

The Urgency of Tropical Studies Based Social Entrepreneurship in the Covid 19 Period

Aisyah Trees Sandy¹, Mei Vita Romadon Ningrum², Edwardus Iwantri Goma³

^{1,2,3}Department of Geography Education, Mulawarman University

Corresponding Author*: aisyahkun@gmail.com

Abstract

The Covid-19 pandemic has not only caused a health crisis, but has also affected Indonesia's micro and macro economy. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has not only suppressed the manufacturing sector, but also the UMKM sector since April 2020. Around 1.5 million employees have been laid off (1.2 million workers are from the formal sector, 265,000 from the informal sector). The business sector that experienced a decline was in the field of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, which experienced a decline of 3.88%, and the processing industry experienced a decline of 10.97%. In this crisis condition, attention is needed from the government to revive the community's economy by carrying out various social-based economic empowerment programs, especially in tropical forest areas. The tropical rain forest area is an area that has a very important role for life on earth. The diversity of natural and human resources in it is a potential that can be utilized for human survival and the environment. Various environmental and social problems arise due to economic exploitation in tropical rain forest areas causing economic inequality for the surrounding community. People who originally depended on the environment as a source of livelihood lost their livelihoods due to exploitation. Social entrepreneurship is a social action that is integrated in economic activities that produces outcomes in the form of increasing community welfare, eradicating poverty and increasing survival skills of a community. The Covid-19 pandemic which lasted for approximately 2 years caused various economic and social impacts, one of which was the decline in people's economic income. The purpose of this study is to describe the importance of tropical studies-based social entrepreneurship in the Covid-19 period. This research method is a literature review that comes from various journals and relevant research results from various institutions that carry out social entrepreneurship activities. The results of the study concluded that social entrepreneurship is important and needs to be developed to improve people's living standards, be able to eradicate poverty and unemployment through a series of activities that increase skills in community members or society. The development of social entrepreneurship needs to be in synergy with the university curriculum so that it can provide opportunities for students to carry out various social entrepreneurship innovations that are beneficial to society.

Keywords: Social entrepreneurship, Tropical studies, Covid 19

1 Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic has not only caused a health crisis, but has also affected Indonesia's micro and macro economy. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has not only suppressed the manufacturing sector, but also the UMKM sector since April 2020. Around 1.5 million employees have been laid off (1.2 million workers are from the formal sector, 265,000 from the informal sector). The business sector that experienced a decline was in the field of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, which experienced a decline of 3.88%, and the processing industry experienced a decline of 10.97% (BPS, 2021). In this crisis condition, attention is needed from the government to revive the community's economy by carrying out various social-based economic empowerment programs, especially in tropical forest areas.

The tropical rain forest area is an area that has a very important role for life on earth. The diversity of natural and human resources in it is a potential that can be utilized for human survival and the environment. Various environmental and social problems arise due to economic exploitation in tropical rain forest areas causing economic inequality for the surrounding community. People who originally depended on the environment as a source of livelihood lost their livelihoods due to exploitation. Social entrepreneurship is a social action that is integrated in economic activities that produces outcomes in the form of increasing community welfare, eradicating poverty and increasing survival skills of a community. The Covid-19 pandemic which lasted for approximately 2 years caused various economic and social impacts, one of which was the decline in people's economic income. The purpose of this study is to describe the importance of tropical studies-based social entrepreneurship in the Covid-19 period.

2 Methodology

The subject of this research is the Indonesian population of productive age. This study uses a qualitative descriptive analysis method based on library research (library research). The method used in this article is a qualitative descriptive method based on literature review. Collecting library data, reading, taking notes, and then processing it are the steps in a literature review. Research analysis uses secondary data consisting of research data that has been published on social entrepreneurship in universities and the community. Data on the potential of tropical rain forests to support social entrepreneurship activities.

3 Results and Discussion

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only caused a health crisis, but has also affected Indonesia's micro and macro economy. The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has not only suppressed the manufacturing sector, but also the MSME sector since April 2020. Around 1.5 million employees have been laid off (1.2 million workers are from the formal sector, 265,000

from the informal sector). The business sector that experienced a decline was in the field of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, which decreased by 3.88%, the processing industry decreased by 10.97% (BPS, 2020). In this crisis condition, attention is needed from the government to revive the community's economy by carrying out various social-based economic empowerment programs, especially in tropical forest areas.

The tropical rain forest area is an area that has a very important role for life on earth. The diversity of natural and human resources in it is a potential that can be utilized for human survival and the environment. Tropical forests are also critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are a set of sustainability targets agreed by countries around the world in 2015. The Life on Land Goals (SDG 15) specifically target the protection, restoration and use of forests and ecosystems land in a sustainable manner, while many of the other SDG targets are related to the existence and healthy functioning of forests. For example, as an important source of income, food security and livelihoods, tropical forests contribute to the Eradication of Poverty (SDG 1) and the Elimination of Hunger (SDG 2). Tropical forests make a major contribution to agricultural production by providing clean water for irrigation, regulating weather patterns so that land is suitable for agriculture, and providing habitat for insects, birds, and bats that pollinate crops. Products harvested directly from forests account for an average of almost a quarter of the household income of families who depend directly on this ecosystem (United Nations, 2015). The potential of tropical rain forests can also be used by the community to improve the quality of the economy including tourism activities, utilization of other forest products.

Environmental and social problems arise due to economic exploitation in tropical rain forest areas causing economic inequality for the surrounding community. People who originally depended on the environment as a source of livelihood lost their livelihoods due to exploitation. The socio-economic problems of the community are also increasing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Many people have lost their jobs and livelihoods. This condition requires innovative solutions from various parties including local governments to encourage recovery

Social entrepreneurship is a social action that is integrated in economic activities that produces outcomes in the form of increasing community welfare, eradicating poverty and increasing survival skills of a community. The Covid 19 pandemic which lasted for approximately 2 years caused various economic and social impacts, one of which was the decline in people's economic income. Social entrepreneurship can be started on a small scale, for example a community.

Social entrepreneurship also needs to be fostered through the University for students. Social Project activities are very important in building student independence in the midst of the crush of looking for work. Universities must be able to create graduates who are ready to face job competition and are able to create job opportunities by providing entrepreneurial knowledge and skills that have a high level of social sensitivity so that they can change the surrounding environment. The results of research conducted by (Hasanah, 2018) show that there is an impact felt by the object of social entrepreneurship activities carried out by FE UII students through the Social Project Competition.



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The Social Project Competition gave rise to 3 winning communities who had different innovations, namely Kali Code diaper processing, Dream Kita, SUKAWA: Etawa Goat Milk Product Innovation. Community empowerment on the banks of the Code River innovates through diaper waste, diaper waste which is processed into planting media which also helps campaign for environmental sustainability. As for our dream, to innovate by establishing educational programs with various learning methods, as well as mapping the potential and the results of the mapping discussed with the residents of Mudal Village to be developed. The third participant made an innovation by making soap from goat's milk. The last element is Economic Activity, in accordance with the goal of developing social entrepreneurship, namely solving problems with business, the Social Project Competition activities must also be able to have an impact on improving the community's economy, in this case harmony between social activities is very necessary, so that independence and sustainability are guaranteed. Social aspects that must be developed are maintaining rights and obligations and establishing a sense of kinship (Prayogo 2017).

This Social Project activity is one of the supports in building student independence in facing challenges and competition in the world of work, especially in the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic. Through this social entrepreneurship activity, it is hoped that it can foster motivation and enthusiasm for students to create job opportunities, but still prioritize social sensitivity so that they can play a role in their environment.

Social entrepreneurship is one of the options for empowerment activities that can be carried out in tropical rain forest areas to help the socio-economic conditions of the lower middle class community due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Economic recovery and the emergence of new economic resources for communities in tropical rain forest areas need an environmental approach, so that they can be sustainable. Social entrepreneurship activities synergize between sectors, for example, mangrove tourism social entrepreneurship activities which have the aim of generating community economics and conservation.

4 Conclusions

Based on the result, it can be concluded that,

- 1) Social entrepreneurship is important and needs to be developed to improve people's living standards, be able to eradicate poverty and unemployment through a series of activities that increase skills in community members or society.
- 2) The development of social entrepreneurship needs to be in synergy with the university curriculum so that it can provide opportunities for students to carry out various social entrepreneurship innovations that are beneficial to society.



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