results and make the fishermen always entangled into poverty conditions. Researchers recommend that the government should be able to solve the problems that exist in the scope of fishermen, especially the problem of illegal fishing, by adding programs that can improve the economic empowerment of fishermen so that fishermen do not just rely on catch but also have other side income so when fishermen do not get the catch expected, fishermen still have a stable income to support their daily life.*

**Keywords:** *Poverty; Fisherman; Illegal Fishing; Fisherman's Economy; Welfare.*



## A. Introduction

Aceh has great potential for marine and fisheries, both renewable resources and non-renewable resources. Therefore, the marine and fishery sectors are the leading sectors that will greatly contribute to the development of Aceh Province, if the utilization is optimally done. Utilization of marine resources is believed to be a reliable economic and political power to raise the dignity of the Aceh society to achieve the desired welfare.

In general, the territorial waters of Aceh are influenced by the current and movement intersection of the Indian Ocean, the Malacca Strait and the South China Sea (LCS) which interact directly with the islands of Sumatra, the Malacca Peninsula, the Andaman Islands and the Nicobar Islands so that it has immense marine and fishery wealth and diverse. Based on 2015 catch fishery statistics, Aceh Province is located in Fisheries Management Area (WPP) 571 and 572 with Total Potential Two (WPP) reaching 1,713,015 tons/year (571 = 484,414 tons/year and 572 = 1,228,601 tons/year). However, based on the results of previous studies, the potential of Aceh fishery reached 272.2 thousand tons/year, with utilization rate in 2015 by 165,778.80 tons or 60.72% of the total potential for sustainable.

Aceh is an area that is prone to illegal fishing practice because Aceh's marine area is very strategic and has a considerable marine protection with a wealth of marine resources under both biological and non-biological resources. Aceh's land area covers 57,365.65 kilometers<sup>2</sup>, it is surrounded by the Indian Ocean in the south-western region of Aceh, and the Malacca Strait and the waters of Aceh in the north-eastern region of Aceh, with a long coastline of 2,666.27 KM. while the water area reaches 295,370 kilometers<sup>2</sup>, consisting of territorial waters and the island of 56,563 square kilometers, as well as exclusive Economic Zone (ZEE) of 238,807 square kilometers. The sustainable potential is estimated to reach 272,7 thousand tons / year, the number of fishing vessels 16,701 units and the number of fishermen 64,466 people.

The practice of Illegal Fishing in Aceh often occurs, as happened in Aceh Timur on March 23, 2015, caught five fishing boats using trawls from Thailand arrested by Indonesian navy in water patrols of Malacca Strait, Aceh. The cases that occurred in Aceh in 2011 with 6 cases in Singkil, in 2012 with 15 cases in the waters of Aceh, in 2013 with 4 cases in the territorial waters of Aceh, in 2014 with 6 cases, and in 2015 with 3 cases with various types of violations such as cases of violation of arrest areas, violating RI Law no 45 year 2009 Article 7 paragraph 100C, cases using trawling tools trawling, Case no SOL, case no complete documents, and there is no SKK of captain. In addition to the case of illegal fishing by foreign fishermen, Acehnese fishermen themselves were also involved in the practice of Illegal Fishing such as the case in Aceh Barat, the water police and the Departmental (Resort) Police of the Republic of Indonesia arrested seven boats using unregulated fishing trawling equipment.

The rise of fleets and destructive fishing methods and the destruction of coastal and marine ecosystems have been and remains a part that we can barely cover. This phenomenon becomes a real view that our country and society are deeply trapped and still compromise (with no interest in losing) with the interests of investors and black corporations who do not want to recognize and appreciate the values of local wisdom and social justice.

Such indication and uncontrolled use of catch equipment that could damage environmental sustainability have resulted in increasing competition in fishing for fishery resources, hence at the end it can be guessed, that the conflict becomes open, the burning of trawlers occurs in various waters, the socio-economic disparity and poverty in the coastal region is increase.

The above conditions greatly reduce the catch of fishermen in Aceh, illegal fishing practices such as those occurring in the community of Nagan rural fishermen who reduced the catch because of the ship from other areas that enter the waters to take fish. In this research we find the solution in term of how the government prevents the Illegal fishing case



and eliminate the poverty-stricken pressure experienced by traditional fishermen communities and families in Aceh province, How the problematic situation and the constraints, both internal and external faced by Aceh fishermen in improving the welfare of his family.

## **B. Literature Review**

### **1. Illegal Fishing**

Illegal Fishing is a fishing activity undertaken by irresponsible fishermen and contradictory by the ethical code of responsible fishing. Illegal Fishing includes malpractice activities in the utilization of fishery resources that cover illegal activities. Illegal fishing action is generally detrimental for existing water resources. This action will solely have an adverse impact on aquatic ecosystems, though it will provide a great benefit for fishermen. The activities commonly carried out by fishermen in catching and including illegal fishing are the use of fishing gear that can damage ecosystems such as fishing by bombing, poisoning, and the use of trawlers in coral areas.

In The Contemporary English Indonesian Dictionary, "Illegal" means invalid, prohibited or contrary to law. (Peter Salim 2003) "Fish" means fish or fish meat and "Fishing" means fishing as a livelihood or a fishing ground. Based on the literal sense it can be said that "Illegal Fishing" according to the Indonesian language means fishing or fishing activities conducted illegally. According to Divera Wicaksono as quoted by Lambok Silalahi, illegal fishing is "using false fishing license (SIPI), not equipped with SIPI, the contents of the license documents are not in accordance with the vessel and the type of fishing gear, catching fish with the type and size that is prohibited".

In addition, the definition of Illegal Fishing refers to the understanding issued by the International Plan of Action (IPOA) 2001 initiated by the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the context of implementing the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).



## **2. Legal basis**

Clear regulation is required in preserving and conserving the sea, both in terms of expression and others. Law Number 31 of 2004 concerning with Fisheries and Law Number 45 of 2009- amendment to Law Number 31 year 2004 concerning Fisheries. Law Number 31 of 2004 regarding Fisheries and Law Number 45 of 2009 on amendment to Law Number 31 of 2004 concerning Fisheries. Law Number 31 of 2004 and its amendment Law Number 45 of 2010 about fishery has been listed activities related to Illegal Fishing namely: article 7: the obligation of every person to fulfill the obligations as established by the Minister in the management of fisheries resources, Article 8: the obligation of every person to fulfill the obligations as stipulated by the Minister in the management of fishery resources, article 9: prohibition of ownership and use of vessels with fishing gear and /or tools not in accordance with the stipulated criteria, not in accordance with the requirements or the prevailing standard of fishing gear, article 12: the prohibition of committing acts which result in pollution / or damage to resources and / or environment in the management area of the Republic of Indonesia banning to import or exclude fish and / or fishery products from and / or territory of the Republic of Indonesia without health certification for human consumption, article 21: prohibition of the use of raw materials, food additives, auxiliaries and / or devices that endanger human health and / or environment in the handling and processing of fish, article 23: banning the use of raw materials, food additives, auxiliary materials and / or devices harmful to human health, article 26: the obligation to have SIUP, article 27: the obligation to own SIPI for fishing vessels, article 28: the obligation of owning a Ship License for ships carrying fish. Article 29: foreign nationals engaged in fishing operations in the territory of the Republic of Indonesia, except for fishing in ZEE Indonesia, article 36: the things to be obeyed by foreign ships, section 37: the requirements of the fishing vessel identification, article 38: a foreign-flagged fishing vessel must be in the territorial waters of the Republic of Indonesia, article 4: the



fishing vessel's obligation to have a proper operation letter from the fishery supervision. Law number 27 of 2007 on Coastal and Small Island Management and other implementing regulations such as government regulation number 54 of 2005 concerning with fishery business. Government Regulation Number 60 of 2007 about conservation of fish resources government regulation Number 30 of 2008 about fishery research and fisheries development. Regulation of marine Minister affairs and fisheries No. PER.14 / MEN/ 2005 on the National commission for assessment of fish resources. Regulation of the minister of Marine affairs and fisheries No. PER.15 / MEN / 2005 concerning fishing and / or fish cultivation in fisheries management areas of the Republic of Indonesia that is not for commercial purposes. Regulation of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Number PER.05 / MEN / 2008 concerning catch Fishing Enterprises.

### **3. Social Economics of Fishermen**

The coastal community residents, most of whom work as traditional fishermen, generally have the same characteristic of being uneducated. The 50 traditional fishermen studied, most traditional fishermen only had elementary education (55%), and even 35% of respondents admitted that they had never known school. Towards the provision to work looking for fish in the sea, one's educational background is not important. That is, because work as a fisherman is a bit of a rough job that rely more on muscle and experience, then no matter how high the level of fisherman's education will not affect their ability to go to sea. Working out to sea for coastal society is a hereditary work passed down by the surrounding communities around and also from the parents of each fisherman with the motto "fisherman's son will become a fisherman, so what the advantages of going school is". So the enthusiasm for continuing education to a higher stage has never existed in addition to economic problems that have always become the foundation of all problems.



#### **4. The Influence of Illegal Fishing to the Economy of the Society**

The greatest impact of Illegal Fishing is the decrease of fishermen catch due to the abundance of unlicensed fishing catch and taken by unauthorized fishermen, the use of illegal fishing gear by the fishermen also resulted in the destruction of coral reefs in the seafloor, making coral reefs as home to fish will be damaged and affect the regeneration of new fish in the ocean, and slow down and even reduce the fish catch of the fishermen.

#### **C. Method**

This research discusses the government's role in preventing illegal fishing to improve fisherman's economic welfare in Aceh province namely fishermen in Nagan Raya, Pidie Jaya, Lhokseumawe, and Aceh Timur districts in Aceh Province. In accordance with the intention to be obtained in this study, the research method refers to several approaches of analysis.

Analysis methods include Poverty Reduction Analysis, the Poverty Reduction Indicator, and Analyzes poverty reduction by the government program to the poor in the coastal region of Aceh. Patterns of describing the results of observations, interviews and combinations of a number of theories that have been deduced from primary data and secondary data, to produce a tangible result and model in the economic development of the coastal poor society.

#### **D. Research Finding**

Our findings to study carried out in Aceh district shows that the government is still lack of the role to assist the fishermen in the reduction of trawling usage which is considered illegal by law, in this case no direct assistance has been given to replace the commonly used trawlers with trawls allowed by the government to community. This scientific work clarifies that the Lhokseumawe government is still lacking of socialization on how fishermen can prevent illegal fishing by reporting if they find illegal fishing boats in Aceh sea areas, fishermen usually only see and do



not report it to the government for follow up, illegal fishing is also common in the eastern Aceh district where the government still lacks the role of marine patrols to reduce foreign ships entering Aceh sea areas. This is a very significant factor in making the condition of fishermen poverty still occur in Aceh province.

External factors also play a role, such as the increasingly limited potential of marine resources that fishermen can use, intensified competition, market mechanisms, bargaining power in the presence of middlemen, the state of fishery port infrastructure, and the jurisdiction of autonomous regions are additional burdens that increasingly aggravate circumstances.

## **E. Discussion**

It takes a direct role of government through marine and fishery agencies to see what constraints the fishermen experience to get a lot of fish caught in Nagan Raya district in addition to provide trawl assistance for fishermen equally and also to provide education on how the danger of using traditional trawlers that can damage the coral reefs as home to fish damaged by the use of traditional trawlers. Nagan district fishermen also need elephant clothes to break the waves because in the entry path kuala there are big waves that can endanger the fishermen life in the sea. In Lhokseumawe, routine patrols are needed from the government invite the role of fishermen to help if seeing the illegal fishing practices that occur in the sea, because it will have a direct impact on fishermen's income.

External factors must also be considered by the government by creating programs that can increase the added value for a fisherman, and can make the fisherman more creative and not only tied to the catch only but also have the ability to make himself as a fisherman who has added value, below will explain some solutions for the welfare of fishermen in the province of Aceh.

## **Economic Improvement Solutions**

Below are some programs that can be applied to give added value to fishermen in increasing their income in addition to catching fish,



because fishermen do not catch fish during the year but there are few months fishermen do not go to sea due to poor sea conditions and other factors so supporting programs are needed to provide extra income for fishermen in Aceh province.

**Tabel: Main Program in Increasing the Welfare of Fishermen in Aceh Province**

<b>Causes of Poverty</b>	<b>Program Solutions</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Result</b>
Lack of expertise	Community development	Education to develop modern fishing models	Catch will increase
Lack of livelihood	One family one product	Empowering family members of fishermen to produce goods that can create economic value	Production results can give extra income and deposits
Less fund	Help on target	In accordance with the data and needs	Fishermen sailed maximally
Socio-economic	Increase fisherman development	Empowerment of Panglima laot institution in customary, religious and economic functions.	Controlling all fishing activities related to socio-economic.

Our fisherman welfare program is summarized by four causes of fisherman poverty and the solution to the poverty factor. For the first cause of poverty where fishermen usually only have fishing skills and do not have other skills so that the need for community development in term of educating fishermen on various types of modern fishing techniques and training on how to use fishing equipment that is environmentally friendly and safe for sustainability Marine biota. One other discouraging factor is also the lack of livelihood where only the head of the family who work in the sea while the wife rarely work whereas the must also wife have the potential to generate additional income for the family. The researchers offer solutions to support families to enable them to have one product



having economical value to sell to the market and of course the product can provide additional income for the family. The third reason is usually due to the poverty of fishermen making fishermen lack of the capital to go to sea. The fact that most fishermen do not have their own boat to go to sea and only work for the rich fishermen who own the ship is undeniable. After all, since the fishing activity is lacking of the government role to support the sustainability of customary institutions "*panglima laot*" which actually has an important role in improving the economy of fishermen where "*panglima laot*" can provide direct motivation on how to get fishermen out of poverty.

## **E. Conclusion**

Our findings in the field reveal that illegal fishing practices by using trawling trawls declared illegal by the government is still widely used by the Nagan Raya fishermen and of course this is due to the inability of fishermen to change traditional trawl with modern trawl and not to endanger the survival of sea biota, our findings also show that the government is still lacking of role in socializing the illegal fishing include lacking of support in term of education for fishermen result to unreported illegal fishing practices to the government for follow up. Besides, the government is also less routine supervision at the water areas so many illegal fishing practices that are not watched and arrested by the government. After all, the most important finding which is the reason why fishermen's welfare remains a problem is that fishermen have only one job and a lack of capital for fishermen to have their own boat in catching fish makes the fisherman limited in getting fish catch in the sea. It was also noted that the government should improve the role in supporting the institution of commander laot which is a traditional institution that has existed long time in Aceh province.

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