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Poverty of Small-Scale Fishermen in Indonesia: Towards Achieving Golden Indonesia 2045

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ABSTRACT

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poverty of fishermen, Golden Indonesia, blue economy, small fishermen, coastal areas. This study aims to describe and analyze the poverty profile of small fishermen in coastal areas of Indonesia in achieving Golden Indonesia in 2045. The phenomena of poverty, backwardness, weak human resources, limited access to the economy, especially business capital credit, and education levels are the subjects of this study. The analytical descriptive approach is used as a research model. Data is obtained from competent institutions and is related to the topic of discussion. Data analysis was conducted qualitatively. The results of the study showed that the number of poor people is around 25.22 million or 9% of the total population. It is a major program that must be completed to realize a developed Indonesia. Economic empowerment of coastal areas is carried out to reduce the number of small-scale fishermen in poverty. Various government policies for small fishermen have been implemented even though they are not yet optimal in terms of implementation and targeted results. The population of fishermen is increasing while the number of households working as fishermen is decreasing. The use of fishing gear that is prohibited by the government because it is not environmentally friendly has begun to decrease and is even no longer used by fishermen. It is recommended that the evaluation of the socio-economic empowerment program for small fishermen be evaluated for its effectiveness in significantly reducing the poverty rate of fishermen.

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1. Introduction.

1.1. Research background.

Indonesia is an archipelagic country that has a coastline along the islands stretching from Sabang to Merauke. It has the greatest potential in the fisheries sector and the axis of the world's maritime economy. implementing sustainable development through the blue economy program, it is hoped that it will have a significant impact on the socio-economy of the community, especially those living in coastal areas. The maritime economic sector contributes to the country's economic growth which must continue to be optimally pursued by the government and all levels of society. The seriousness to maintain

marine wealth and natural resources through various programs continues to be launched to achieve the development goals and targets of Indonesia Emas 2045. The sectoral approach according to Karani and Failler, (2020) is the key to economic development with the potential to generate income, create jobs, and reduce poverty in the marine economic sector.

Over the past five years, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of fisheries has continued to increase both at Constant Prices (ADHK) and at Current Prices (ADHB). In 2022, the GDP of Fisheries ADHK reached IDR 275.5 trillion, an increase of 15.44 percent compared to 2018 which was IDR 238.6 trillion. Meanwhile, the GDP of Fisheries ADHB increased by 30.88 percent from IDR 385.9 trillion in 2018 to IDR 505.1 trillion in 2022. On the export side, the fisheries sector is one of the country's foreign exchange sources, Indonesia is one of the largest fish-producing and exporting countries in the world. In 2022, the volume of Indonesian fishery exports reached 1.22 million tons, or worth US\$6.24 billion. This export volume

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increased by 8.8 percent compared to the previous five years, namely 2018, which was 1.13 million tons or worth US\$4.86 billion (BPS-Statistics Indonesia, 2023). Based on data released by the BPS-Statistics Indonesia, it can be seen that; Indonesia is one of the world's food sources from marine exports abroad. This is in line with the statements of Lofstedt, de Roos, and Fernandes, (2021); N'Souvi et al., (2021); (Teh et al., 2020), fishery products play an important role in global food security, especially in developing countries. Shamsuzzaman et al., (2020) explained that the contribution of the fisheries sector can improve the country's economy. Apriyeni, Heryanto, and Helia, (2024) explained that fishery products contribute to the regional economy.

Stebbings et al., (2020) explained that; the maritime sector contributes greatly to the country's economy and absorbs labor. The Indonesian government has set the achievement of Indonesia Emas 2045 to focus on the maritime economic sector with a contribution of 12.5% to GDP. The poverty target is 0%. While the poverty rate in September 2023 was 1.74%, it is hoped that in 2045 poverty can decrease to only 0.5 - 0.8 %. Like- wise with the human capital index score, in 2045 the expected score will reach 0.73 %. To achieve this score, supporting pro- grams are implemented, namely: education, training and development, understanding of technology, and better public health (Ministry of National Development Planning, 2019).

As a source of world food, the maritime economic sector is highly dependent on the resources it has. Especially crucial factors are the people who are directly involved in marine economic development activities. The involvement of coastal communities that depend on marine resources for their livelihoods is ongoing. Ambari, (2022) statement, that coastal communities are identical to poor and slum areas. Extreme poverty must be resolved immediately through economic empowerment and community productivity programs, which focus on jobs, and community businesses with small or micro and medium categories (SMEs). Judge, (2021) the importance of profitable marketing for fishermen. A study conducted by; Ummanah et al., (2022) explains that; fishing households optimize the role of family members in overcoming poverty, implementing a dual income pattern by allocating labor to various types of jobs, facilitating diversification of fishing gear, utilizing productive organizations by actively participating in groups, and having social relations for their existence. Secretariat of the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, (2021) explained that 69.34% of community empowerment areas are coastal areas. The forms of programs implemented are basic food assistance, direct cash assistance, BLT-DD, People's Business Credit, Pre-Employment Cards, development of advanced fishing villages.

Their profession as fishermen requires them to preserve the sea so that they can always obtain economic benefits to fulfill their living needs. Fisherman is a profession carried out by coastal communities from generation to generation. When viewed from the perspective of achieving Golden Indonesia 2045, the young generation of fishermen's sons and daughters are the next holders of the baton. Mastery of science and technology for the younger generation as a pillar of progress in the marine

and fisheries sector.

The current condition of the lives of fishermen is still poor, including those vulnerable to poverty. Although attention is focused on the lives of fishermen through the blue economy policy in the marine development program. Poverty is an issue that continues to color the lives of fishermen so real ef- forts are needed so that poverty does not become an obstacle to achieving advanced Indonesia or golden Indonesia 2045. One of the determining indicators for achieving economic prosperity is low poverty or the absence of poor households. Fishermen's poverty is often faced with obstacles such as weather and climate change. This factor causes fishermen's catches to decrease and fishermen do not even go to sea because natural conditions are not supportive. Therefore, this study is important to be conducted considering the role of the marine and fisheries sector is expected to contribute to national income. On the other hand, the actors in the sector are small fishermen whose numbers are large and are in an economic condition that is vulnerable to poverty, and poverty can hinder the achievement of the progress of Indonesia Emas 2045. At the same time, it is an indicator of economic progress and prosperity in 100 years of independence, namely; low poverty rates even reaching 0%.

2. Research Methodology.

This study uses a qualitative research design which is presented in a descriptive analytical manner. The data used comes from official institutions that are competent concerning the research topic being conducted. Literature studies were conducted through online library studies. Field observations in coastal areas are carried out directly. Presentation of data in the form of tables, graphs, images, and photos obtained during observations during the research. Data analysis was carried out using qualitative methods through stages that ended with a summary of the final results of this study.

3. Research Results and Discussion.

3.1. Poverty Profile of Indonesia.

The achievement of Golden Indonesia in 2045 is the great hope of all Indonesian people. Coinciding with 100 years of independence, prosperity, and welfare, a sovereign and just advanced Indonesia is the main focus by emphasizing low poverty rates and even with the idea of no more poor families in Indonesia. Several benchmarks in achieving community welfare and prosperity are on the government's agenda, including; reducing poverty rates, the intelligence of nations' children, advancing science and technology, increasing economic growth, equitable development throughout the archipelago, and a corruption-free Indonesia. The crucial thing that must be addressed quickly is the number of poor people, both in rural and urban areas. The following is data on the poor population in Indonesia released by the BPS-Statistics Indonesia (2024), namely:

Table 1: Profil Poverty in Indonesia March 2024.

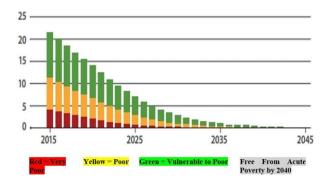
No	Region/ Indonesia	Year	Number of Poor People (Million)	Percentage of Poor Population (%)
	Urban	March 2024	11.64	7.09
	Rural	March 2024	13.58	11.79
	Total	March 2024	25.22	9.03
No	Poor Households/Year	Poverty Line (Rp/capita/month)	Average Member of Poor Household	Poor Household Poverty Line (Rp/household/month)
	March 2024	582,932	4.78	2,786,415

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia, 2024.

Based on Table 1, there are 25.22 million poor people or around 9.03% of the total population in Indonesia. With an average number of household members of 4.78 % the poverty line is IDR. 2,786,415, which is calculated based on basic needs expenditure in one month.

In 2045 the government plans for Indonesia to be free from acute poverty and create a healthy, intelligent, prosperous, just, and prosperous Indonesian people. The following is the predicted data for poverty reduction in Indonesia, planned for 2045 with a poverty rate of 0%.

Figure 1: Projection of Poverty Levels in 2045.



Source: Ministry of National Development Planning, 2019.

Based on Figure 1, it can be seen that the number of poor people in Indonesia continues to decrease, from a state of extreme poverty to being free from acute poverty in 2040 and no more poverty in 2045 at the moment of 100 years of Indonesian independence or Golden Indonesia.

The vision of a golden Indonesia is an intelligent generation, that has high knowledge and insight and masters advanced technology. The ratio of the number of people attending school from elementary school and college continues to increase. The following data on the number of school and college participation are;

Based on Table 2, the population achievement in college participation is 60% and Indonesia is free from illiteracy with all residents accessing basic education. The improvement in education levels will increase progress in regional technology and innovation. Collaboration between institutions to improve inno-

Table 2: Percentage of School and College Participation Rates in Indonesia.

	School Participation Rate											
Region	7-12			13-15			16-18			19-24		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Indonesia (Now)	99.19	99.1	99.16	95.99	95.92	96.1	73.09	73.15	73.42	26.01	25.99	26.85
		I	ligher l	Educati	on Part	icipati	on Rate	e 2015-2	2045			
Indonesia	2015			2025			2035			2045		
Gold 2045	29.39%			35%		50%		60%				

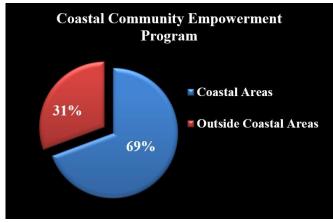
Source: Ministry of National Development Planning, 2019.

vation and technology was conveyed by Yan et al., (2015), for the benefit of coastal areas, innovators are needed through affiliations with educational institutions, corporate cooperation, universities and scientific research organizations, the private sector and research institutions.

3.2. Empowerment of Poor Communities in Coastal Areas.

The problem of poverty is a major issue that the government continues to address. One of the government programs that is of concern is the empowerment of coastal communities, especially fishermen. The relatively high poverty rate colors the lives of fishermen in Indonesia, especially small-scale fishermen. Pooja et al., (2023) stated that the standard of living of fishermen and inadequate facilities. Play a role in state revenue but live in poverty. Therefore, the government is trying to empower the community's economy, as an effort to escape from the cycle of poverty. The targets of the community's economic empowerment program carried out by the government can be seen in Figure 2 as follows:

Figure 2: Percentage of Community Empowerment Programs in Coastal Areas.



Source: Secretariat of the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia. 2021.

In Figure 2, most (69%) of empowerment programs are carried out in coastal communities and the remaining 31% are communities outside the coast. Thus, it can be understood that

coastal communities have very crucial conditions as empowerment priorities. This program is a government effort to eradicate poverty which will be a barrier to achieving welfare and prosperity in 2045. The government has an important role according to Susilowati and Mafruhah, (2023) in community empowerment.

Along the coast of the Indonesian Archipelago, some people work as fishermen. The job of a fisherman is not easy to switch to another job. So when the weather changes and is not conducive to going to sea, fishermen remain patient and wait for the weather to improve. Because fishing households expect their main income to come from marine products. Some are sold fresh and some are processed into dried fish products. Kumar et al., (2022) found that fishing households lack human capital, have poor sanitation facilities, and often suffer from disease. Income is very limited because they do not have training in socio-economic activities, only relying on fishing. Therefore, their financial capital is very lacking and is ranked lowest among other livelihood capitals. However, based on the publication of data, the number of fishermen's households is decreasing. The decrease in the number of fishermen's households can be seen in Table 3, below;

Table 3: The Number of Marine Capture Fisheries Households /Establishments y Island, 2018-2022.

ISLAND			INCREASING AVERAGE (%)				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018-2022	2021-2022
Sumatra	149,531	222,749	263,749	227,278	196,692	10.02	-13.46
Java	109,500	170,175	238,251	185,754	199,163	20.15	7.22
Bali-Southeast Nusa Tenggara	64,801	94,393	126,274	114,383	97,711	13.86	-14.58
Kalimantan	71,393	81,084	114,037	102,783	85,962	7.00	-16.37
Sulawesi	223,245	229,634	291,674	236,102	221,648	1.18	-6.12
Maluku-Papua	104,161	165,505	164,636	153,748	119,046	7.30	-22.57
Total	722,631	963,540	1,198,621	1,020,048	920,222	8.26	-9.79

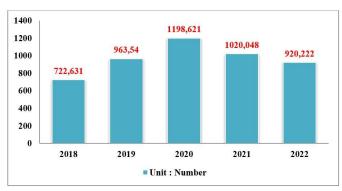
Source: Marine And Fisheries In Figures, 2024.

Based on Table 3, it can be seen that of the six islands in the archipelago, only Java saw a steady increase in the number of fishermen from 2018 to 2022, with an average positive increase. While other islands experienced a decrease in the number of fishing households. In Figure 2 below, it can be seen in the graph of the decrease in the number of fishing households in Indonesia.

When viewed based on the number of residents who have jobs as fishermen continues to increase even though the number of fishing households is decreasing. The following data on the number of fishermen in Indonesia can be seen in Figure 4;

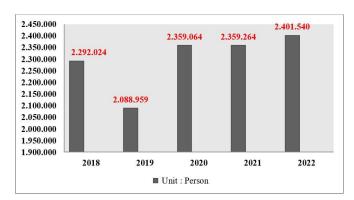
In 2024, there were 2,401,540 fishermen recorded, spread throughout Indonesia. From 2018 to 2022 the number of fishermen will be above two million people. The profession of fishermen continues to grow because the products caught by fishermen are food commodities for the community as a source of affordable protein. Fishermen's skills as sailors in fishing are difficult to change to other jobs. Fishermen to the results of the study by Anna et al., (2019) have an optimistic attitude in living their lives. Even in developing countries, according to Alati et al., (2023); Lekshmi et al., (2022) female fishermen depend more on the fisheries sector. Fisheries remain an im-

Figure 3: The Number Of Capture Fisheries Households (Unit: Number).



Source: Marine And Fisheries In Figures, 2024.

Figure 4: The Number of Fishers By Capture Fisheries Sub Sector, 2018 - 2022.



Source: Marine And Fisheries In Figures, 2024.

portant source of food, income, and livelihoods for hundreds of millions of people worldwide (N'Souvi et al., 2021). It is a significant coastal livelihood activity throughout the region (Fabinyi et al., 2022).

3.3. Green Maritime Economy.

The maritime sector is a priority sector in economic development. Sustainable development is supported by environmental preservation to provide stable results for the community. Biodiversity must be well maintained. Environmental carrying capacity is continuously maintained to continue to provide optimal results and benefits. The poor coastal population must be empowered economically and with environmental knowledge so as not to exploit excessive resources that are not environmentally friendly. The government regulates the use of fishing gear that is not environmentally friendly because it will result in environmental damage and disrupt the sustainability of development. Some fishing gear that is prohibited from being used has begun to decrease and some are even no longer used at all. The following data on fishing gear that is prohibited from being used by fishermen is in the following data:

Table 4: Use of Fishing Gear Prohibited by the Government.

FIGHING CEAD					Increasing average (100%)		
FISHING GEAR	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022	2021-2022	
Barred Bottom Trawl	3,000	12,443	8,750	3,092	73.47	-64.66	
Prawn Bottom Trawl, Prawn Trawl	3,966	7,072	8,062	5,185	18.88	-35.69	
Dogol	9,082	8,990	7,657	5,442	-14.92	-28.93	
Trawl	5,819	11,515	5,234	7,110	26.39	35.84	
Basic Lampara	3,146	3,222	4,669	3,094	4.53	-33.73	
Pair Seines	900	1,018	982	815	-2.48	-17.01	
Twin Planked Trawl	5	25	134	0	245.33	-100	
Muro Ami	154	165	127	107	-10.55	-15.75	
Two-Vessel Mid-Sea Trawl	9	17	91	0	141.39	-100.00	
Two Boat Bottom Trawl	60	60	58	0	-34.44	-100.00	
Jumping Fish Trap	250	87	35	11	-64.51	-68.57	

Source: Marine And Fisheries In Figures, 2024; Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, 2023.

Based on Table 4, the fishing gear that is prohibited from being used is the trawl, which is recorded as still being used at around 35.84%. Meanwhile, the use of other fishing gear has begun to decrease, and some have even stopped using it in 2022, such as; Twin Plank Trawl, Two-Ship Mid-Trawl, and Jumping Fish Traps. Lofstedt et al., (2021) need to avoid excessive exploitation of fishery resources. Apriyeni and Wati, (2022) suggest improving fishing gear to optimize catch results and be environmentally friendly.

3.4. Small-Scale Fishermen Business Credit.

The government pays great attention to small fishermen by helping to provide business capital loans. Considering that fishermen need supplies while at sea and other operational costs. Through the Business Capital Management Institution (LPMU-KP), the government disburses credit to small fishermen. Although the absorption of credit funds for fishermen has not been optimal, this effort continues to be improved so that the lives of fishermen become better and more decent. Barsoum, (2021) highlights that capital in the form of human, financial, and social determines the parameters of fishermen's lives. Pomeroy et al., (2020) explained that financial inclusion can help reduce various vulnerabilities of poor fishing households and rural communities in increasing economic resilience. The following is the distribution of credit from the Marine and Fisheries Service through the Business Capital Management Institution (LPMUKP) in Table 5.

Table 5: Distribution of Cheap Credit Maritime and Fisheries Business Capital Management Institution (LPMUKP).

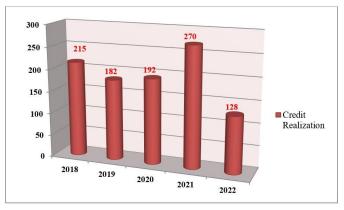
Credit Amount	Year							
Credit Amount (Billion Rupiah)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022			
(Dimon Rupiun)	215	182	192	270	128			

Source: Gunawan, 2023.

Based on Table 5, it can be seen that the credit provided is still fluctuating and there has been a decline in 2022.

Of the total credit disbursed for the fisheries sector, the percentage of absorption capacity is 35% by capture fisheries. Of course, this amount is still inadequate to empower small fishermen to capture fisheries. Sustainability of empowerment through

Figure 5: Distribution of LPMUKP Credit for Capture Fishermen.



Source: Gunawan, 2023.

credit provision still needs to be the main focus and improvements in its implementation management. Evaluation is needed regarding the *effectiveness* of the impact of providing credit. Pomeroy et al., (2020) explained that several barriers to financial inclusion for small-scale fishing households include limited financial capabilities and literacy, lack of assets as collateral, geographical distance from financial institutions, and lack of formal identification. Meanwhile, Su, Song, and Umar, (2021) suggest policy suggestions and motivate the government to form an appropriate financial system to encourage marine economic growth.

3.5. Government Policy.

3.5.1. Government concern for small fishermen.

Through government policies aimed at small fishermen, by taking a socio-economic approach, several important points are summarized as follows;

1. Solar subsidy.

The government provides diesel subsidies for small fishermen with vessels up to 30 GT. The purpose of this subsidy is to ease the operational costs of fishermen in fishing because the largest component in the cost is the use of diesel around 60% of all costs incurred.

- 2. Limited Fishing Areas (DPI). This policy aims to limit fishing areas for small fishing vessels and maintain the sustainability of natural resources, especially fisheries so that they are protected from environmental damage.
- 3. The government pays attention to capital for small fishermen by establishing fishermen's cooperatives as a forum for fishermen to obtain business credit. And is a form of manifestation of the people's economy which is the center of joint business progress for fishermen as cooperative members.
- 4. There are a lot of small fishermen in Indonesia. So the number of ports that are adequate to be applied as a place to land the fishermen's catch is not yet adequate. Therefore, fishermen are given the freedom to land their ships

- at easily accessible fishery centers to be more efficient in the operations carried out.
- 5. In carrying out fishing activities, small fishermen are given privileges, and free fishing between zones, in other words, small fishermen are given the freedom to carry out activities in all zones. The following is in Table 6, fish- ing zones that can be accessed by small-scale fishermen, namely;

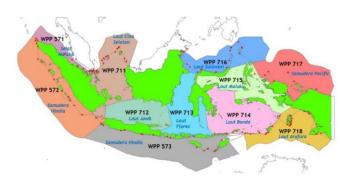
Table 6: Small Fishermen's Catch Zones/Areas in Indonesia.

Zone	WPP	Fisheries Management Area
Zone 01	WPP 711	Karimata Strait, Natuna Sea, and South China Sea
Zone 02	WPP 716 and WPP 717	Sulawesi Sea and Northern of Halmahera Island. Cendrawasih Bay and The Pacific Ocean
Zone 03	WPP 715, WPP 718 and WPP 714	Tomini Bay, Maluku Sea, Halmahera Sea, Seram Sea and Berau Bay Arafuru Sea and Eastern of Timor Sea Tolo Bay and Banda Sea
Zone 04	WPP 572 and WPP 573	Indian Ocean of Western Sumatra and Sunda Strait Indian Ocean of Southern Java, Southern Nusa Tenggara, Sawu Sea, and Western Timor Sea
Zone 05	WPP 571	Malacca Strait and The Andaman Sea
Zone 06	WPP 712 and WPP 713	Java Sea Makassar Sea, Bone Bay, Flores Sea, and Bali Sea

Source: Marine And Fisheries In Figures, 2024.

The location based on the catchment zone can be more clearly shown in Figure 6:

Figure 6: Indonesian Fisheries Management Area.



Source: Galuh, 2021.

Based on the analysis explained previously, several important points can be drawn to achieve the goal of advanced Indonesia or Golden Indonesia in 2045. Starting with the poverty of small-scale fishermen, various efforts are needed to overcome this poverty, including; infrastructure development for fishermen, in the form of ports for fishing boats, modern and hygienic fish markets, increasing human resources for small fishermen, empowering the economy, and strengthening institutions. As expressed by Fujiani, and Prayogo, (2022) the factors causing poverty in fishermen are; technological factors, education, and strategies for poverty alleviation.

Furthermore, the government as the policy holder provides access to advanced technology in fishing so that fishermen's catches can increase. Then provide training to small fishermen. So that the fishermen's abilities increase, especially with concerning marketing the catch obtained. The concept of poor

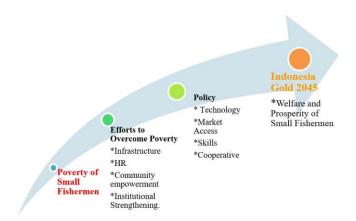
Figure 7: Port Profile and Landing of Fishing Boats in West Sumatra.



Source: Authors.

small-scale fishermen through various efforts made and policies implemented by the government can encourage the welfare of fishermen and economic prosperity towards a golden Indonesia is as follows:

Figure 8: Conceptual Framework for Alleviating Poverty among Small-Scale Fishermen.



Source: Authors.

Based on Figure 8, the poverty alleviation program through the stages carried out, the target of Indonesia Emas 2045 can be achieved. The welfare and economic prosperity of small fishermen are a real manifestation of the realization of the nation's ideals. Advanced and sovereign, just and prosperous Indonesia. According to Fikri, Cahyo, and Deviani, (2023), the assistance programs rolled out by the government have proven to be quite helpful in overcoming the economic problems of the community. However, it is not yet sufficient to overcome the problem of poverty structurally, especially for fishing communities.

Conclusions.

The hopes and aspirations to achieve prosperity and welfare for all Indonesian people are the vision of Golden Indonesia 2045. The lives of people who are still living in poverty are a challenge that must be faced by all elements of the nation. Especially the lives of small fishermen in coastal areas throughout the archipelago. The government has implemented various programs and policies to address the problem of poverty among small fishermen through the socio-economic empowerment of coastal areas. So that the number of poor and vulnerable people is reduced. The fewer the number of poor people, the closer the ideals of welfare and prosperity for all people are achieved, which is the target of Indonesia Emas 2045. The effectiveness of the socio-economic empowerment that has been carried out is re-evaluated so that this empowerment program can significantly reduce the poverty rate of small fishermen.

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