

Increasing Independence of Farmers through Business Group Dynamics Beef Cattle in Gorontalo District

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the effect of group dynamics on the Independence of beef cattle farmers in Gorontalo District. The research conducted in Gorontalo District from February to June 2018. The method used is quantitative. The samples were determined by multistage sampling. The number of samples is 120 people. The data were processed using the AMOS program's Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) analysis.

The results showed that group dynamics affected farmer independence by 0.840. each dynamic indicator gave a good average contribution including clear group objectives 61.4% group structure 65.6%, task function 67.6%, group development coaching 58%, cohesiveness 60.2%, atmosphere 50%, effectiveness 54.3% group pressure 63% and group desire.74%. The level of farmer independence has a value of 2.87 (good).

Keywords: Group Dynamics, Beef Cattle, Business farmers, Gorontalo District Independence

INTRODUCTION

The role of farmer groups in supporting the success of the beef cattle business is expected to be the spearhead in improving the farming family's economy. Gorontalo District Government pays primary attention to beef cattle business in driving the regional economy. The government's development of beef cattle with the one million livestock program provides new hope so that food needs, especially animal food, are met. However, these efforts must be made through overall improvements in human resources, facilities, service systems and institutions. So far, the institutional approach of farmer groups has focused many technical problems, and attention to institutional problems is still lacking. There are many beef cattle farmer groups in Gorontalo District, namely 240 groups but have not shown progress in terms of farmer group activities.

Group dynamics are the strengths in the

group, which can determine the behaviour of group members. The group's successor the back and forth of the business can be seen from the group dynamics because the group has members who carry out activities to achieve common goals. Efforts to increase farmer independence through group dynamics are always carried out and are expected to be able to provide the maximum opportunity for each group member to cooperate and participate in group activities so that through cooperation and participation of members, the group's goals can be fulfilled. The creation of group dynamics is expected to be able to make groups that have advantages to carry out every activity for the benefit of the group, the group dynamics,

This study aims to find out the effect of group dynamics on the Independence of beef cattle farmers in Gorontalo District.

RESEARCH METHODS

Location and Time of Research

The research was conducted in Gorontalo District. from February 2018 to June 2018. This study used a survey method with a quantitative approach, namely by collecting quantitative data to be analyzed using statistical analysis. (Mardikanto. 2006)

Population and Sample

Population

This study's population is all group
Table. 1. Number of Samples at Research Sites

| No. | districts | Village | Group | Population | Number of Samples |
|-------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Bolioghuto | 1.Monggolito | Independent work | 20 | 20 |
| | | 2 Sidomulya | Loyal friend | 20 | 20 |
| 2 | Pulubala | 1. Peak | Lestari | 20 | 20 |
| | | 2.Toyidito | Marga Makmur | 20 | 20 |
| 3 | Tolangohula | 1. Like Prosperous | Mekaryo Indah | 20 | 20 |
| | | 2. North Sukma | Farmer's Light | 20 | 20 |
| Total | | | | 120 | 120 |

Source: Primary data is processed. 2018

Types and Data Collection Techniques

The research data comes from primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained from interviews with livestock farmer organizations/groups (chairman and group administrators), sample breeders and all related elements in animal husbandry. The collecting data from farmer respondents using a questionnaire instrument. Secondary data is the form of area descriptive data, livestock population, population, land use. The secondary data collected from agencies such as the Animal Husbandry and Animal Health Service (PKH), the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), Population and Civil Registry Service (Disdukcapil) and Scientific Libraries.

Data Collection Techniques

Research data collection techniques using observation and interviews. Observation is a method of obtaining information directly to know each respondent's activities in the farmer group. This method intended to determine an initial description of the farmer group's activities in the beef cattle business. The processes, relationships and conditions in the maintenance of cattle by members, interactions between members and between groups (Sugiyono, 2012)

In-depth interview is an in-depth interview is to conduct questions and answers

heads, administrators, and members of farmer groups in Gorontalo District. The total number of breeders is 2,610 people, 230 groups and spread over 16 sub-districts.

Sample

The sample determination in this research was carried out using a multistage sampling method, namely sampling using two or more stages (Rianse, 2008).

directly to the respondent, namely the breeders who are members of the farmer group. In-depth interviews were carried out using an instrument in the form of a questionnaire to collect data that is frequency distribution (Sugiono, 2012).

Data analysis

This research's data analysis is descriptive analysis and Structural Analysis of Equation Modeling - program *Analysis of moment structures* (AMOS) VERSION 24.

Research variable.

The research variables consist of exogenous variables (independent variable) and endogenous variables (dependent variable).

1. Group dynamics (X) include group goals, structure, functions, group coaching/development, group cohesiveness, group atmosphere, group effectiveness, group pressure and hidden desires.
2. Independence of Beef Cattle Farmers (Y)

The Effect of Group Dynamics on the Independence of farmers.

What cannot be separated from the group is group dynamics (Barham and clarence, 2009). The effect of group dynamics on farmer independence scores 0.840 or 84% contributes to Independence. Independence is

the attitude and behaviour that can lead humans to success in living, live and live with the environment. (Sumarjo, 2008)

Group dynamics have several objectives: objectives, structure, coaching function, cohesiveness, group atmosphere, effectiveness, group pressure and hidden desires. (Mardikanto, 2009)

1. Group Purpose

Group objectives are the condition that the group and its members want to achieve. The data results show that the group's objective has a value of 0.614 or 61.4%, which contributes to the group dynamics in the research location. Most respondents know the objectives of the farmer groups they are participating in, the group's goals are following the respondents' goals and setting and achieving group goals. It is carried out in deliberation by involving all members and administrators so that a mutual agreement is produced. Clarity of group goals is expected to give members a sense of trust in the group to motivate members to carry out group activities. This situation will lead to strong group dynamics. Anantayu (2009), that clear group goal is needed so that members can act according to the group's needs. If the group's goals support the goals of members, the group becomes more dynamic.

2. Group Structure

The group structure is a form of relationship between individuals in a group tailored to each individual's position and role. Farmer groups are rural non-formal organizations that are developed by and for farmers. However, in its development, it becomes a formal group so that there is an allocation of functions, duties, powers and responsibilities of its members to achieve the goals set together.

Based on the results of group structure analysis has a value of 0.656 or 65.6%. This affects the creation of farmer group dynamics; there is an apparent division of duties and responsibilities in writing, decision making in farmer groups by the chairman. By paying attention to the management and members' aspirations, there is always communication between the management and all members and between one member and another, and in carrying out an activity, always explained and discussed with all group members. The formation of a clear group structure is expected to

create intensive interaction among group members to impact the group's institutional capacity. Following the opinion of Slamet (2003),

3. Functions and Duties

Group task function is the effort the group does so that the group's goals can be achieved. The task function has a value of 67.6%. On the formation of group dynamics in the research location. This means that the farmer group always provides and disseminates information to members of the farmer group, informs or coordinates all activities to its members, gives members the flexibility to develop ideas or ideas. Delivery of information or ideas during routine group meetings is generally held every month and located at the home of a farmer's home. Farmers hope that the government does not ignore farmers' ideas such as road repair and continuous feed assistance to increase production.

The Farmer groups in Gorontalo District always invite all members to be actively involved in activities, and farmer groups are always open to members if problems occur in their activities. A useful task function is expected that the existing farmer group would gain its members' trust so that the group's goals and members' goals can be achieved. According to Slamet (2003), the task's primary function is to facilitate and coordinate group efforts concerning common problems and solve problems faced.

4. Coaching / Development

Analysis results of coaching and group development data were categorized as low at 58.1%. This shows that the coaching and development of groups carried out on members are not optimal. Guidance and group development are carried out by developing member participation in group activities, adding new members, facilitating activities, and monitoring (control) of the norms that apply in the group. However, even if the efforts made by the group for coaching and group development have been made well if group members do not support this, the results will not be optimal.

Based on observations, to develop member participation in group activities, the farmer group has regular meeting activities. However, not all members attend the meeting activities that are being held. Likewise, for the

norms that apply in groups, where the group has agreed-upon rules, there are only 2 (two) groups that give sanctions in the form of a fine of IDR 50,000 if they do not attend one routine meeting. However, no severe sanctions are applied if there are members who violate. The group leader does not have the legal power to force its members always to participate. This is what causes group coaching and development to be not optimal. Guidance and group development is still low, hoped that the existing farmer groups could better maintain and develop their groups. Guidance for breeders in order to grow and develop farmer groups into independent and robust farmer groups so that the economic value of farmers increases and in the long term can increase productivity, the efficiency of beef cattle business and support for institutional capacity (Adawiyah, 2017)

5. Group cohesiveness

Group cohesiveness is group attachment which is the necessary capital for the success of a group. Group cohesiveness has the right category, namely 60.2%. Shows that in the research location, the cohesiveness of The group built a good quite. The formation of farmer groups based on the same domicile place makes each other familiar and familiar with the members. The observations show that the cooperation among group members is in a right category, and the leadership of the group leader is sufficient and able to communicate smoothly with members so that group cohesiveness can be adequately fostered. In general, members feel happy to join groups. Conflicts that can disperse farmer groups rarely occur because every problem is always resolved collectively in groups. The formation of good enough group cohesiveness is expected to increase the enthusiasm for the members' work so that they are more active and motivated to continue to interact and cooperate. Farm members always consider themselves part of the group and actively participate in group activities and interact in running a cattle business. As for the rearing of cows in the research, location is carried out in groups, but some group members prefer to have their own pens, but this does not reduce the cohesiveness of the members even though the location is not close together, the emotional bonds of farmer members lead to conditions for group cohesiveness

6. Group atmosphere.

The group atmosphere is group unity which is a bond of strength and dynamic togetherness by group members and group administrators (Huraerah and Purwanto, 2006). The atmosphere at the research location was quite good, namely 60%. To shows, most of the respondents stated the atmosphere group established right quite, but still had problems, the indicated by the relationship between members of the farmer group and a small number of group members who were not familiar. The minor problems, such as group cash usually borrowed. For some members who need it and other triggers for delays in paying the arisan money, because the arisan money is still to meet educational needs, the cages' location is separated, and the distance between members is far apart. All of these things make farmers less enthusiastic about participating in routine farmer group activities. However, all the problems that make the atmosphere not conducive only temporarily, there are always group efforts to create a more conducive atmosphere. The group leader's role in approaching all group members has been able to create an atmosphere of brotherhood in the group. The chairman's active role is vital in managing a good group atmosphere to create a dynamic group. Consistent with Hanan *et al.* (2005) 's statement, one of the group leader's roles is to motivate and solve problems. There is always a group effort to create a more conducive atmosphere. The group leader's role in approaching all group members has been able to create an atmosphere of brotherhood in the group. The chairman's active role is vital in managing a good group atmosphere to create a dynamic group. Consistent with Hanan *et al.* (2005) 's statement, one of the group leader's roles is to motivate and solve problems. There is always a group effort to create a more conducive atmosphere. The group leader's role in approaching all group members has been able to create an atmosphere of brotherhood in the group. The chairman's active role is vital in managing a good group atmosphere so as to create a dynamic group. This is consistent with Hanan *et al.* (2005) 's statement that one of the group leader's roles is to provide motivation and solve problems.

7. Group effectiveness.

Keep the effectiveness of the group was 54.3%. The respondents stated that by joining

a farmer group, they felt it was beneficial and were not satisfied. They have not been able to get easy capital assistance even though capital is the main supporting factor in farming activities, without farming capital, the farmer is undoubtedly the farmer. It will be challenging to develop the farm undertaken (Rini and Jahi. 2005). Farmers in the research location are still reluctant to contact the banking sector because it is challenging to meet complex requirements and prefer loan sharks or fellow group members. Furthermore, Johnson *et al.* (2012) argued that solidarity among group members aims to help members who are experiencing difficulties. Mutual trust and communicate effectively in meeting group needs. Group effectiveness is essential, where group effectiveness has a reciprocal effect on group dynamics. The influential group will have a high level of dynamics or vice versa.

8. Group Pressure

Group pressure is the group's pressures or tensions that cause the group to try hard to achieve group goals (Mardikanto, 2009). The research results on the aspect of group pressure categorized as good, namely 62.9%. To shows that group pressure only occasionally creates disputes and conflicts. However, conflicts and disputes within the group are only minor problems, such as not receiving suggestions and criticisms submitted by members and dissatisfaction of some members with the achievement of group goals. Farmers are always rational in considering something until their needs are met. As stated by Noelock and Muschoff (2013), that farmers are always rational Pressure is needed to motivate farmers

to achieve their goals,

9. Covert Group Desire

The results of the analysis of hidden intentions were categorized as useful, 74%, indicating that not all members were aware of hidden intentions. Hidden intentions are good feelings hidden within group members but are not stated formally but will encourage them. One example of covert intent in the research location is that farmer members want to travel out of town to conduct comparative studies to increase beef cattle business through technology and hope that the government will provide capital assistance. However, all expectations are limited to the expressions of the members' togetherness; if the hidden intentions fulfilled, it will have a strong influence on the group. Accordance with the statement of Mardikanto (2009).

Overall, the group dynamics are in a suitable category as a variable contributed 84% in increasing the Independence of beef cattle farmers in Gorontalo District. The more dynamic the group would affect the better the Independence of beef cattle farmers.

Level of Independence of Beef Cattle Farmers

Independence is the primary goal of farmers to be able to develop livestock businesses. Referring to the opinion (Sumarjo, 2008), Independence is an attitude and behaviour that can lead humans to success in living and living with their environment. The Independence of farmers includes intellectual Independence, attitudes, management, materials (Marliati. 2010).

Table 2. Farmer Independence Level

| No. | Indicator | Respondent Score | | | | Category |
|-----|---------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| | | F% | F% | F% | F% | |
| 1 | Intellectual independence | 0 0 | 57 48 | 52 43 | 11 9 | 2.61 |
| 2 | Attitude Independence | 0 0 | 21 17.5 | 63 52.5 | 36 30 | 3.13 |
| 3 | Independent Management | 0 0 | 42 35 | 47 39 | 31 26 | 2.9 |
| 4 | Independence. Material | 0 0 | 47 39 | 44 37 | 29 24 | 2.85 |
| | Average | | | | | 2.87 (good) |

Source: Primary data processed, 2019

The data results show that the level of farmer independence gets an average value of 2.87. (Good category) This shows that beef cattle

farmers' Independence in the research perspective supported by intellectual Independence, independent attitude,

independent management, and material Independence. It can make a positive contribution.

CONCLUSION

Group dynamics have a positive effect on increasing the Independence of beef cattle farmers in Gorontalo District. Each dynamic indicator's contribution gives an excellent average contribution, including clear group goals, structure, task functions well-executed, coaching group development, cohesiveness, effectiveness, group pressure, and group desires. All supporting indicators still need to be improved. The atmosphere of the group classified as quite good still needs attention and improvement in order to create a more harmonious atmosphere and to always forge unity among group members in supporting increasing the Independence of beef cattle farmers in Gorontalo District.

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