Perceptions on fisherman’s insurance: A case study in PPN Prigi, Jawa Timur

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ABSTRACT Coastal communities commonly depend their income on marine resources with fishing produces as the main income. Their work is quite risky, as fishing is inextricable from work accidents, loss of life, loss of boats and equipment, personal health and safety, and safety of ship crews. This study aims to determine the mechanism of insurance implementation and fishermen’s perceptions of the Insurance Assistance Program for Fishermen in Prigi, Trenggalek, Jawa Timur. This present study employed descriptive qualitative. The data was collected through in-depth interviews, observation, and literature study. Results show that the number of insurance participants fluctuated, and even decreased every year during 2018 to 2020. Some of the causing factors were fishermen’s lack of interest in the insurance programs due to bad experiences in the past. They reported that the claim submission process was long and complicated when a work accident occurred. Lack of socialization of the insurance program had also made fishermen less familiar.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The diverse potential of Indonesian seas is influenced by its abundant biological sources. They have economic value that can improve the welfare of Indonesian fishermen. However, national economic development in the fisheries and marine sectors faces various obstacles that hinder efforts to increase fishermen’s income and welfare (Ode et al., 2019; W et al., 2019).

Coastal communities are highly supported by marine resources in their economy. They depend on the fish produces, where working as fisherman is risky due to the unstable weather (Rani, 2016; Ulfa, 2018).

Law No. 7/2016 Article 30 Paragraph 2 and 3 states the risks faced by fishermen, fish cultivators and salt farmers. The risks include: loss or damage to fishing facilities, fish breeding and salt business; work accidents or loss of life of fishermen, fish breeders and salt farmers; and other types of risk regulated by a Ministerial Regulation. These accidents are commonly due to natural disasters, fish disease outbreaks, the impact of climate change, and/or pollution (Rani, 2016; Zekri et al., 2008).

Hence, Law No. 7 of 2016 Article 30 states that protection against risks above for fishing and fish farming facilities, and other types of risk, is covered by fishery insurance. Law No. 11 of 2009, article 9 paragraph 2 explains that social security is provided in the form of social welfare insurance and continuous direct assistance, so that people can meet basic needs and live properly. (W et al., 2019),(Purnama, 2015).

Insurance participants have legal protection in making claim payments as regulated in the Consumer Protection Law, Civil Code, Commercial Law, and the Law on Insurance Business. This can warrant the protection for insurance participants, where they do not have further obligations as regulated by policy (Badruzaman, 2019). This present study aims to investigate the perceptions of fishermen toward “Program Bantuan Asuransi bagi Nelayan” (Insurance Assistance Program for Fishermen) in Prigi, Trenggalek, Jawa Timur.

2. METHOD

This present study employed descriptive method with a qualitative approach. It aimed to provide an accurate, systematic, and factual picture with regard to certain facts, that was fishermen’s perceptions towards the insurance program. This present study employed accidental sampling method. It took place at Pelabuhan Perikanan Nusantara (PPN) (National Fishery Port) in Prigi, Kecamatan Watulimo, Kabupaten Trenggalek Regency. PPN Prigi was chosen because it is mostly inhabited by fishermen. Data collection techniques were in-depth interviews, observations, and literature study.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

PPN Prigi is located in Kecamatan Watulimo, Kabupaten Trenggalek, in the south coast area. Its width is 154.44 km² consisting of 12 villages populated by around 66,772 people (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2019). Kecamatan Watulimo is a developed sub–district in fisheries and maritime affairs and agriculture. The residents’ livelihoods are mostly as fishermen (5,078 people), fish traders (3,053 people), and Others:
3.1 Insurance Program

The implementation of insurance program in PPN Prigi by Kementerian Kelautan dan Perikanan (KKP) (The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries) have established partnerships with insurance companies, namely, PT. Asuransi Jasa Indonesia (Jasindo) (Indonesian Insurance Services), which contributes IDR 175,000 per annum, and Badan Penyelenggara Jaminan Sosial Kesehatan (BPJS) (Board of Health and Welfare Security). BPJS insurance began on May 1, 2019 with a contribution of IDR 16,800 per month.

3.2 Benefits of Insurance

Fishermen insurance provided by Jasindo and BPJS give benefits to fishermen. They warrant protection to traditional, small, and labor fishermen against the risk of accidents and loss of life during fishing activities and on land. This insurance also covers senior fishermen (Safitri, 2018).

3.3 Fishermen’s Perceptions

Obviously, fishermen in PPN Prigi were lacking of interest to join the offered insurance program. It is evident in the data of the numbers of participants of BPJS-K and BAPN (Jasindo).

Table 2 summarizes fishermen’s perceptions on the insurance program. Those who agreed with the program viewed that the offered insurance was helpful and made them feel protected. On the other hand, those who disagreed were mostly because past experiences related to claiming difficulties when accidents occurred. Several factors might cause fishermen reject insurance, such as, lack of interest, low socio-economic level, individual character, insurance literacy, available access about the insurance, and unstable income.

0.41% in 2019 to 0.49% in 2020. Meanwhile, the number of participants decreased to 0% for for vessels> 30GT in 2020.

Table 2 shows that BAPN (Jasindo) participants were only active in 2018 with around 12.3% or 625 fishermen for vessels measuring 0-10 GT. No fishermen with vessels> 10-30 GT and> 30 GT participated in the insurance program. This also happened in 2019 and 2020, when fishermen with a vessel size of 0-10 GT in BAPN (Jasindo) experienced a significant decrease, reaching 0% of participants.

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Several factors might cause fishermen reject insurance, such as, lack of interest, low socio-economic level, individual character, insurance literacy, available access about the insurance, farmen, civil servants, private businessmen, and tourism workers (1,505 people).
insurance, and past experiences. More often, difficulties in claiming insurance when accidents occurred had largely impacted participants’ trust. Fishermen often experienced complicated and lengthy process in claiming their rights (Courbage & Nicolas, 2020).

The lacking of socialization on the benefits of insurance had also affected fishermen’s trust. This made a group of fishermen are insurance illiterate, which made them disinterest on the offered program (Ode et al., 2019).

4. CONCLUSION

The implementation of the insurance program in PPN Prigi has experienced several obstacles, one of which was the lack of interest of fishermen to join the program. This is evident during 2018 to 2020 period where the number of participants was fluctuating, and declining every year. Some factors caused the fishermen’s lack of interest in the insurance program were bad experiences in the claiming process, and lack of socialization about the program offerings.

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