Women, Climate Change and Economic Problems in the Family

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ABSTRACT

Objective – The role of women in Indonesia, particularly in East Nusa Tenggara in domestic activity very dominant. This study focuses on the efforts made by women cope with the impacts of climate change.

Methodology/Technique – Methods used are mixture of quantitative and qualitative research. While the location of the research conducted in Kupang regency, East Nusa Tenggara.

Findings – The study of the results showed that, women are still playing a dominant role in getting a sufficient supply of staple foods and meal replacements basic needs and outside work done in the event of extreme climatic impacts on the ocean.

Novelty – This research looks at the optimal empowerment of women's role in addressing climate change and learn to know how the role of women in the economic field in the face of climate change impacts.

Type of Paper: Empirical.

Keywords: Climate Change; Women; Women's Roles; Gender; Family.

JEL Classification: J16, Q10, Q50.

1. Introduction

Climate change impacts will vary by country, region, generation, social class, occupation, gender, age and income (Rochmayanto & Kurniasih, 2013). Impacts arising from climate change is not the same from one area to the other, and its effects on between men and women and children. From the year 1975-2006, the largest natural disasters occurred in Asia. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, in the 2003-2005 period alone, there was 1,429 disasters. Approximately 53.3% is a disaster associated with hydro-meteorological (National Development Planning Agency [BAPPENAS] & National Coordination Board for Disaster Management [BAKORNAS PB], 2006). Of groups vulnerable to disasters, including 3.4 million people come from poor families, children, indigenous peoples, farmers, and fishermen. Women constitute the largest proportion of the world's poor, including children and adolescent girls, are particularly vulnerable to climate change (Bridge, 2008).

Climate change is the most severe impact on women of lower social groups (CSF, 2011). In every disaster (climatic or not) turns female victims is greater than men by a ratio of 4: 1. Analysis of the recent disasters in 141 countries proves that the difference in the number of casualties caused by natural disasters is closely related

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to economic and social rights of women (DTE, 2009). Women have a different experience than men, as they relate to the position, relationships and gender roles that had been attached to women.

In the perspective of the danger, the spatial dimension is very important to identify people who are at risk but must be connected with the understanding of socioeconomic differentiation, linkage and dynamics in the region (Twigg, 2009). The dominant role in the household places women in overcoming the impacts of climate change. The effort by itself will be done women considering climate change when women and children experiencing difficulty coping with limited natural resources and the live load heavier as a logical consequence of the domestic role of women. This is experienced by women and children, including female heads of households because they tend to rely on the natural environment as a source of livelihood; the domestic role of women demanded women and children served to meet water supply, look for fodder, firewood and preparing food and other necessities.

Several existing studies carried out, as is done in the Jayawijaya Mountains, but limited to the agricultural sector (Saenong, Tabri, Sahari, Akib, & IGP 1995). McCright (2010) conducted a study of gender differences and public opinion on climate change in America. Codjoe, Atidoh, and Burkett (2012) studied the patterns of adaptation of a community of men and women in three (3) types of livelihood (farming, fishing and charcoal production) and Oluwatayo (2011) on the adaptive capacity of women against water scarcity due to climate change. The study results Suzuki (2001) recommend indicators into the standards and guidelines for REDD. However, in-depth study in a particular ecosystem level is still not sufficient to serve as the basis and policy input at the local level.

For that we need a study related to how the role of women in facing the impact of climate change that plagued its role as a woman, the role of a housewife, or the head of the family so that will find out how women find solutions to Overcome Food Problems, water shortage, crop failure, Floods, landslides and other problems as a follow-up due to extreme weather. This research not only focuses on women's role performed by women but also see how efforts by government in facing the impact of climate change especially on women.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Climate change

Climate change caused by the increase in temperature of the earth that will eventually cause the greenhouse effect and global warming in various regions and threaten the survival of human beings (Athiqah, 2010). Global climate change, as the implications of global warming, has led to instability in the bottom layer of the atmosphere, especially near the Earth's surface (Susandi, Herlianti, Tamamadin, & Nurlela 2008). Global warming is due to the increase of greenhouse gases produced by the industry so dominant. According to Susandi et al. (2008), greenhouse gases have increased reflectivity and absorption effects of the long waves that heat (infrared) emitted by the Earth's surface back to the surface of the earth.

Atmospheric temperature changes cause the physical conditions of the atmosphere increasingly unstable and cause the occurrence of anomalies against weather parameters that lasts a long time. In the long term weather anomalies, such parameters will lead to climate change (Susandi et al., 2008). Many impacts of climate change have been felt by people around the world, such as high rainfall, increased volume of sea water, the weather is unpredictable, the catastrophic intensity is relatively higher, the threat of crop failure and the emergence of various diseases due to changes in extreme weather.

The issue of climate change is significant because it has social, agricultural, economic, health impacts for the wider community. In the context of climate change affects agriculture reduced yields caused by increasingly drying up land as a result of a long dry season. Additionally, Kumar et al. (2009) state that the health effects incurred as a result of global warming include the indirect impact on the spread of disease vectors, extreme weather and direct impact on health. Indirect impact on the spread of disease vectors could be seen from the spread of malaria. These health impacts later closely associated with the emergence of various issues of social and economic.

2.2 Women and Climate Change

Various consequences of climate change are affecting all levels of society and that most feel is the poor countries and vulnerable populations, such as women and children. The problem, various empirical facts of climate change impacts on women has not been accompanied by an awareness of the importance of involving women, as part of the 'forgotten', into discussions on climate change (Athiqah, 2010). In fact, climate change has very different implications for men and women.

Climate change has implications for the creation of poverty among women, the data showed a high number of women who are victims of various natural phenomena due to climate change (Athiqah, 2010). This can be related to the division of labor for women who contributed to the creation of poverty. In the context of Indonesia, most of the women working in the informal sector and agriculture are economically vulnerable due to natural disasters. This condition may be different for women who still have to live with the husband with women who become single parents, both still married and already a widow.

But in this case, women sometimes experience problems in terms of bargaining power in determining the policy (Athiqah, 2010). The low power of women to decision-making is still an obstacle for women to realize various economic initiatives to boost alternative sources of income for their families.

The above conditions indicate that cause catastrophic climate change has become a source of social problems that affect women. On the island of Nusa Tenggara Timor, where the failure of crops, the women first suffer from the social structure there put the man in consuming food (Khalid, Maemunah, & Dewi, 2011). Whereas the role of women is so great, where they set up corn for family consumption, choosing the seeds, pull out the seeds and even decided to increase the total area planted. The role of women is more severe in relation to gender roles and positions that have been inherent in him.

3. Methodology

The type of this research is mixed research with a quantitative approach and qualitative research. The quantitative approach uses the instrument to collect data or measuring variables to be studied. The qualitative approach used to examine the conditions in which the natural object of researchers as a key instrument, data collection techniques triangulation (combined), data analysis is inductive and research results further emphasize the significance of the generalization.

The study was conducted in Kupang District, East Nusa Tenggara, in West Kupang, specifically Tablolong Village, a seaweed cultivation center. Most residents in the village Tablolong fishermen and seaweed farmers.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Description of Climate Change Impacts on the Role of Women

Villagers Tablolong livelihood as fishermen and seaweed farmers, cannot be separated from the effects of extreme climates in the sea. Of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) known that seaweed farming and fishing experience and are confronted with a problem:

- Extreme climate change causes sea temperature becomes cold will affect the harvest of seaweed usually occurs in March to August.
- Seaweed farmers also often have difficulty in obtaining an adequate yield during the uncertain climate or transition season which usually occurs in September through November; Fishermen would be hard to sea due to wind and big waves did not allow them to earn a living to the sea.
- It is said in the year 2009 and above have occurred where pest attack seaweed seedlings resulting in lower revenue for each family of seaweed decreasing price.

4.2 Impact on Food Security

The issue of food security is a major problem faced by women as a result of climate change. To detail can be seen in the figure below:

Figure 1. Food Security

From the figure, it can be seen that the family has a staple food availability and type of food substitute in the event of extreme climate and sea grass crop failure, as many as 30 people suggest that having a supply of staple food and staple food kind of meal replacements. This is also shown by the level of difficulty to get groceries substitute, 100% of respondents answered no. This means that the respondents did not experience difficulties when looking for a meal replacement when the climate changes.

In interviews showed that women's role as housewives is decisive, which always has the initiative, in seeking the availability of staple foods or food substitute for family members. The staple food is usually the consumption of each family in the village Tablolong is rice, but if the availability of rice runs out then the family will consume corn or tubers, which are available in the community or family is always enough because basically the staple food for the people in the mainland of the island of Timor is corn, so it is not difficult to try and get it from family.

The study of the results showed that women are still playing a dominant role in getting a sufficient supply of staple foods and meal replacements basic needs. This is clearly seen in the data presented in figure 2 below.

Figure 2. Distribution Description Role

From the diagram shows that at the time of decision-making on food that will be consumed, 80% percent of respondents answered the mother has that role, 3.33% said the father who took the decision and 16.67% said that the father and mother are equally responsible for making decisions regarding food that will be

consumed. In addition to the claim for the role of women in the domestic sphere can be seen also on the data above, that as much as 93.33%, said that women play a role in the processing of foodstuffs, 6.67% said that the male role in food processing.

It shows that the family puts women in domestic roles. Women / Mother only play a role in taking care of the family kitchen. There are still many Indonesian people who embrace the "belief" that women are weaker than men and more precisely resides in the home care of the household, as a result of the patriarchal system adopts' strong in everyday life. If women want to work, then space provided more to the domestic sphere. Consequently, women are placed in a marginal position and get a load of double duty.

4.3 Economic Impacts of Climate Change for Family

The results showed the following regarding outside work done in the event of extreme climatic impacts on the ocean. To detail can be seen in the figure below:

Figure 3. Economic Impact

The main job as seaweed farmers and fishermen have been run for many years by the people in the village Tablolong so despite the extreme climate in the sea that affects their work, but the fishermen and seaweed farmers stick with their jobs. This is evidenced by 93.33% of respondents stated they are highly dependent on the main job, it is a job that cannot be abandoned, while 6.67% said switch to other employment alternatives.

Here, Because The women are Also Involved as seaweed farming, the processing to marketing the extreme climate when workers do not have a single woman access to other side jobs. This is evidenced by the data that 70% did not have a second job or seek alternative employment, other, supported Also by the understanding that the work of other options was not Able to fulfill Reviews their daily needs, as many as 70% thought as above, while 30% had been looking for other employment alternatives Reviews their states can meet the daily needs.

The fact dependence on primary occupation/principal and views on the sideline as stated above will have an impact on women in managing and meeting the needs of Households will be food and drinks as well as the needs of health and education for family members.

5. Conclusion

Of the overall problem and the results, three points can be concluded. Firstly, villagers, Tablolong as coastal village with the main work as fishermen and seaweed farmers, cannot be separated from the impact of climate change such as extreme climate, pests in seaweed, sea water temperatures are always turns into a problem for the life and the sustainability of their lives. Secondly, the issue of follow-up directly related to the impact of extreme climate at sea is a matter of food security, education, health, water supply, the role of women. Lastly, women hold an important and main role in managing their household needs and problems encountered in the

household, the role is not followed by access and views can provide in terms of adaptation interventions including prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of the impact of climate change for women

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