

Implementation Of Village Funds In Empowering Green Farmer Group In Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, North Sumatera, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT:

This is to describe the Implementation of Village Funds and their obstacles to Empowering Farmer Groups in Improving and Becoming Independent Communities in Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency. This research uses a qualitative approach, data collection techniques are carried out by interview, observation, and documentation techniques. This study shows that the implementation of the Village Fund according to William N. Dunn is assessed from 5 dimensions, namely: 1) program planning, involving the identification of the needs of farmer groups, setting goals, strategies, and steps to be taken in implementation. 2) Allocation of funds, has been determined to support the empowerment of green farmer groups, the allocation of these funds must consider the needs, priorities, and green farmer groups. 3) the provision of assistance and support, involving the provision of assistance and support to green farmer groups, in the form of the provision of seeds, fertilizers, farming tools, and training, 4) the implementation of activities, such as planting, plant maintenance that is not smooth and not carried out sustainable plant maintenance, 5) monitoring and evaluation, carried out by the farmer group supervisors is not smooth, only evaluating at the time of nursery. Overall, the implementation of the Village Fund in empowering green farmer groups has not been optimal. Despite the good intentions of the village government to improve the economy and community independence, the implementation and support that is not optimal hinders the achievement of the program's objectives. The inhibiting factors are the lack of human resources, lack of agricultural equipment, lack of discipline, and minimal participation of group members in plans that have been made by the government.

KEYWORDS: Implementation; Village Fund; Empowerment of Green Farmer Groups.

INTRODUCTION

The village is a representation of the smallest legal community unit that has existed and has grown and developed along with the history of Indonesian people's lives and has become an inseparable part of the life order of the Indonesian nation. As a form of state recognition of



villages, especially to clarify the functions and authorities of villages, as well as strengthen the position of villages and village communities as development subjects, it is necessary to have a policy of structuring and regulating villages which is realized with the birth of Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. In the era of President Joko Widodo's administration, there were nine national priority agendas called Nawa Cita. One of the priority programs of Nawa Cita is to build Indonesia from the periphery by strengthening several regions and villages within the framework of unitary state (quoted а from https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2014/05/21/0754454/.Nawa.Cita.9.Agenda.Prioritas.Jokow i-JK, on September 16, 2020)

The program was planned because the villages were less paid attention to by the government in the previous era so infrastructure development was less even. Thus, President Joko Widodo allocates assistance for each village intended for infrastructure development. This form of Village Fund Allocation then gave birth to a new process of village decentralization starting with the rollout of village fund allocation (ADD). The allocation of village funds as intended in paragraph (1) is at least 10% (ten hundredths) of the balance fund received by the district/city in the regional revenue and expenditure budget (APBD) after deducting the special allocation fund. The rolling of these balance funds through the allocation of village funds (ADD), must make the village truly prosperous. Village funds are state budget funds intended for villages that are transferred through the district/city APBD and prioritized for the implementation of the development and empowerment of village communities. The purpose of the village fund is to improve public services in the village, alleviate poverty, advance the village economy, overcome the development gap between villages, and strengthen the village community as the subject of development.

The allocation of village funds is a form of fulfilling the right of the village to carry out its autonomy so that it grows and develops following the growth of the village itself based on diversity, participation, original autonomy, democratization, community empowerment, and increasing the role of the village government in providing services and improving community welfare as well as spurring the acceleration of development and growth of strategic. areas (Imanuddin & Saraan, 2019; Nasution et al., 2023; Nur et al., 2023). The allocation of village funds is very important to finance the development of disadvantaged areas in a development area system. The implementation of this village fund allocation is aimed at physical and non-physical programs related to village development indicators, including education levels, community income levels, and health levels. Implementation is a series of actions carried out by people or policy-implementing institutions with supporting means based on the rules set to achieve the goals that have been set. The essence of village development aims to improve the condition and standard of living of the community (Matondang et al., n.d.).

In addition, village government is a development strategy that allows equitable distribution of development and the results to be enjoyed by the people high economic growth, and the achievement of stability and security of a healthy and dynamic region. The village government as a tool to achieve state administrative goals, functions as the government's long hand in the context of national development for the achievement of equitable people's welfare. In line with the development goals of rural areas in the 2015-2019 RPJMN, the use of village funds needs to be directed to support the alleviation of disadvantaged villages for the realization of village independence. The use of village funds is basically the right of the village government in accordance with the authority and priority of the needs of the local



village community while still prioritizing the principle of justice. Like the principle of justice, which prioritizes the rights and interests of all villagers without discrimination, priority needs prioritize the interests of the village which are more urgent, more needed, and directly related to the interests of the majority of the village community. (Rejeki et al., 2021; UMA, 2016). Village development cannot be done by village officials alone, but it needs support, initiative, and an active role from the community. Community empowerment is an effort to enable and make the community independent. In other words, how to help the community to be able to help themselves (Nababan et al., 2020; Septiandika et al., 2022).

Similarly, Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency is located at 2°1'-2°28'N and 98°10'- 98°58 E. It is a highland area that has an altitude varying between 330-2,075 M above sea level, the north is bordered by Samosir Regency, the south is bordered by North Tapanuli Regency, the west is bordered by Central Tapanuli Regency and the east is bordered by West Pakpak Regency. The people of Natam village have mostly potential in the field of agriculture, agriculture in Natam village is mostly rice farming. Seeing that Natam village is lagging behind other villages, the Natam village government innovates to form several farmer groups to be empowered and preserved which aims to prosper the lives of the Natam village community by empowering farmer groups and creating harmony and familiarity among the village community as well as improving the village economy and catching up with neighboring villages. In helping to improve the economy of the village community where funds are used through the Village Fund Budget (ADD), the people of Natam village are given capital to be managed by themselves which can later be sold after harvesting by the community. With this assistance, the village officials intend to make the people of Natam Village independent, so that the capital that has been provided by the village government can obtain additional income to help the economy and be able to multiply it.

A farmer group is a collection of farmers who are formally bound based on harmony, similarity in environmental conditions, familiarity of common interests, and mutual trust, and have a leader to achieve a common goal. From the observation that I can see, the village funds issued in 2019 are used to empower farmer groups to increase agricultural yields. The village government formed 9 farmer groups and groups of 15 to 20 members, the village government formed according to the hamlet of each member with the hope that the assistance could help the economy of the people of Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency so that they could prosper and improve the economy of the community.

For the sake of the empowerment of farmer groups, the Natam village government formed 9 farmer groups, namely:

- 1. In Hamlet I, there are two groups, namely the Marsada group and the Gabe group, the empowerment of this group in the field of peanut management agriculture.
- 2. In Hamlet II there are two groups, namely the Struggle and Karya Nyata groups, the empowerment of this group is in the field through the catfish business.
- 3. In Hamlet III there is one group, namely the Green Farmers group, the empowerment of this group in the field of corn agriculture.
- 4. In Hamlet IV there is one group, namely the Sejati group, the empowerment of this group in the field of peanut management.



- 5. In Hamlet V there is the Balepanjang group, the empowerment of this group in the field of catfish business.
- 6. In Hamlet VI there are Buaton and Sehati groups, empowerment of this group in the field of corn agriculture.

The condition of the Green Farmer Group in Natam village is still far from empowered. Therefore, it is very necessary to provide guidance and assistance in carrying out its functions, as well as improving the ability of group members.

The Green Farmer Group is a farmer group located in Hamlet III in Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan District. This group was formed in conjunction with other groups in 2019 until now. The initial history of its formation was to facilitate coordination between farmer groups so that it is easier to contact and more compact. The Green Farmer Group consists of about 15 members chaired by Mrs. Marnauli Simanullang.

But in reality, the Green Farmer Group in Hamlet III of Natam village until now, has not produced the expected changes where the agricultural yield of corn crops is less than optimal or less satisfactory. The hope is that the Green Farmer Group will be able to change the agricultural system, especially corn crops so that it produces greater benefits. The problems that exist in the green farmer group are in the form of uneven distribution of fertilizer among the members of the farmer group, crop yields that are not optimal because there are no innovations and techniques in planting corn, and stagnant corn sales results so that they do not provide large financial benefits. From these various problems, it is hoped that the empowerment of this green farmer group can help the economy of the Natam village community to be better.

Research from Shinta Ayuning Tias (2019) entitled "Implementation of Village Funds for Empowerment Through Catfish Business in Lubuk Gilang Village" studies the use of village funds to improve the community. Assistance is provided in the form of a catfish business. Although village funds are used well, the results are not satisfactory because the community does not fully utilize them. This research is similar to the previous study which also discussed village funds for empowerment, only in different locations. This research was conducted in Natam Village, Humbang Hasundutan; previous research was in Lubuk Gilang Village, Seluma. (Ayuning Tyas, n.d.).

An article entitled "Implementation of the Village Fund Allocation Program (ADD) in Community Empowerment in Punagaya Village" by Octrian (2013) found that the factors that affect the implementation of ADD in Punagaya Village include: Supporting factors such as increased creativity and community welfare, as well as employment; inhibiting factors including slow fund allocation. This study focuses on the implementation of village funds, with the difference in emphasizing the delay in fund allocation in this study, while the previous study focused more on the less fortunate farmer groups (Octrian et al., 2013).

Agussalim researched "Implementation of Village Fund Allocation (ADD) in Tumpaan Baru Village, South Minahasa." The results show that ADD is enough to support Village income through the Village Budget. It helps meet needs at the village level and encourages citizen participation in planning, budgeting, and monitoring development. The similarity is research on the implementation of village funds, while the difference is the focus on community



participation, while previous research is more on empowering farmer groups for community needs. (Agussalim, 2018).

Darmiasih (2015), researched "Analysis of the Village Fund Allocation (ADD) Distribution Mechanism in Village Government in Tri Buana Village, Sideman District, Karangasem Regency." The results of the study concluded that the ADD distribution mechanism in Tri Buana Village had been received by the village government from the central government, which was included in the village expenditure revenue budget (APBDesa). The difference is the distribution of village funds while this research is the implementation of village funds in the empowerment of farmer groups. (Darmiasih et al., 2015).

Adi Supraja's (2017) research entitled "Implementation of Village Fund Allocation Policy (ADD) in Sukamahi Village, Bogor Regency with the Perspective of Islamic Governance" concluded that the Sukamahi Village government reports funds from the central government transparently by showing the allocation of funds in a year to the community. However, village officials need time to learn to deal with change, and limited communication between the village government and the central government hinders planning. The similarity is that this study also discusses the implementation of village funds, but the difference lies in the location. of the research (Supraja, 2017).

This study aims to identify how the Implementation of Village Funds is applied in the empowerment of Farmer Groups in Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency. The main focus of the research is to understand the extent to which this program is successful in improving the welfare and independence of 54the village community through agriculture. In addition, the study also explores the obstacles faced in the implementation process, which can affect the effectiveness of the program.

RESEARCH METHODS

Judging from the object and results to be obtained, this research is included in the type of descriptive research using qualitative methods. Descriptive research is research that is carried out to find out the characteristics of one or more variables without making comparisons and connecting with other variables. Research on problems in the form of current facts of a popularization (Bah et al., 2020a, 2020b). The type of research used is qualitative research emphasizing the human element as a research instrument, by emphasizing the human element as a research instrument, it will make it easier to adjust to the reality that occurs in the field. This study uses a qualitative approach to produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behaviors (Bogdan and Taylor in (Moleong & Lexy, 2018)). The researcher went directly into the field to research the object of his study and held direct interaction with the community with the aim of obtaining in-depth information about the implementation of village funds in the empowerment of farmer groups, including inhibiting and driving factors in empowering the community.

This primary data was obtained from research informants. The type of research used in the research is a person who is used in providing information about the situation and conditions of the research background and is a person who knows the problem being researched. (Sugiyono, 2018). According to (Suyanto & Sutinah, 2011). There are 3 research informants, namely: key informants, main informants, and additional informants. Key informants are



those who know and have the main information needed in the research. The main informants are those who are directly involved in the social interaction studied. Additional informants are those who can provide information even though they are not directly involved in the social interaction being studied.

In this study, we will use data analysis techniques according to (Miles et al., 2014) There are 3 flows, including Data reduction, The research will obtain quite a lot of data, and each piece of data obtained during the research needs to be summarized in more detail and focus on things that are considered important. Information or data that can be described in a relevant, clear, and easy-to-understand manner. Data presentation, data presentation is carried out after data reduction. The data is presented in the form of charts, narratives, or short descriptions that connect between categories. So that it makes it easier for researchers to understand what is happening today. To anticipate this, researchers must always test whether the package data is still the same or not. Through interviews, observations, and documentation. Concluding is a stage carried out to conclude the results obtained and is expected to be able to answer the formulation of problems and obstacles that are currently not improving.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Implementation of Village Funds in Empowering Farmer Groups in Improving and Becoming Independent in Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency

The implementation of the Village Fund in the empowerment of green farmer groups will involve a series of choices and decisions made by the government agencies and officials responsible for the program. Some aspects related to the implementation of the Village Fund in the empowerment of green farmer groups can include:

1. Program Planning.

Program Planning, according to Dunn (2003), Is a process of determining what to achieve in the future and determining the stages needed to achieve it. Implementation begins with the planning of the Village Fund program which focuses on empowering green farmer groups. This planning involves identifying the needs of farmer groups, setting goals, strategies, and steps to be taken in implementation.

In an interview with Mr. Bindu Siringo-ringo the head of Natam village, he explained that the village fund has been received since 2018, where the funds are prioritized for development only, in 2019 he tried to plan other programs from the village fund, namely the empowerment of farmer groups through several agricultural businesses with funds received by the treasurer of Rp.307,038,000 according to the Transparency of the Baringin Natam Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (second amendment), Based on Baringin Natam Village Regulation Number 07 T.A 2020. Then he handed over this program to Mrs. Lindani Purba as the supervisor of the farmer group as well as a member of PPS (Independent Agricultural Extension).

An interview with Mrs. Linda as a farmer group coach explained that she formed a farmer group, one of which is a green farmer group chaired by the head of the group, Mrs. Marnauli Simanullang with Decree Number 26 of 2019 which was stipulated in Natam Village on August 26, 2019, the task of this chairman is to assist part of Mrs. Linda's work in carrying out the empowerment of green farmer groups through this corn farming business, where the



group leader helped distribute corn seeds and fertilizers to all members of the Green Farmer Group.

Based on the results of the interview, village funds have been received since 2018, in 2019 village funds were prioritized for farmer group empowerment programs through corn farming businesses, Mrs. Linda was appointed as a farmer group coach by the village head of Natam with the aim of being able to help the community's economy by increasing their income and making them independent in running their own business.

It can be concluded that the implementation of the Village Fund begins with planning that focuses on empowering green farmer groups. This program aims to improve the economy and community independence through corn farming businesses. This program has been running since 2019 with the appointment of Mrs. Linda as the supervisor of the farmer group.

2. Fund Allocation.

Fund allocation, according to Dunn (2003), The general allocation fund is several funds that the central government must allocate to each autonomous region in Indonesia every year as a development fund. The allocation of funds involves the allocation of village funds that have been determined to support the empowerment of green farmer groups. The allocation of this fund must consider the needs, priorities, and potential of green farmer groups.

Based on an interview with Mr. Bindu Siringo-ringo the head of Natam village, he explained that the community empowerment program of this farmer group from the community as a recipient of assistance does not have its program, but the community empowerment program through the village is: prospering the community, helping the economy and increasing income for the community. The condition to get this village fund assistance is that the people of Natam village must have a farmer group so that only then the funds (not in the form of cash but with corn farming needs, namely in the form of corn seeds and fertilizers) can be received.

An interview with Mrs. Lindani Purba the supervisor of the farmer group empowerment program explained that "The empowerment of farmer groups has a stipulation, namely each group gets 10 kg of corn seeds, 2 sacks of chemical fertilizers, 2 sacks of organic fertilizers, herbicides, and special insecticides for corn plants. Then on the condition that people who are willing and intend to carry out this empowerment must collect ID cards from their heads of families to the management. The target of this farming business is only for the community to be able to sell their crops so that they get profits which are then turned back into capital and able to develop this corn farm so that the community is more independent. The government also does not require the community to return the capital that has been given to them, because this empowerment is only an aid but the village officials strongly encourage the capital that has been given to be recirculated so that the green farmer group was supervised by the farmer group coach often called PPS (independent agricultural extension worker) after a few months the coach was no longer supervised and that was when the green farmer group failed".

Based on the results of the interview excerpt above, the researcher can conclude that the Natam Village Government itself has carried out the empowerment of farmer groups sourced from the Village Fund, which is the most obvious where after being assisted by the government, the community's plantation land becomes not empty and barren, where



previously only weeds grew on the land, this assistance makes it easier for some people to feel the benefits of the village fund assistance. From the results of research in the field, the Village Fund is allocated for the empowerment of farmer groups through the provision of corn seeds and fertilizers. The condition for receiving assistance is membership in farmer groups, and the main goal is so that agricultural products can be recycled as capital.

3. Provision of Help and Support:

The provision of help and support, according to Dunn (2003), Support is the resources that others provide to individuals that can affect the psychological well-being of the individual concerned. The support that can be given to others can be in the form of motivation, words of encouragement, supportive actions, encouraging and inviting actions that are encouraging recipients of village fund assistance themselves are the village community itself or more specifically the recipients of assistance in this study are green farmer groups. Implementation involves providing assistance and support to green farmer groups. This could include the provision of seeds, fertilizers, agricultural tools, training, technical consultation, access to markets, and other facilities needed to increase the productivity and well-being of green farmer groups.

In an interview with Mrs. Marnauli Simanullang the chairperson of the Green Farmer group, he explained that those who receive assistance are everyone who is registered as a member of the group or who has a farmer group, apart from group members who do not receive the assistance. The assistance provided by village funds to each group is approximately 10 kg of superior corn seeds, 2 sacks of chemical fertilizers, 2 sacks of organic fertilizers, and special pesticides for corn plants, after receiving corn seeds, the Green Farmer Group immediately works on clearing the group's land which then plants the corn seeds that have been received.

An interview with Mrs. Nurma Nainggolan a member of the Green Farmer group who received assistance in the form of corn seeds explained that:

"The economy of their families so far has not improved. I can't get 2 kg of corn seeds because the cost of fertilizer is more expensive than the corn seeds I receive."

Based on the results of the interview presented by the informant above, it can be seen that among the people who receive assistance from the village government in the form of corn seeds are those who are registered in the green farmer group. Assistance is provided in the form of seeds, fertilizers, and other agricultural materials. However, some recipients feel that the assistance is not enough for their needs, especially because the cost of fertilizer is higher than the value of the seeds received.

It can also be seen that the empowerment of farmer groups carried out does not all feel the benefits. The members of the group I interviewed did not all benefit from the assistance provided by the local government because individuals from each group only got corn seeds where the price of fertilizer used was more expensive than the price of corn seeds provided by the government.

4. **Implementation of activities:**

The implementation of activities, according to Dunn (2003), Is an activity carried out by a body or forum in a planned, orderly, and directed manner to achieve the expected goals, as well as operational or policy to become a reality to achieve the goals of the goals of the set program. Implementation also involves the implementation of planned activities, such as



planting, plant maintenance, processing agricultural products, sustainable management of natural resources, and other activities relevant to the empowerment of green farmer groups.

In an interview with Mrs. MarnauliSimanullang the head of the Green Farmer group, he explained that.

"The implementers of activities in the empowerment of this farmer group are all members of the Green Farmer Group totaling 20 people, but all participate only at the time of planting, then the Chairman divides into 4 parts, 5 people clearing the land to plant corn seeds, all members at the time of planting corn seeds, 5 people to maintain plants such as spraying pests, etc. But at harvest time all members participate".

Based on facts in the field, the implementers of activities in the empowerment of green farmer groups are all members of the green farmer group where each member of the group participates in the empowerment activity. But like not doing it, some like thinking this is not very profitable for me, and some are serious but not very knowledgeable in corn farming. The implementation of activities was carried out by all members of farmer groups, but participation was not maximum. Some members are less serious or lack understanding of agricultural techniques, which has an impact on unsatisfactory agricultural results.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation:

Monitoring and evaluation according to Dunn (2003), Evaluation is an effort to determine the social benefits or uses of policies or programs and is not just an effort to collect information about the results of anticipated and unanticipated policy actions. Because the accuracy of policy goals and objectives can always be questioned, evaluation includes procedures for evaluating the goals and objectives themselves.

Implementation requires continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the Village Fund program in empowering green farmer groups runs as planned and achieves the expected results. This evaluation can be used to identify successes, obstacles, and changes needed in the implementation. Implementation is an idea, concept, policy, or innovation that has a good impact by implementing government activities in the hope of achieving common goals.

In an interview with Mrs. Marnauli Simanullang the chairperson of the Green farmer group, he explained that the supervisor of the farmer group only supervises the planting of corn seedlings only, after which there is no more supervision carried out by the supervisor.

In an interview with Mrs. Rustan Siringoringo a member of the Green Farmers Group who received assistance explained that after harvesting she calculated between income and expenditure greater expenses due to the high price of fertilizer and the amount of corn that did not bear fruit and finally could not harvest more than she expected, causing this empowerment to fail and could not be continued".

Based on the interview above, monitoring and evaluation are not carried out on a sustainable basis so the government does not review the successes and obstacles experienced by green farmer groups. So there is no progress. It can be concluded that in the empowerment program through corn farming, the government has tried to be fair, where the village government has divided the assistance equally, the village government has provided opportunities to increase their income, make their villages independent, and improve the economy of the Natam village community. It's just that at the end of its implementation, the community knows this empowerment does not run effectively and experiences failures caused by the lack of ability



of the community to properly manage corn farming, lack of understanding of empowerment, and also due to the high price of corn fertilizer so that they only fertilize corn once until harvest. Monitoring and evaluation are not carried out continuously so problems and obstacles in implementation are not identified and overcome properly. As a result, this empowerment did not achieve the expected effectiveness and failed, mainly due to a lack of understanding and the high price of fertilizers.

In the management of corn farming of the Green Farmer Group in Hamlet III of Natam village until now, it has not produced the expected changes where the agricultural yield of corn crops is less than optimal or less satisfactory. The hope is that the Green Farmer Group will be able to change the agricultural system, especially corn crops, to produce greater benefits for the community. The existing problems are in the form of uneven distribution of fertilizer among members of farmer groups, crop yields that are not optimal because there are no innovations and techniques in planting corn, and stagnant corn sales results so that they do not provide large financial benefits. The management of corn farming in green farmer groups is not optimal in producing because it is not too focused on farmer groups.

Obstacles to the implementation of village funds in empowering green farmer groups in Natam Village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency.

1. Human Resources

Human resources are a very important factor in production because they directly carry out production activities. In Natam Village, the workforce involved in empowerment is all local farmer groups. However, the quality of human resources in this village is relatively low, especially in education in the agricultural sector. The lack of training available makes them rely more on physical strength than on technical knowledge or skills. This lack of education and training is an obstacle to increasing productivity and work efficiency, so there needs to be an effort to improve their capacity and skills in the agricultural sector.

2. Lack of Agricultural Equipment

The success of corn farming is greatly influenced by the availability of complete and adequate agricultural equipment. However, in empowering the Green farmer group in Natam Village, this condition is very minimal. This farmer group faces limitations in access to modern agricultural tools that can increase efficiency and production output. The lack of this equipment is a big challenge for them because, without adequate technological support, the agricultural process becomes slower and less optimal. To increase productivity, it is very important to provide more complete facilities and equipment for these farmer groups.

3. Lack of Discipline

Indiscipline is one of the diseases that is often encountered in the bureaucracy and unfortunately is often considered a natural problem. This undisciplined attitude can interfere with the performance of organizations or governments, especially to provide maximum service to the community. In Natam Village, discipline is the main key to realizing community welfare. Without discipline, the effectiveness of public services decreases, and the goals of village development are not achieved optimally. Therefore, every member of the bureaucracy in this village needs to instill a strong attitude of discipline to carry out their duties properly and consistently.



4. Lack of participation of group members

Community participation is an important capital that is not only built by individuals separately but is formed through interaction between individuals in the village community. The success of this interaction depends on the willingness of each individual to be actively involved and socialize with others, as well as to contribute such as input and criticism to the village government. This involvement is crucial to advancing the empowerment of farmer groups because, through dialogue and collaboration, communities can jointly identify needs, find solutions, and ensure that the empowerment program runs according to expectations. Active participation also strengthens a sense of togetherness and collective responsibility in achieving common goals.

5. Attitude of the apparatus that is not responsive

Village government apparatus is required to always be responsive to the expectations of the community that continue to develop. By paying attention to the synergy between the existing priority and superior programs, they can ensure that the empowerment carried out is beneficial for the development of farmer groups. This responsiveness includes listening to the aspirations of the community, tailoring the program to real needs, and ensuring that every step taken is aligned with the empowerment goals. Thus, village officials are not only facilitators but also active partners in encouraging the progress and welfare of farmer groups, which ultimately improves the quality of life of all village communities.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of village funds in empowering green farmer groups in Natam village, Parlilitan district, Humbang Hasundutan Regency has been running well, but the implementation is not in line with the expectations of the village community. In the planning of the green farmer group program, the Natam village government seeks to develop a program for the village community to catch up with other villages that are slightly more advanced than Natam Village while helping the community's economy by increasing the distribution and independence of the village community and establishing closer relationships between groups. And from the results that I found in the field, the government's hope that corn agricultural products could be turned back into capital did not go well. It turns out that the empowerment of farmer groups carried out does not all feel the benefits. The members of the group I interviewed did not all benefit from the assistance provided by the local government because individuals from each group only got corn seeds where the price of fertilizer used was more expensive than the price of corn seeds provided by the government. From its implementation, the community knows that this empowerment does not run effectively and experiences failures caused by the lack of ability of the community to properly manage corn farming, lack of understanding of empowerment, and also due to the high price of corn fertilizer so that they only fertilize corn once until harvest. In the management of corn agriculture of the Green Farmer Group in Hamlet III of Natam village until now, it has not produced the expected changes where the agricultural yield of corn crops is less than optimal or less satisfactory. The hope is that the Green Farmer Group will be able to change the agricultural system, especially corn crops, to produce greater benefits for the community. The factors that hinder the implementation of village funds in empowering green farmer groups in Natam village, Parlilitan District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency are: lack



of human resources, lack of agricultural equipment, lack of discipline, minimal participation of group members The community itself admits that they do not care much about the plans that have been made by the government.

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