

Analysis of the Government's Role in Empowering Fishermen Communities in Majene District

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ABSTRACT

Poverty is a problem that is currently still a problem in the lives of fishing communities . This article aims to analyze the role of the government in empowering fishing communities in Majene Regency as well as the obstacles of the local government in empowering fishing communities. This writing uses the descriptive method. Data collection techniques using interviews, observation, and documentation then the data obtained will be analyzed using qualitative techniques. The results showed that the role of the local government in empowering fishing communities was not optimal, while several empowerment programs carried out by the local government included training and fostering fisherman and fishermen's wives, mentoring field extension workers, and assistance with facilities and infrastructure. Meanwhile, the obstacles that become obstacles to the local government include budgets and binding regulations,

Keywords: Empowering, fisherman, poverty, problem, training

INTRODUCTION

In carrying out the government system in Indonesia, one of the functions carried out by the government is empowerment, the function of government empowerment is various innovations by using human resources as a driver accompanied by natural resources as supporters that are used to meet the needs of independence. One of the government policies used in implementing the empowerment function is to regulate the people's economy.

This is considered important because, with the existence of the people's economic system in cooperation, it is hoped that it can foster independence and freedom for the people in meeting their needs and improving their welfare. There are still many fishing communities that have not been able to improve their welfare and live in poverty (Wahyuni, 2020).

Poverty is a problem that is currently still a problem in the lives of fishing communities (Syaekhu, 2018; Gratitude, 2013a). During several decades of development, the picture of fishermen, in general, is still poor with slum houses, living far from being well-off, while fishing businesses themselves or other businesses related to the marine sector are not doing well. This fact is of course very ironic, considering that poverty occurs amid our abundance of fishery products.

The poverty that plagues fishermen's lives is caused by complex factors (Hasdinawati, Ernawati, & Wahid, 2021). These factors are not only related to fluctuations in fish seasons, limited human resources, capital and access, and exploitative fish trading networks for fishermen as producers but also due to the negative impact of fishery modernization which encourages excessive depletion of marine resources (Douglas, 2021; Susilo, Purwanti, Fattah, Qurrata, & Narmaditya, 2021). This process is still ongoing and a further impact that is felt by fishermen is the decreasing level of their education and the difficulty of obtaining catches (Agustang, Syukur,

& Ahmad, 2009; Amrullah, 2018; Syaekhu, 2017). The results of studies on the level of living welfare among fishing communities have shown that poverty and socio-economic inequality or income inequality are crucial problems faced by fishermen and are not easy to overcome (Moses, 2021; Wilen, 1979)

The modernization of fisheries, which is popularly known as the “blue revolution”, has formed a grouping of people into (1) the rich and the very rich and (2) the middle, the poor, and the very poor. Quantitatively, the second group is the largest of the fishing communities.

By paying attention to the structure of the fishing community, it is clear that for their welfare the most appropriate way is to raise their dignity from their social structure as laborers to become owners of capital or market rulers. Based on the existing social structure of fishing institutions such as boats, fishing gear, and crew as well as the concepts of empowering fishermen, it can be done.

Socio-economic disparities and poverty in fishing communities have formed stratification, although this has not led to social popularization based on class lines because these gaps can still be bridged and neutralized strongly by existing traditional institutions (Shaekhu, 2018)(Gratitude, 2013b).

It is difficult to escape from the shackles of poverty because they are afflicted by several limitations in the quality of human resources, access to and mastery of technology, markets, and capital. Policies and implementation of development programs for communities in coastal areas are still not optimal in breaking the chains of poverty and improving their welfare (Kusnadi 2009).

Chambers who has been quoted by Wisadirana (2021)describes poverty as a condition that arises as a result of situations of injustice, uncertainty, inequality, and dependence on the structure of society. According to Chambers, five elements cause poverty, namely powerlessness, vulnerability or vulnerability, physical weakness, poverty, and alienation. The cause of poverty is termed by the Chamber as a poverty trap.

In the context of marine and fisheries, the deprivation trap described by Chambers is in line with what Karim described, which has been quoted by Yulianti & Goenadhi (2017) revealed six (6) problems of fishermen's poverty, namely first, strong structural pressures originating from the Indonesian government's policy in developing the fisheries sub-sector (powerlessness). Second, dependence in the form of a patron-client relationship between the owners of production factors and fishermen's labors and the dependence of fishermen on environmental conditions (vulnerability and powerlessness). Third, is the occurrence of overexploitation of fishery resources due to uncontrolled modernization (poverty). Fourth, is the occurrence of agrarian conflicts, namely the usurpation of traditional fishing areas by modern fishing companies, which are areas where traditional fishermen operate. Fifth, the phenomenon of "compradorism" caused by capitalism's intervention in fishing communities resulted in the fragmentation of fishing activities that were previously homogeneous into diverse. This diversity gave rise to new social formations, namely the existence of fishermen and ponggawa workers as well as changes in sources of income that were previously cultivated by themselves into wages given by the skipper. Here ponggawa is a class 'comprador' who acts as an 'accomplice' skipper. Sixth is the paradox of development in coastal areas caused by inequality in economic development (isolation).

Majene Regency seen from its geographical location is in the coastal area where there are many fishing communities. In general, Majene Regency is dominated by traditional fishermen, namely small-scale fishermen with the means of catching mostly small boats without motors or coastal fishermen. This greatly affects the catch and directly affects the income of fishermen, on the other hand not all fishermen have fishing gear facilities. These traditional fishermen only carry

out fishing activities to meet the needs of life so that to achieve it is said to be empowered and play an important role in increasing local revenue, it is still not optimal.

ProgramThe priority of the local government related to the empowerment of fishermen, namely the blue revolution, is actively and continuously carried out, one of which is by including at least 85 participants of fish processing business actors in the Finishing Furniture training in 2019 yesterday. In Regional Regulation No. 21 of 2015 Majene Regency concerning the Protection and Empowerment of Fishermen, it is explained that the government is obliged to carry out protection related to increasing economic welfare. Economic protection in question is protection related to improving welfare by providing facilities and conveniences for fishermen and fish cultivators to get physical assistance. This is to support the existence of people who make a living as fishermen in Majene Regency which has a large coastal area. However, in practice, there are still many fishing communities that do not receive physical assistance for fishing such as boats, and the lack of equal distribution of information obtained by fishing communities regarding training activities and assistance programs held by the government raises the question of the extent to which the local government plays a role. The Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Majene Regency in empowering fishing communities.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach and the type of approach is a case study, namely the analysis of the role of local government in empowering fishing communities in Majene Regency. This research has the characteristics of describing an actual situation, but the report is not just a report form but an event without a scientific interpretation and understands or gains an understanding of the phenomenon or symptom that is raised for in-depth research using descriptive methods. Data collection techniques are used using observation, interviews, and documentation, then the data obtained in the field will be analyzed using qualitative techniques. The informant in this study is a member of the participant group who acts as a director and translator of cultural content or actors who are directly involved with the research problem. Determination of key informants using purposive sampling technique, which is a subjective sampling technique with specific intent or purpose, which assumes that the informants taken have the information needed for the research to be carried out. The informants in this study were the Head of the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service, the Head of the Facilities and Infrastructure Section of the Marine and Fisheries Service, the Head of the Data and Information Section of the Marine and Fisheries Service, the Head of the Banggae Sub-district, the East Banggae Sub-district, the Pangali-Ali Village Head, Labuang Lurah, Lurah Baurung, fishing communities, and field extension workers. These informants will increase according to the case flow developed using the snowball method, which is a method for identifying, selecting, and taking samples in a network or continuous chain of relationships. The data analysis used is inductive qualitative which analysis is based on the data obtained. According to Miles & Huberman (1994) the analysis consists of three streams of activities that occur simultaneously, namely: data reduction, data presentation, conclusion drawing/verification.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Fishermen have their own characteristics. Fishermen face resources that are still open access. The characteristics of resources like this cause fishermen to have to move around to get maximum results, thus the element of risk becomes very high.

Policy Directions for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service in Efforts to Empower Fishermen Communities in Majene Regency

The direction of policies carried out by the government aims to create public welfare. In line with this, the Regional Government of Majene Regency through the Department of Fisheries and Marine Affairs carried out various government actions aimed at improving the welfare of the fishing community in Majene Regency. One of the functions of the government is to empower, the intended empowerment effort as quoted by Oos in his book, Slamet emphasizes that the essence of empowerment is how to make people able to build themselves and improve their own lives. This means that the Department of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries seeks to create fishing communities that can build their potential and improve their standard of living for the better.

Table 1.
List of Programs and Activities for the 2021 Regional Apparatus Work Plan

Program name	Target	Activity	Target
Empowerment of Small Fishermen in Regencies/Cities	Increase in capture fisheries production by 7%	Provision of small fisherman capacity	Increasing the Capacity of Small Fishermen
		Implementation of Facilitation for the Establishment and Development of Small Fishermen Institutions	The Formation and Development of Small Fisherman Groups
		Implementation of Funding Assistance Facilitation, Financing Assistance, Business Partnership	Number of Groups that Receive Funding Assistance Facilitation and Partner with Banking Institutions
		KUSUKA Registration and Fisherman Insurance	Number of e-KUSUKA Cards and Fisherman Insurance Distributed to Fishermen

Source: Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Based on table 1, it can be seen that several fishermen's community empowerment programs are carried out by the Marine Fisheries Service as an effort to improve the welfare of

fishing communities. The above program is carried out to optimize the Blue Revolution program which is a priority program for the Regional Government of Majene Regency for the 2016-2021 period in empowering fishing communities.

think this was also expressed by one of the informants who said that:

The maritime sector has shifted to the province so that the district government is limited if it is a marine problem. The district's authority focuses more on inland fisheries such as freshwater aquaculture, brackish water fish, seawater fish, ponds, ponds. The government is more focused on the cultivation of freshwater fish and brackish water fish cultivation because the cultivation of seawater fish using the karamba system is still very small due to budget constraints. Especially for fishermen because they are located in coastal areas and the majority of the population is fishermen, there is a fisherman empowerment program, for this fishermen empowerment program that can be done such as training regarding the fishermen themselves or fishermen's mothers for fish processing, socialization if there are policies or rules, especially regarding fisherman cards and fisherman insurance which is carried out every year, there is also guidance and guidance for fishermen,

Based on the results of interviews with the Head of the Department of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, information can be obtained that there have been efforts to empower fishing communities from the local government whose technical implementation is carried out by the Department such as conducting coaching and training for fishermen groups, training and coaching for fishermen mothers in fish processing, policy socialization or fisherman's identity card and fisherman's insurance card, group development through extension workers as well as assistance with facilities and infrastructure whose budget is obtained through APBD funds.

As a regional unit, the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service realizes that this effort to empower fishing communities is not only the responsibility of the Department but all stakeholders down to the village level as a regional apparatus unit that best understands fishing communities in their environment. For this reason, the involvement of the Camat, Lurah, and extension workers is a supporting factor in optimizing the efforts of local governments in empowering fishing communities. As stated by one of the following informants:

In initiating and exploring all government activities related to the blue revolution, because if fishermen are in the vision and mission of the Majene Regent, namely the Blue Revolution, how to empower and improve welfare in coastal areas. In this regard, the government of course does not break with the coordination and communication carried out by each stakeholder, especially within the scope of the sub-district of Banggae, village, and villages. The positions of these 6 sub-districts and 2 villages are Pangali-ali as a coastal area, new sub-district, Rangas sub-district, and Palipi Soreang village, the rest are on land. Even though there are coastal areas that are stakeholders in the marine and fisheries service and all program activities carried out are sourced from the service. If there is an activity carried out and a notification is received, agencies provide more response to support, and if asked for cooperation we are ready. We appreciate activities that can revive the pattern of empowerment and increase the economic status of fishermen, especially now that the Covid-19 outbreak has proven that there is a bias, therefore fishermen are also vulnerable, meaning that it affects their lives of fishermen. But because of the demands of life, they still have to go to sea. There is still coordination

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From the information above, it is increasingly clear that the local government mobilizes all stack holders to the sub-district level to participate as did the Camat Banggae who provides support through responding to activities carried out by fishermen, one of which is by attending training events aimed at fishermen. From the explanation above, it is also known that the local government must also be present as a supporter as followed by Soharto in the empowerment approach, one of which is through support, which means providing guidance and support so that the community is able to carry out their roles and life tasks. Empowerment must be able to support the community so that they do not fall into conditions and positions that are increasingly weak and marginalized. With the support of the local government,

In line with this, the presence of extension workers is also an important factor in maximizing the policy direction carried out by the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service in an effort to empower fishing communities. As quoted from the following interview:

In general, the role of the extension worker is to provide assistance, to complete the administration by first forming a group in accordance with the existing requirements, then coaching is carried out by visiting the field to see what activities are being carried out, what the fishermen need, with the agency as much as possible to assist or assist in making proposals. Various assistance from the center or the province, if indeed from the center or the province must have a regional notary deed as well. After that, the proposal is sent to the verification department, where a verification team goes to the field together with extension workers to monitor where the secretariat is for the fisherman groups who submit proposals for assistance. Extension assistance is carried out until the fishermen receive assistance and monitor how the assistance is used to its full potential.

From the information above, it can be concluded that the presence of extension workers is also an important factor in the success or failure of the Department's efforts in empowering fishing communities. Extension workers as a liaison for the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service to fishing communities, conveying good information, precisely on the target of assistance provided, is the responsibility of extension workers in the field.

Table 2.
List of Extension Officers and Work Area

Extension Name	Working area
Rosmaladewi A.Md.Pi	District. Proud and Kec. East Bangge
Moh. Aris Idris, S. Pi	District. Malunda
Moh. Arfah, S. Pi	District. Tubo Sendana and Kec. Ulumanda
Ahdiat, S.Pi, M.Si	District. Sendana
Saharuddi, S.Pi, M.Si	District. Pamboang
Muh. Syaifuddin Alimuddin, S. Kel	District. Tammeroddo

Source: Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Apart from coaching and training, and assisting extension workers in administrative management, there are also facilities and infrastructure assistance that are no less important in helping fishing communities to go to sea. Citing a statement from a community empowerment expert, Payne, who stated that empowerment is essentially aimed at helping clients gain the power to make decisions and determine the actions they will take related to themselves, including reducing the effects of personal and social barriers in taking action. This facility and infrastructure assistance helps fishermen as clients to take actions that will help themselves as fishermen. As quoted in the following interview:

Assistance from DAK funds in the form of buoys, dip lights, radio communications, GPS, Fishpinder, boats under 3 GT and 4 GT. DAK funds cannot procure boats of 5 GT and above. So if the province holds boats of 5 GT and above. In fact, if you look at the assistance provided so far, it will have a positive impact on fishermen. This assistance is very helpful, especially for fishermen who cannot afford to buy boats because they are constrained by funds, and the impact is that fishermen can go further in search of fish, which previously only used lopi-lopi boats, but finally they can cross districts such as to Makassar, Donggala, not only in Majene Regency. looking for the fish"

Based on interview excerpts, it is known that the assistance of these facilities and infrastructure is very helpful for fishermen to be able to go to sea to further places and of course the types of fish that can be caught are also diverse, not only the types of fish that are usually obtained if only fishing in the area. Majene district only.

But not infrequently, this facility and infrastructure assistance backfired for the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service among fishing communities because many assessments from fishing communities argued that the distribution of facilities and infrastructure assistance had not been evenly distributed among fishing communities, as quoted from the following interview:

So far, there has been no support for facilities and infrastructure, was once part of a group, but there is assistance. There are people around who can get help, but have not personally received help. Have participated in training on fishermen who received information from extension workers. As a fisherman for more than 10 years.

Based on information from one of the fishermen, it turns out that the distribution of aid so far has not been evenly distributed because there are fishermen who can and some have not received any assistance at all since becoming fishermen. The absence of equal distribution of facilities and infrastructure assistance is homework for the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service to immediately resolve this inequality problem. This was also answered by the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries through the Head of the Facilities and Infrastructure Section as follows:

Regarding equity, it can be said that only 5% is unequal because indeed those who cannot get help are those who do not have groups, while from us how can we help if the main requirements are not met. So, on average, those who get help must have a group. For the distribution in 2020, we are fair, all of which there are 20 groups that enter, we give all the assistance according to their request. In 2020, all group members can receive assistance because usually not all group members cannot. We also really want to help, but if the fishermen don't have a group, it's against the rules. Our desire to help fishermen is against the rules

From the interview excerpt above, it is explained that the Department of Marine Affairs and Fisheries guarantees that only a very small number of fishing communities do not receive assistance, which is around 5 percent. The main cause of the fishing community that has not received assistance is because the fishing community has not met the requirements to form a fishing group as one of the requirements set by the government. In this case, the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service also stated that sometimes the desire to help all fishing communities is hindered by binding regulations. Furthermore, the Department of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries clarified that all members of the fishing group who submit a request for assistance must be provided according to what is stated in the proposal.

Socio-Cultural, Technological, Economic and Institutional Conditions of the Fishing Community in Majene Regency

The empowerment of fishing communities is certainly influenced by the characteristics of the fishing communities themselves. It is important to know how the characteristics of the fishing community will be empowered. There are several aspects that are used to see the characteristics of fishermen in Majene Regency as follows:

The social condition of the foam is the way the fishing community carries out their daily activities in which there is a pattern of relationships with other fishing communities who have different characteristics and the efforts made to always maintain their survival, in this case going to sea, which is their main job in meeting the necessities of life. The socio-cultural conditions of the fishing community in Majene Regency are open, upholding kinship, mutual cooperation, honesty, and obedient worship. In their daily activities, the fishing community really appreciates the customs and traditions that are still closely guarded in Majene Regency such as fishermen's parties. In carrying out their daily activities, many fishing communities use Mandarin, the local language in Majene Regency. In one year, When fishing communities go to sea only in certain seasons because in certain months there are storms and big waves that cause fishermen to be unable to go to sea and usually if they don't go to sea for several months, some fishing communities look for other alternative jobs such as pedicab drivers and daily laborers. There is one activity that has become a tradition in the fishermen of Majene Regency, namely the fishermen's party which is held every year, this fishermen's party is an embodiment of the fishermen's gratitude for the gift from God Almighty for the abundance of fish obtained throughout the year. This fishing party activity is carried out in every fishing village with each fishing family preparing food and then calling all the neighbors to eat together.

Economic improvement is one of the benchmarks for the success of an empowerment effort carried out by the government. In addition to being independent and being able to increase the potential of fishermen, empowerment efforts also aim to improve the economic level of the fishing community for the better. The fishing community is the community that is most closely related to the poor, this is very reasonable considering the number of fishing communities who do not have permanent housing, have low education and become the lower class of society. Selling fish is the main goal of fishermen going to sea, by selling fish in general, fishermen catching tuna, for example, can sell Rp. 15,000-Rp. .000-Rp.200,000.

Marketing of fish to the market is also an important factor in improving the economic level of fishing communities, the wider the marketing, the bigger the target consumers. So far, fish marketing has only been limited to Majene Regency, as stated by the Head of Fish Processing Business Trustees in the following interview:

Based on the results of interviews, information was obtained that the fish processing business which aims to empower wives and widows in the Tamo Environment since its establishment has only been able to sell its processed fish products in the form of fertilizer and shredded fish to the Majene central market and orders from the community who come directly to the production site. This should be optimized by expanding the marketing of processed fish products through collaboration with other regions or holding fish product exhibitions to introduce it to the current millennial generation. The improvement in the economic level of the fishing community in Majene Regency has become better, it can be seen from the place where they live. Based on the interview excerpt above, it is known that there are many fishermen who are able to meet their daily needs, even now there are many fishermen who already have their own stone houses and have motorbikes. According to the Head of the Data and Information Section, the fishing community who always said that the assistance was not enough meant that the fishing community was not satisfied and felt less about the assistance that had been given.

Institutional strengthening is something that needs more attention from the Department of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and fishermen in particular, this is because one of the main requirements for receiving facilities and infrastructure assistance is that the fishing community must form a fishing group consisting of a minimum of ten fishermen members. In 2020, out of eight sub-districts only five sub-districts in Majene Regency have fisherman groups, this means that there are still sub-districts in Majene Regency that do not have fishing groups and this hinders the local government in its efforts to empower fishermen. Based on an excerpt from an interview with one of the fishermen, information was obtained that even though he had been a fisherman for a long time did not guarantee that he would receive assistance if he did not join or form a group.

In contrast to fishing communities who have joined or formed fishing groups for a long time, they will have a greater chance of getting assistance, such as the following interview:

"About 20 years as a fisherman, I have received assistance such as boats and their contents, machines have also received assistance twice."

Based on the information above, it is known that there are also people who have been fishermen for a long time but still have the opportunity to get help even though they have had a group of fishermen.

Obstacles in Efforts to Empower Fishermen Communities in Majene Regency

In an effort to realize the regional priority program of Majene Regency, namely the blue revolution through the main tasks and functions of the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service to improve the welfare of fishermen's lives through several empowerment programs that have been mentioned in the previous problem formulation, such as training in fostering groups of fishermen and fishermen's wives and distribution of facilities and assistance. infrastructure. In carrying out their main tasks and functions, it is not uncommon for local governments to encounter several obstacles that cause the empowerment program to be carried out to fishing communities not optimally.

Budgets and binding regulations are the main obstacles for local governments in efforts to empower fishing communities in Majene Regency, as stated in the following interview:

"For the empowerment of fishermen in the East Banggae sub-district from the local government, both the regional and sub-district governments have been running, although

it has not been maximized because yesterday there was a refocusing of funds due to the covid pandemic so that some budgets that should be maximum for all sectors including fishermen may be slightly reduced but in sha Allah the budget The future budget will still be one part. Yesterday there was a blue revolution, the government through this policy gave more attention to fishermen”

Based on the results of the interview description, it is known that with the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020, several regional budgets that were previously intended for the empowerment of fishing communities had to undergo a refocusing of funds to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, causing the local government to not maximize efforts to carry out several programs. empowerment of fishing communities.

The low level of awareness of the fishing community is also one of the causes of the inhibition of local government efforts in empowering fishing communities, as quoted in the following interview:

There is fisherman's insurance, but many fishermen are ignorant, later when there is an accident at sea, look for fisherman's insurance. They fishermen do not fully understand the benefits of fisherman insurance when in fact it is for the safety of him and his family. Then there are still fishermen who are embarrassed to go to the office, they feel they are low. It's normal if there is management of his wife who comes, not fishermen who come directly."

Based on the interview excerpt above, it is known that there are still many fishermen who are not aware of the importance of the fisherman's insurance card, the fishing community will seek help from fishermen's insurance if they have had an accident and it is too late. In addition, in terms of managing the administration of the proposal file for facilities and infrastructure assistance, fishermen usually only send their wives to go to the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Office without wanting to be directly involved with the local government and this causes fishermen to be blind to the administrative matters of the aid proposal and later on. They will be confused because they never wanted to be directly involved and seemed to feel indifferent.

The pattern of community habits referred to in this case is an activity that is often carried out by the fishing community which has become a repetitive routine that must be carried out by the fishing community. Some activities of the fishing community turned out to cause the local government's efforts to not optimally carry out empowerment programs. As quoted in the following interview:

Obstacles that are often found by the government, usually when there are fishermen who go to the sea outside the area and in the long term usually make group meetings late, marketing is also still limited even though the types of shredded fish must be sold quickly so they don't go stale, business development requires large capital and training.

Based on the interview excerpt above, it is known that the activities of fishing communities who go to the sea outside the Majene Regency area which usually takes months have hampered the group deliberation process and this can affect the fishermen's group, for example, the delay in the proposal for assistance to be submitted to Inas Kelautan and Fishery.

CONCLUSION

The policy direction taken by the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service to empower the fishing community is carried out through several empowerment programs such as training and coaching groups of fishermen and fishermen's wives, mentoring extension workers in managing requests for proposals for assistance, and assistance with facilities and infrastructure. Socio-cultural, economic, technological, and institutional conditions also influence the direction of local government policies in realizing empowered fishing communities. Obstacles that become obstacles for local governments in maximizing fishing community empowerment programs include the budget and binding rules, the level of awareness of the fishing community, and the habits of the fishing community.

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