

SURVIVAL OF WOMEN FISHERS IN SECURING THEIR HOUSEHOLD'S INCOME UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE: A CASE STUDY IN PEKALONGAN – CENTRAL JAVA, INDONESIA

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The phenomena of climate change adversely affects the welfare of fishers in Java including in Pekalongan. Formerly, Pekalongan was one of the biggest fish landing places on Java island, but now it is in ruins. Several conventional fisheries management measures have been employed but they have not been effective. The drivers of fish supply chains have proven to be more inelastic than the more flexible drivers of fish demand. Fisheries communities are mostly not prepared to react to the uncertain situation of climate change. Further, fishers harvesting the saturated fisheries resource are the most adversely affected. In these conditions, a fisher's wife plays as the role of the actor to overcome the difficult situation of her family.

The main objective of the present study was to investigate the survival efforts of women fishers to secure their households' incomes under climate change in the study area. Primary data were collected from in-depth interviews with key persons and other competent informants, while secondary data were used to enrich the analysis. The study employed mixed methods, between quantitative and qualitative.

The study found that many of the small scale fishers suffered from economic losses because they were unable to predict the real situation of resources under the circumstances of climate change. The impact on vulnerable fisheries in the study areas is significantly stretching the women's roles, perhaps even beyond the limits of their capacity in production, reproduction, and managing their communities. The study suggested that an empowerment strategy for fishers and their wives to help them in adaptation and mitigation for climate change is needed, along with a strategy designed to help the people manage the vulnerable fisheries in the area.