



**Empowering Women In The Use Of Grouper Fish Waste To  
Become A Leading Product Of Rambak Crackers As An Effort  
To Improve Community Welfare In Sungegeneng Village,  
Lamongan District**

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**INFO ARTIKEL**

**Abstract**

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*Sungegeneng Village, Sekaran District, Lamongan Regency has the potential that can be developed to improve the community's economy, namely grouper skin rambak crackers. But on the other hand, there are problems in developing these MSMEs, namely the many people in Sungegeneng Village who work as farmers or farm laborers. Many of the youths of Sungegeneng Village choose to work outside the city as entrepreneurs. This is because the people of Sungegeneng Village are less skilled and less pain-taking in developing the MSMEs. They think that the income from farm laborers and factory workers is more than making grouper skin rambak crackers. The main objective of this activity is to improve the welfare of the community through the development of MSMEs for grouper rambak crackers. The result of this activity is that the community (Residents of grouper skin rambak crackers) in Sungegeneng Village, Sekaran District, Lamongan Regency are very interested and motivated to develop MSMEs to improve community welfare.*

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**Introduction**

Rural women face several problems in increasing their participation in the development sector, especially the use of waste to support independence and tourism. Product production and marketing factors are still limited or substandard, cultural background and perceptions of some rural communities are still gender biased and limited funds to provide facilities. and tourist attraction infrastructure, cooperation and coordination between sectors/agencies are less intensive so that

the empowerment of rural women in the tourism sector is still less than optimal in its implementation (Kristianingrum, 2006)

Waste is waste left over from production that contains materials that can cause pollution and can harm health. In general, some people say that waste or rubbish is useless material that cannot be reused and must be thrown away immediately. If disposal is carried out continuously it will cause a buildup of waste. This accumulation of rubbish can cause disease and cause pollution if it is not processed immediately. Garbage is not something that has to be thrown away uselessly, because with proper processing and utilization, rubbish will become a more useful item than before. Waste or rubbish consists of 2 types, namely organic waste and inorganic waste.

Waste from marine products is also considered very disturbing. The waste is in the form of grouper skin, the amount of which continues to increase. Grouper produced in the Tuban area. The skin of this grouper fish is removed and the meat is discarded. It is from these skins that the waste originates. After being caught, the fish is then peeled. They only do household work while waiting for their husband to come home from work. This is because apart from their low educational background, they also do not have special skills that can help the family's economy. Most women or mothers do not know that marine waste can be used to make rambak crackers, which have a high selling value. Therefore, an empowerment program is needed for women so that they can utilize natural potential such as waste to become craft materials that have economic value.

The skills that women expect as a wife are also that they will have an income and be able to help their husband to meet their daily needs. Seeing such conditions, it is deemed necessary to empower women through a family skills program to utilize existing grouper skin waste, in addition to that, human resources as implementers of the empowerment program from Sungegeneng Village, Sekaran District, Lamongan Regency are also available (Syairozi, et al, 2019).

Empowerment program through training in grouper skin waste processing skills for women who have minimal abilities or expertise that can be utilized for their own and their family's needs. Based on the problems as described, the empowerment program is deemed appropriate to provide solutions for women, so it is necessary to conduct research on the theme "Women's Empowerment in the use of grouper fish waste to become a superior product, rambak crackers as an effort to improve community welfare in Sungegeneng Village, Lamongan Regency."

In order to increase regional economic growth, each region/region is of course making mutual efforts to explore all the potential for local resource-based economic development. For regions that are rich in potential economic resources, it will be easier to create superior economic products, but for regions that are marginal, both in terms of limited physical conditions and human resources, efforts to explore superior economic potential is work that requires hard work. , creativity and support from all parties, both from the government, society and the business world (Indaswari, 2003).

According to (Nurrachmi, et al, 2021) local economic development is a process where local governments and/or community groups manage existing resources and take part in organizing and collaborating with the private sector or others, creating jobs and stimulating economic activity in the economic zone. The well-defined main objective of local economic development is to stimulate local employment

opportunities in certain sectors to improve community welfare, using human and natural resources.

Industry is an economic activity that processes raw materials, raw materials, semi-finished goods and/or finished goods into goods with higher value and use, including industrial design and industrial engineering activities. The small industrial sector is a sector that has an uncertain growth pattern and its development is limited. The small industrial sector is easier for rural communities to enter who have a subsistence level in the field of economic life. Therefore, small industry should not be abandoned, because it can be the backbone of structural change, especially for the rural economy, as long as this small industry receives the right support and intervention (Rusmawati, 2022).

The existence of the small industrial sector in residential areas can be a driver of the local community's economy. This is in accordance with Law no. 3 of 2014 article 3 which states that one of the objectives of industrial development is to increase the prosperity and welfare of the people fairly and evenly by utilizing living resources.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have high economic resilience or resilience, so they can support the stability of the financial and economic system in Lamongan Regency. This is based on the development of MSMEs in various business units, where of the 56 million business actors in both the small and medium categories, 98.7% are MSMEs (Ramadhan, 2021).

The existence of the small and medium enterprise (UKM) industry is also able to contribute to regional income so that this industry can become the central point of the community's economy which of course will have an influence on the social economy of the community such as job opportunities, increased income and new business opportunities. According to the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) of Lamongan Regency in 2020, the processing industry sector had a contribution of IDR. 29,220,000 per capita and increased to Rp. 30,270,000 per capita in 2022, thus being able to help reduce poverty levels.

The development of the processing industry sector in Lamongan Regency is increasing, especially for small industries that produce various processed products. The absence of an adequate market organization to support the marketing of fresh marine fish products often results in accumulation resulting in a decline in the quality of the fish. The large number of available raw materials is the main factor for the people of Sungegeneng Village to become cracker entrepreneurs and has the potential to develop the processing industry.

Based on data from the Lamongan Regency Central Statistics Agency for 2022, the largest small industry in Lamongan Regency is the food industry in the field of crackers, chips, dents and the like with a total of 288 business units. Based on data from the Department of Manpower, Cooperatives, Small and Medium Enterprises and Industry, Lamongan Regency, the number of small and medium processing business industries in Sekaran District from 2014 - 2019 has increased, namely in 2021 the number of Small and Medium Enterprise Industries amounted to 22 units, in In 2022 there were 27 units, in 2016 there were 39 units, in 2017 there were 43, in 2018 there were 47, and in 2019 there was an increase to 53 units. Where from 2017-2022 the percentage increase in the number of small and medium cracker industry is as follows: 2014-2015 amounted to 18.52%, 2015-2016: 30.77%, 2016-

2017: 9.30%, 2017-2018: 10.64%, and 2018-2019: 11.32% (BPS Lamongan city, 2022).

In coastal areas the fisheries sector is the main factor in added value for the community. Local economic development has a close relationship between natural resources, humans, institutions and the surrounding environment. Most of the fisheries sector in coastal areas is the main commodity that is a source of the community's economy.

According to Indika (2017) the fisheries processing industry is the business of processing fishery products/organisms that live in water for commercial/industrial purposes, both from cultivation and catch results. Fishery processing is carried out to increase the added value of fishery products and functions to preserve fish because they are easily damaged and rotten.

It is hoped that the existence of a small and medium fisheries processing industry in Sungegeneng Village will have a positive influence on the lives of the local community. Businesses that are classified as small and medium enterprises have been run for a long time by the people of Sungegeneng Village, almost the majority of the people have opened this business, apart from the superior human resources of the community, who on average have mastered traditional cracker making processing techniques.

In its development, this small and medium enterprise industry has experienced problems including access to capital, promotion, fishery product processing activities which are still simple and limited, both in terms of management techniques which are still simple, inadequate facilities and infrastructure supporting the fishing industry, problems in product marketing. still limited locally and the influence of the fisheries processing industry on local communities. The marketing flow for the small cracker industry in Sungegeneng Village is direct marketing from producers to consumers, marketing from producers to consumers through shops, and marketing from producers to consumers through distributors (agents). One of the factors inhibiting the development of this product is the lack of promotion by the government and cracker entrepreneurs to markets outside Lamongan Regency. The not yet optimal performance of the small and medium enterprise industry in the cracker industrial area is the background for researchers to conduct this research. In this research, community service is interested in taking the title "utilization of grouper fish skin into rambak crackers in order to increase SME products in Sungegeneng Village (case study on "mak cik" rambak crackers), so that as industrial productivity increases, the community's economy will improve, employment opportunities will become wider, and sustainable development in Lingga Regency can be realized.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

The use of grouper skin rambak crackers is done offline and marketed to the nearest Lamongan area, such as local stalls and mini markets. This business was founded in 2020 and is managed by Ibuk Acik so he was born in Sungegeneng village, Sekaran sub-district, Lamongan regency. It has employees named Aningsih, Sulistiowati, Devi and Latifa. Mrs. Acik claims that no one produces grouper skin crackers, every day this grouper skin product sells for around 80 - 90 pieces with details of 1 pack containing 12 at a price of 10 thousand, 1 pack of medium contents at a price of 5 thousand and 1 large pack for 10 thousand. This business already has a business permit, namely P-IRT NO.2023524011861-25. These grouper rambak

crackers have reached big cities such as Jakarta, Jambi and Bali. The problem that often occurs is when it rains, which hinders the drying process of the grouper skin.

## DISCUSSION

### Production Stages

The purchase of grouper skin rambak cracker material reached 3 sacks or the equivalent of 1 quintal at a price of 1.5 million per purchase. The method for making rambak crackers includes the following:

#### 1. The first stage

The grouper skin is separated from the meat, and the employees can produce 11kg of grouper skin a day.



#### 2. Second stage

The separated skin is seasoned with turmeric, ginger, garlic, coriander, salt and seasoning.

#### 3. Third phase

The skin of the grouper is dried in the sun until it is completely dry.

#### 4. Fourth stage



Once completely dry, the skin of the grouper is cut to the required size.

#### 5. Fifth stage



The skin of the grouper is fried to perfect doneness then drained. The final stage after going through stages one to five, the fifth fish skin can be packaged and ready to be marketed.

## CONCLUSION

Waste from marine products is also considered very disturbing. The waste is in the form of grouper skin, the amount of which continues to increase. Grouper produced in the Tuban area. The skin of this grouper fish is removed and the meat is discarded. It is from these skins that the waste originates. After being caught, the fish is then peeled. They only do household work while waiting for their husband to come home from work. This is because apart from their low educational background, they also do not have special skills that can help the family's economy. Most women or mothers do not know that marine waste can be used to make rambak crackers.

In developing MSMEs, an empowerment program is needed for women so that they can utilize natural potential such as waste that has economic value, with an empowerment program through training in grouper skin waste processing skills. Women have minimal abilities or skills that can be utilized for their own and their family's needs. Based on the problems as described, the empowerment program is considered appropriate to provide solutions for women in Sungegeneng Village, Lamongan Regency.

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