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Reclaiming the “I”, redefining the “WE”
WOMEN COMMUNITY PRACTICES IN SOCIAL SOLIDARITY ECONOMY (SSE)

BY Institute for Women's Empowerment (IWE)
Komunitas Swabina Pedesaan Salasae (KSPS) in Salasaae Village
Komunitas Swabina Pedesaan Salassae (KSPS) – Salassae Rural Swabina Community

• KSPS is located in South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. Can be reached using by sea transportation for 2 days 1 night and can use a plane for 2 hours 30 minutes from Jakarta (the capital city of Indonesia).

• KSPS is an organic farmer organization that has a variety of agricultural products and has its own market.

• Salassae village consists of 5 hamlets, with a population of approximately 3,366 people. Consisting of farmers (873 people) and breeders (222 people) and others.

• there have been (recorded) 2000 people joining natural agriculture, consisting of 136 villages/sub-districts,

• Salasae village has an 100 ha of paddy organic field, 40 ha farm.
Background: Why KSPS established

• Since 2011, the situation in Salassae village has changed a lot; many young people and farmers had left their village and were reluctant to become farmers. They prefer to migrate and become migrant workers rather than taking care of their fields and farming.

• In fact, Salassae has long been one of the villages that have a vast agricultural area and farming is the main livelihood for the community. The decline in crop yields is due to decreased soil fertility from the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers which continues to increase in number and ultimately causes soil nutrients to continue to decrease. These conditions have pushed people in the community to get caught in debt to ‘middlemen – money lender’, And eventually they became illegal loggers, gamblers, drinkers, cockfighting
• Seeing this situation, several people took the initiative to form an integrated agriculture.
• For 6 months they discussed day and night to make an organization.
• KSPS then developed a method to get people interested in becoming farmers again. Natural farming is an option by utilizing natural ingredients, cheap and easily obtained in the Salassae village.
1. Socially responsible governance

• Involve poor and marginalized people as members organization of KSPS. They come from various backgrounds, without discrimination based on social status and education.

• All members in KSPS organization have rights in decision-making org in the planning, implementation, and monev.

• No power structure, the function of structure just easing to manage and facilitate to members.

• All of member KSPS involve in social-economic project

• No competition, just cooperation, supporting one another, providing capacity for those who want to develop natural agriculture and economic practices.
2. Edifying ethical values

- **Vision**: The realization of farmers who are sovereign on their own land, economically and food independent.

- **Mission**
  1. Developing independent yields and agricultural activities that are in line with the principles of natural agriculture, and marketing the agricultural products collectively,
  2. Developing natural agricultural education centers, organizational education, and cooperative (union) education, and
  3. Developing cooperation between farmer organizations in one particular area and organization between regions. This mission is the bridge for KSPS to be able to make them (farmers) prosperous and independent/sovereign.

**Ethical Value**

**Solidarity ** **Mutual cooperation ** **Seeing every person is important (learning and teaching) ** **Justice over resources ** **Democratic**
**Transparency ** **Joint Market (profit to every entities - profit sharing)**
**Preserve and maintain natural sources of production.**

- Member of KSPS advocate to the village government to enacting Organic Farming system as agriculture in the Village. The Village Government accepted this idea and tried to support this model because it was considered good.

- KSPS member become a team to develop the village program. They can access the fund village to develop their village.
3. Socio-economic benefits of the community

- Socio-economic benefits have been extended to the members / stakeholders as a result of the introduction / intervention of the SSEO

1. Creation job for man, women, youth
2. Access to education
3. Access to market.
4. Access to funding (loan funds) to deposit and saving cooperatives (union).....Feel safe because you have savings that are managed for access to school children.
5. Increased capacity related to many things; (a) Organic farming, (b) organization, (c) markets, (d) cooperatives, (e) preserving the environment, (f) made crafts, etc, so that women in particular feel empowered.

- With regard to Covid, so far they have nothing problem because their have a system can handle it. Their work has a vision to be sustainable. The 3 things they have: (a) product agriculture, (b) market. © value and prinsip
4. ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION

• Members of KSPS have a strong awareness of environmental conservation in the village,

• The use of microbes from various natural materials such as vegetables, fish bones, fish, grass, straw, livestock manure and so on, is an effort to ensure that the soil they cultivate will produce healthy plants and biodiversity by no longer using chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

• KSPS run a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation program.

Some of the activities are:
Climate Change Adaptation Program:
• Biopori
• making reservoirs
• rainwater harvesting
• Rorak
• terracing
• irrigation systems
• integrated farming of yard use (fruit, vegetable, herbs, livestock)
(2) Climate Change Mitigation program:
- composting,
- 3R activities, (Utilization of plastic waste into bouquets and patch into dormats),
- Biogas from cow dung
- Organic fertilizer,
- tree planting. Every citizen plants 500 trees. The function is serve to keep water available and also become old age savings for sale.

They won the Trophy of Sustainable Climate Program (Proklim) from Ministry of Environment and Forestri in 2017 from 477 nominantion. The Assessment based on: (1) They conduct the Climate Change Program, (2) The institutions were already strong enough, (3) Human Resources levels of the member farmers is already good
5. ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- They get sufficient generating income from their products. (livestock, rice, horticultural product)
- Creating a fair trade system for all farmers
- Makes the farmer as the owner of organization and involves in every decision making process.

- Covid 19 Pandemic does not have a negative impact on the KSPS community. They live as usual. This is because the system has already run strong, integrated;

  (1) Strong values and principles,
  (2) Food independence, with the principle of self sufficiency (subsistence)
  (3) Self-managed economic system, expl: cooperative,
Gender Dimension

- Poor, marginalized, uneducated people both women and man involve in organization without differentiated, they have rights to access. “See everyone is important”
- Women get involved in decision making organization (planning, implementation, money) and be heard their voices.
- Women get involved in organization structure of KSPS. Women become particular concern to KSPS, this is indicated by the formation of the Natural Women Farmers Group (KPPA) and the Salassae Women's Farmers Group (KPPS).
- KSPS ensure equal access to, ownership and control over productive assets and financial resources, such as credit, access to education,
- Women is actively participate in economic activities from providing inputs, production, distribution and marketing.
- They realized that gender role can be change. Women not just in the private sector (care work) and men in public sector. And division of role in household changed. Redistribution of care work
- Social Norm ‘Men is a leader’, become women can be a leader if they have get same access and control over resources.
Challenges

• Still many farmers have a mindset to use excessive chemical fertilizers and pesticides in getting more agricultural products.

• Agricultural policies have become a big threat to farmers, among others are the Protection of New Varieties of Seed Plants. (patented).
Contribution to the achievement of SDGs Goals

• SSE practices in the Salasae Community contributed to the achievement of SDGs objectives, including related to;
  • SDG 1 -- Reducing poverty,
  • SGD 4 – Quality Education.
  • SDG 5 --Gender Mainstreaming
  • SDG 8 --Decent work
  • SGD 13-- Climate Change
  • SDG 15-- Life on Land
“NO WORK, BEFORE SITTING”

“SEE EVERYONE IS IMPORTANT”

“FROM US, BY US, FOR US”