

# The Relationship between Fisherman's Characteristics and Perceptions on Independent Fishermen's Insurance in Batakan Village, Tanah Laut District of Indonesia

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## The Relationship between Fisherman's Characteristics and Perceptions on Independent Fishermen's Insurance in Batakan Village, Tanah Laut District of Indonesia

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**Abstract:** This study was aimed at assessing the relationship between fishermen's characteristics and perceptions on independent fishermen's insurance program. A total of 32 respondents who participated in independent insurance program were deeply interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. The questions were constructed using a Likert-scale answering system, ranging from 'Strongly Disagree' to 'Strongly Agree'. The correlation between the two variables was analyzed with Pearson's correlation coefficient. The results showed that the overall perceptions on independent fishermen insurance program were categorized as 'Good', indicating that this insurance program was acceptable and beneficial for them. About 67% of relationship between perception and characteristic of the respondents was positively correlated, ranging from 'weak' to 'very weak', but not differed significantly between the two variables. Clarity, consistency and completeness of information about this insurance program are becoming the key factors in the success of the program.

**Keywords:** Independent fishermen insurance, fishermen's perception, correlation, characteristic.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Capture fishery development is essentially aimed at increasing the welfare of the community, especially fishermen, as well as protecting fish resources and its environmental habitats. This is in line with the policy of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries to implement its missions, namely sovereignty, prosperity, and sustainability. To ensure the continuity of fishermen's work, the central government issued the Law Number 7/2016 concerning the Protection and Empowerment of Fishermen, fish farmers and salt farmers, which became the basis and legal umbrella for the Ministry to protect the fishermen from the risks. Based on the Law, the Ministry in cooperation with PT. Asuransi Jasa Indonesia (Jasindo) offers insurance program for fishermen with an agreement between two parties. The benefits of this insurance is that fishermen or their heirs can make insurance claim to Jasindo in case of the death, permanent disability, disability in certain limbs and medical expenses due to accidents at the sea [1].

Fishing at sea is considered the most dangerous occupation in the world due to high-risks such as getting injured, sinking vessel, even the death. Over 32,000 fishermen die every year. Thus, fisherman's insurance is needed to protect the fisherman from uncertain risks [2]. In 2016, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries started launching the Fisherman Insurance Premium Assistance Program with the amount of 175.000 IDR/year to million fishermen across Indonesia including fishermen in South Kalimantan Province. In addition, the compensation claim for fisherman insurance is vary depending on the kind of risk and the amount of premium paid, for example, if death or accident at the sea max 200 million IDR and if the accident occurred on land up to 160 million IDR. For permanent physical hazard (loss of body parts), the amount of the compensation is adjusted to the amount of %, which is regulated by the policy. In the event of sickness and need a medical treatment will receive max 20 million IDR [3]. Insurance claim was an indemnity claim proposed by the insured to the insurer or company insurance. In order that insurance companies want insure their funds to fishermen, according to Hazell [4], there were four requirements to be met, so that the risk can be insured and protected by the insurance company: (1) the likelihood of the risk must be readily quantifiable; (2) the damage it causes must be easy to attribute and value; (3) the probability of the occurrence should not be too high to make the insurance unaffordable; and (4) The risk should be free of moral hazard behavior.

The subsidized fishermen insurance program has been first launched Tanah Laut District of South Kalimantan Province in 2017. This insurance was only valid for 1 year and can be extended for those who are interested. Of 13,325 total fishermen, the only 15.8 % (2,106) of them have registered as insurance's participants, indicating low participation level. In 2018 the government no longer provided the subsidies for fisherman insurance and it was switched to be independent fishermen insurance. It means that the annual insurance premium should be paid by fishermen themselves. The number of fishers who extended the said insurance has drastically decreased, amounting to 180 or only 8.5% of the total 2,106 fishermen who were previously registered. In 2019, the number of independent insurance participants increased by 58.9% (total 286). Such information can be seen in Table 1. Meanwhile, more than 50 cases of work accidents were recorded in 2018.

**Table1.** Number of fishermen who participated in the subsidized and independent fishermen insurance programs in Tanah Laut District during 2017-2019

Types of Insurance Program	Year	Number of Fishermen
Subsidized fishermen insurance	2017	2106
Independent fishermen insurance	2018	180
	2019	286

Source: The Food Security and Fisheries Services of Tanah Laut District, 2020.

The lack of knowledge of fishermen about the importance of insurance for the safety and security of their lives or their families is thought to have contributed to the low level of participation. For this reason, we carried a field survey to assess the relationship between fishermen's characteristics and perceptions on independent fishermen's insurance program.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1. Study Site

This study was conducted in Batakan Village, Tanah Laut District of South Kalimantan Province, Indonesia, located at 4.097°S and 114.629°E (Figure 1). It was approximately 40 km from capital city of Tanah Laut District, Pelaihari or it takes about 1 h by a car. About 56% of the population work as fishermen. The research activities started from August to October 2020.



**Figure1.** The map showing the location of Batakan Village in Tanah Laut District, Indonesia

### 2.2. Questionnaire Design

The questionnaire was made flexible to investigate the perceptions of fishermen towards independent fishermen insurance program. The questionnaire contents included personal questions (e.g. age, education, family member, type of fishing gear used, fishing activity, etc.) and their opinions about fishermen's insurance program (e.g. procedure, willingness to pay of premium, government's role, benefit of insurance, etc.) The questions were constructed using a Likert-scale answering system, ranging from 'Strongly Disagree' to 'Strongly Agree'.

### 2.3. Data Collection

A total of 32 respondents who participated in the independent insurance program were deeply interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. They came from three collective business groups in Batakan Village i.e. Nelayan Citra Mandiri (12), Maju Bersama (10) and Rizki Abadi (10). These groups have been officially registered at the Food Security and Fisheries Services of Tanah Laut District and already have fishermen insurance cards. This card was issued by Jasindo Center, then sent to local Jasindo Branch and distributed to fishermen groups through Department of Fisheries District/City. In this study, we used a census method where all members of the *population* were *observed*. The parameters studied were perception variables and the correlation between perceptions and the characteristics of fishermen who involved in the said insurance program.

### 2.4. Data Analysis

#### 2.4.1. Perception Analysis

The respondent's attitudes or opinions can be determined by dividing the average score of respondents' answers with the value of the answer score. The response category in rating scales ranged from 'very good' to 'not good' (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Likert-scale used to measure respondent's attitudes or opinions

Scale range	Mean range	Response category	Score range (%)
5	Strongly Disagree	Very good	84.01 - 100
4	Agree	Good	68.01 - 84.00
3	Somehow agree	Quite good	52.01 - 68.00
2	Disagree	Not so good	36.01 - 52.00
1	Strongly Agree	Not good	20.00 - 36.00

#### 2.4.2. Correlation Analysis

The correlation between perception and the characteristic of respondents was analyzed with Pearson's correlation coefficient [5]:

$$r = \frac{n(\sum xy) - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[n\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$

Pearson's correlation coefficient is a linear correlation coefficient that returns a value of between -1 and +1. A -1 means there is a strong negative correlation and +1 means that there is a strong positive correlation. The criteria are made to interpret the value of correlation coefficient obtained: 0.00-0.20 = very weak; 0.21-0.40 = weak; 0.41-0.60 = moderate; 0.61-0.80 = strong; 0.81-1.00 = very strong [6].

The simplest formula for computing the appropriate *t* value to test significance of a correlation coefficient employs the *t* distribution:

$$t = r\sqrt{\frac{n-2}{1-r^2}}$$

The degrees of freedom for entering the *t*-distribution is *n* - 2.

Prior to analysis, all questionnaire data were entered into a database using Microsoft Excel. Data were copied into a statistical software package (SPSS-24 software) and the results were presented in verbal or in tabular form.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1. Characteristic of Respondent

The age of respondents was ranged of 17-65-year-old with dependent family member of 1-3 persons. They mostly originated from ethnic groups of Banjar, Java and Bugis. The major types of fishing gears used are long-lines and trammel nets, which being used for 20-25 times a month. Long-lines and trammel nets are considered as environmentally friendly fishing gears [7, 8] and research on these gears continuous to be developed [9, 10]. Most of them did not complete elementary school so that the interview process was carried out carefully to avoid misunderstanding.

### 3.2. Fishermen's Perception

The overall perceptions of the respondents toward independent fishermen insurance program at all stages were categorized as 'Good'. The estimated values were observed for socialization 69.38%, implementation 75.38% and benefit gained 70.01% (Table 3).

**Table3.** Descriptive fishermen's perceptions on independent fishermen insurance program

Socialization		Score	Mean	P	Category
1.	Procedure to get fisherman's insurance	110	3.44	68.75	Good
2.	Annual insurance claim offers	112	3.50	70.00	Good
Average				<b>69.38</b>	Good
Implementation					
1.	Assessment of fishermen's insurance program	127	3.97	79.38	Good
2.	Transfer of fishermen's insurance program from subsidies to independent	110	3.44	68.75	Good
3.	Payment of premium to independent fishermen's insurance program	116	3.63	72.50	Good
4.	The Government Decree on fishermen's insurance program	124	3.88	77.50	Good
5.	The Government's role in the claim process for the fishermen's insurance program	126	3.94	78.75	Good
Average				<b>75.38</b>	Good
Benefits					
1.	Usefulness of fishermen's insurance program	123	3.84	76.88	Good
2.	Claims for fishermen's insurance participant	101	3.16	63.13	Quite good
Average				<b>70.01</b>	Good

*P = the respondent's attitudes/opinions/perceptions (%)*

### 3.3. Correlation Between Two Variables

**Table4.** The estimated values of Pearson's correlation coefficients (*r*) to express the correlation between perception and characteristic of the respondents

Correlation Variables		N	r	Score range	Category	Sig.
Perception	Extension	32	0.31	0.21-0.40	Weak	P > 0.05
Extension	Socialization	32	0.22	0.21-0.40	Weak	P > 0.05
Perception	Age	32	-0.11	0.00-0.20	Very weak	P > 0.05
Age	Benefit	32	-0.05	0.00-0.20	Very weak	P > 0.05
Perception	Dependent of the family	32	0.06	0.00-0.20	Very weak	P > 0.05
Dependent of the family	Benefit	32	0.00	0.00-0.20	Very weak	P > 0.05

Table 4 showed the overall estimated values of Pearson's correlation coefficients. There was a low positive correlation between fishermen's perception and extension activities ( $r = 0.31$ ) or between extension and socialization activities ( $r = 0.22$ ). This implies that fishermen were still willing to actively participate in extension and socialization activities of insurance program held by related agencies (e.g. fisheries services, extension workers and PT. Jasindo), although there was no significant relationship between the two variables. Positive correlation was also found between fishermen's perception and family dependent ( $r = 0.06$ ), however, the relationship between them was considered very weak and not statistically significant. No correlation between family dependents and benefits was observed ( $r = 0.00$ ), it means that data has a very weak linear relationship. The other side, we found a negative correlation either between perception and age ( $r = -0.11$ ) or between age and benefits ( $r = -0.05$ ) and it was considered as very weak relationship. According to Chaigneau [11], the people's perceptions were mostly affected by one's opinions on a situation, fact or action. Perception of fishermen can also be influenced by their socio-economic characteristics [12].

Implementation of insurance program was acceptable by the registered fishermen. They agree to transfer the subsidized fishermen insurance to independent one because the insurance premium was only paid for 75,000 - 175,000 IDR/year and it can be adjusted to the ability of the fishermen themselves. This is in accordance with the government's regulation to encourage the fishermen to take

part in this insurance program in order to protect themselves from uncertain risk at sea. It has been proven by other fishermen from a neighboring village that successfully claimed and got benefits from this insurance when members of fisher's group die or got accident at the sea. The *heirs were* entitled to receive *insurance* benefits. *Clarity, consistency*, and completeness of *information about* this insurance program are becoming the key factors in the success of the program [3]. Therefore, the content of extension and outreach materials related to this insurance program should be easy to understand and interesting [13]. At the same time, technical competency of fisheries instructors should also be improved [14].

#### 4. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the perceptions on independent fishermen insurance program was categorized as 'Good', indicating that insurance program was acceptable and beneficial for them. About 67% of relationship between characteristic and perception of the respondents was positively correlated, ranging from 'weak' to 'very weak', but *not differed significantly* between the two variables.

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