Importance of Social Capital for Community Empowerment to Ensure Household Food Security of the Agroforestry Farmers in Wan Abdul Rachman Grand Forest Park

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Threats to Food Security

• Natural disasters
• Social instability
• High unemployment
• High food prices
Food Security and Sustainability

• Food is one of the factors that determine why the poor take decisions to spread risk and how they finally balance competing needs in order to survive. Thus, *sustainable development in rural areas is really about food security* (Sunkar, 2008).

Food Security & Social Capital

• Food insecurity is an indicator of poverty and social capital is said to be able to significantly alleviate poverty.
• In the same line, Dzanja et al. (2013) specifically concludes that social capital has positive influence on household food security.
• *Trust, social norms* and *social networks* are 3 essential elements of capital social in rural food security.
### Study sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Village name</th>
<th>Sub-district</th>
<th>No. of household</th>
<th>No. of household sampled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Sumber Agung</td>
<td>Kemiling</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Batu Putu</td>
<td>Teluk Betung</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Talang Mulya</td>
<td>Padang Cermin</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>1148</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Trust & Food Security**

*The belief that you can rely on and believe in others to do what is expected*

- Trust building towards the manager of the Grand Forest Park started when the community were given the rights to work on the agroforestry land.
- The trust toward outsiders proved to enhance the communities to develop networks.
- The ability to maintain trust has empower social cohesion between the community members themselves. In addition, this is also due to the presence of local leaders, most of whom are religious leaders. In times of price falling or harvest failure, trust increases the possibility for exchange of resources, skills and knowledge.
Social Norms & Food Security

The norms found within the three villages were similar and thus insignificantly related with food security within each village.

- The social capital that showed the strongest effect was social networks.
- The trust toward outsiders proved to enhance the communities to develop networks, such as easier network for trading of cash crops, due to easy access to markets and information (networking with the University of Lampung were also more frequent).
- Trading of cash crops accelerated the building of local association and thus empowers the individual within the group.
Important Points

- For the agroforestry farmers in WAR GFP, access to food determined the status of their food security;
- Apart from increased market access, off-farm work and incomes play crucial roles in enhancing food security for all agroforestry farmers of Wan Abdul Rachman Grand Forest Park (WAR GFR);
- Social capital elements such as trusts and social networks, have positive influences on household access to food, through strengthening community empowerment in food security.

END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION