Social Return On Investment (SROI) Analysis in Empowering Pepper Farmers Program in Petaling Banjar Village

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Abstract

Pepper farmers in Petaling Banjar Village, Mendo Barat District, Bangka Regency, Bangka Belitung Islands Province are the Pepper Farmer Empowerment Program members. That program is a community group assisted by the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) of PT Refined Bangka Tin (here and after called PT RBT). As a social investment, the CSR activities in the long term will bring business returns in the form of profits for the company. Social Return on Investment (SROI) is a method used to measure the social impact of CSR activities that does not only calculate the value of profits in the form of money. In addition, it also includes a broader concept that includes social, economic, and environmental values. This study involved representatives of crucial stakeholders consisting of 10 pepper farmers, six general public, one community leader, and two people from the Petaling Banjar village government. Data were collected using in-depth interview techniques, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), field observations, and the use of secondary data from documentation of PT RBT's CSR program. The results showed that the overall SROI value was 1.76. Thus, it indicated that every 1 IDR invested could generate a benefit value of 1.76 IDR. In conclusion, the program is socially feasible to implement.

Keywords: Social Return on Investment (SROI), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the impact of social investment, pepper farmers

Abstrak


Kata kunci: Social Return on Investment (SROI), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), dampak investasi sosial, petani lada

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INTRODUCTION

According to Pranoto & Yusuf (2014), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is generally not only interpreted as a charitable or voluntary carried out by the company. However, the new CSR paradigm leads to a company's commitment to carrying out responsibilities or feedback to the community and the environment also sustainable independent economic development. Sustainable CSR programs should create a more prosperous and independent community life (Astri, 2012).

The strategic implementation of CSR in community development is a social investment approach for companies. Therefore, there is an interest in providing benefits to companies and stakeholders, especially beneficiaries, and focusing on vulnerable groups in society (Jalal and Kurniawan, 2013).

All companies must implement CSR activities to maximize profit for capital owners or shareholders and benefit the community, particularly the surrounding community. Various social, economic, and environmental impacts arising from establishing an industrial area require companies to be responsible to the public through noticeable activities (Budiarti and Raharjo, 2014).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY, PROBLEMS, AND TARGET SOLUTIONS

General description

Pepper farmers in Petaling Banjar Village, Mendo Barat District, Bangka Regency, Bangka Belitung Islands Province are the Pepper Farmer Empowerment Program members. Pepper Farmer Empowerment Program is a community group assisted by the CSR of PT Refined Bangka Tin (here and after called PT RBT). The CSR of PT RBT has empowered about 25 people in the community through the pepper farmer empowerment program. The program has been implemented since 2019 and is planned until 2023. The program aims to improve the hygiene quality of pepper while increasing the welfare of the target community.

The particular goal is the increased income of direct beneficiaries, which is expected more than the provincial minimum wage of the Bangka Belitung Islands.

Problem

According to Marnelly (2012), effective community empowerment makes people empowered, dynamic, and adaptive to changes in their environment. The community should have better access to appropriate technology, broaden-mind, global mindedness, and empathy for outsiders.

The evaluation implementation in the pepper farmer empowerment program was in the strengthening stage. At the end of the program, the pepper farmer empowerment community is expected to be empowered to utilize all the surrounding resources (technology, knowledge, productive businesses, institutions, and networks). So they can be more prosperous because they get income more than the provincial minimum wage.

Target solution

Based on the previous explanation, The CSR of PT RBT needs to measure the impact of the social investments. The excellent performance evaluation of a corporation’s CSR program improves its position towards its stakeholders (Gauthier, 2005). Technically, program performance evaluation is an obligation of the company management to see how accurate the goals are and how much the achievement in output or program result (Buchholtz, Amason and Rutherford, 1999).

METHOD

Social Return On Investment (SROI) is a benchmark to help organizations understand and manage the social, environmental, and economic value that they generate. Therefore, SROI not only calculates the value
but also reduces ecological inequality and degradation. Besides, SROI can improve community welfare by including social and environmental costs and economic costs and benefits. SROI analysis can change the increased value of impacts based on selected indicators to determine economic, social, and environmental welfare into currency values (Silalahi, Santos, & Suliantoro, 2018).

The SROI concept is not new, pioneered in America in the early 1990s, developed in England in 2008. Experts in England (Lawlor et al., 2012) propose 7 SROI principles in building a framework, namely: (1) Involve the stakeholders, (2) Understand what the changes are, (3) Value essential things, (4) Include obvious material, (5) Avoid excessive claims, (6) Must be transparent, (7) Verify the results.

The impact assessment of the pepper farmer empowerment program in Petaling Banjar Village involved respondents who were representatives of stakeholders, consisting of 10 pepper farmers, six people from the general public, one community leader, and two people from the village government. The data were collected from in-depth interview techniques, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), field observations, and the use of secondary data from documentation of PT RBT’s CSR program. Judgment was based on references from standard documents, government regulations, research results, community consensus, and examples of similar events according to the existing local context. Furthermore, the data were grouped and analyzed to get the calculation of the impact value and its financial value to get the present value.

NPV [Net Present Value] = [Present value of benefits] – [Value of investments]

The data obtained were then processed to calculate the SROI ratio as follows:

\[
\text{SROI Ratio} = \frac{\text{Present Value}}{\text{Value of Input}}
\]

The evaluative calculation was done based on program achievements and some impacts that stakeholders have stated through in-depth interviews and FGDs. At the same time, the projection calculation (forecast) was based on harvest trends, business development planning, and pepper farmers' commitment to using the infrastructure program. The value projection was attempted to be as close and reasonable as possible by providing assumptions and examples of similar things or using standards in the community according to the context of the program.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the stakeholder mapping of the pepper farmer empowerment program or beneficiaries in Petaling Banjar Village, there were two categories: administrators and members of pepper farmer groups also the local communities. The following table contains a description of the impact mapping and monetization approach that has been implemented to obtain the value of social, economic, and technological impacts of the program.

Table 1. Stakeholder Mapping, Impact, and Monetization of Pepper Farmers Empowerment Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>CALCULATION APPROACH</th>
<th>MONETIZATION APPROACH</th>
<th>INTERVIEW RESULTS AND SECONDARY DATA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The decrease in losing income risk of the pepper farmer group members due to immersion in ditches</td>
<td>Calculation of estimated clean pepper by 20% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kilograms x 20 % = 2 kilograms of risk in losing pepper when immersed. 10% of sacks submerged.</td>
<td>Multiply the assumed amount of pepper lost by the per sack of pepper. The price of 1 kg dried pepper per sack : The year 2019: 60,000 IDR</td>
<td>The year 2019: 52,500,000 IDR The year 2020: 41,400,000 IDR The year 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>CALCULATION APPROACH</th>
<th>MONETIZATION APPROACH</th>
<th>INTERVIEW RESULTS AND SECONDARY DATA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Year 2019 525 x 10% = 52,5 sacks</td>
<td>The year 2020: 60,000 IDR</td>
<td>Rp 47,000,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2020 414 x 10% = 41,4 sacks</td>
<td>The year 2021: 100,000 IDR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yar 2021 470 x 10% = 47 sacks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Save the cost of pepper washing</td>
<td>Calculation of estimated clean pepper by 20% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kilograms x 20% = 2 kilograms the number of days and the cost of the pepper washing process</td>
<td>multiplying the number of days by the labor wage per person/day. The year 2019: 2,100,000 IDR</td>
<td>The year 2020: 1,800,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2021: 1,950,000 IDR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2021: 150,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>The increased productive time for members of pepper farmer groups</td>
<td>Calculation of estimated clean pepper by 20% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kilograms x 20% = 2 kilograms the number of days for plant and field care from the productive time generated after the program</td>
<td>multiplying the number of opportunity days for plants and fields by the wages of labor to maintain plants &amp; fields per day, 100,000 IDR (The year 2019, 2020, 2021)</td>
<td>The year 2019: 1,400,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2019: 14 days The year 2020: 12 days The year 2021: 13 days</td>
<td>The year 2020: 1,200,000 IDR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculation of estimated clean pepper by 20% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kilograms x 20% = 2 kilograms the number of days for plant and field care from the productive time generated after the program</td>
<td>The year 2021: 1,300,000 IDR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>The increased pepper hygiene</td>
<td>Calculation of estimated clean pepper by 20% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kilograms x 20% = 2 kilograms The Year 2019: 1050 kilograms The Year 2020: 828 kilograms The Year 2021: 940 kilograms</td>
<td>multiplying the assumed quantity of clean pepper by the price difference grade a and grade b. 20,000 IDR (2019, 2020, 2021)</td>
<td>The year 2019: 21,000,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2019: 14 days The year 2020: 12 days The year 2021: 13 days</td>
<td>The year 2020: 16,560,000 IDR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculation of losing estimation of pepper loss/damage dried as around 10% of a sack. 1 sack = 10 kg x 10% = 1 kilogram The Year 2021: 470 kilograms</td>
<td>multiplying the assumed risk of loss/damage of pepper when dried by the price of pepper.</td>
<td>The year 2021: 18,800,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>The decreased risk in loss/damage of pepper agricultural commodities when dried</td>
<td>Calculation of the days before there is a drying house according to the amount of rice/corn dried in the drying house, where 100 kg takes an average of 3 days. The Year 2021: 470 kilograms</td>
<td>multiplying the number of days by the wages of labor per day.</td>
<td>The year 2021: 47,000,000 IDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farmers' time becomes more productive because of the drying house</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The year 2021: 141 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Local communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Table 2. Calculation of Input and Outcome Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>2019 (IDR)</th>
<th>2020 (IDR)</th>
<th>2021 (IDR)</th>
<th>Total (IDR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I INPUT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR PT RBT</td>
<td>70,000,000</td>
<td>110,000,000</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
<td>280,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>70,000,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>110,000,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>50,000,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>280,000,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II OUTCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Administrators &amp; Pepper Farmer Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decrease in loss of income risk of pepper farmer group members due to immersion in ditches</td>
<td>52,500,000</td>
<td>41,400,000</td>
<td>47,000,000</td>
<td>140,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save the cost of pepper washing</td>
<td>2,100,000</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>1,950,000</td>
<td>5,850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The increase of productive time for pepper farmer group members</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>3,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The increase of pepper hygiene quality</td>
<td>10,500,000</td>
<td>8,280,000</td>
<td>9,400,000</td>
<td>28,180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decrease of loss and damage risk of pepper agricultural commodities when dried</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers’ time becomes more productive because of the drying house</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14,100,000</td>
<td>14,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The increase of pride/happiness in farming the pepper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300,000,000</td>
<td>300,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Surrounding Community</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decrease of loss and damage risk in pepper agricultural commodities (rice, corn)</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers have a more productive time</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OUTCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>66,500,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>54,680,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>422,750,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>543,930,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The next stage was calculating all the information and estimation into financial value. The resulting benefit values would be converted into one value in present value by considering changes in currency values.

Table 3. Calculation of Present Value and SROI
Generally, since implementing the pepper farmer empowerment program in 2019, 2020, and 2021, the SROI value tended not to fluctuate. In 2019 and 2021, it managed to increase by more than (Ristanti, A. D., & Masita, E. D. 2021). It means that every 1 IDR invested has a benefit of more than 1 IDR. Thus, the program was socially feasible to implement even though in 2020, the SROI value was less than 1 due to: 1) the pepper harvest reduction, 2) the minimum use of drying house infrastructure because the facilities had just been completed after the period of the pepper harvest period. Masita, (E. D., Isnaini, Y., & Lestari, P. C. A. 2021) The most significant proportion of benefits, respectively, lied in the decrease in losing income risk of the pepper farmer group members due to immersion in ditches, the high pepper hygiene quality, and decreased loss and damage risk in pepper agricultural commodities when dried. From a stakeholder perspective, the biggest beneficiaries of this program were the administrators and members of the pepper farmer groups. The direct beneficiaries received a benefit of 268,110,000 IDR or 98.5% of the total program benefits. Meanwhile, the local community only received a benefit of 4,000,000 IDR or 1.5% of the total program benefits. (Masita, E. D., Maimunah, S., & Abidah, S. N. 2019).

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The SROI value of the pepper farmer empowerment program assisted by PT RBT's CSR from 2019 to 2021 was 1.76. Thus, it indicated that every 1 IDR invested could generate a benefit value of 1.76 IDR. In conclusion, the program is socially feasible to implement. The program benefits could be improved for the main target groups, the local community, and other stakeholders. Efforts to ensure the sustainability of the program's in the future are:
1. Capacity building program for the main target groups, especially regarding the management of pepper cultivation, starting from planting, care, post-harvest, processing, packaging, and product marketing.
2. Role strengthening of the Petaling Banjar pepper farmer cooperative in the community, especially in increasing the management and cooperative members' capacity to manage program funds, leadership, transparency, transaction, and cooperation contracts.

REFERENCES


TOTAL INPUT
70,000,000
110,000,000
100,000,000
280,000,000

TOTAL OUTCOME
66,500,000
54,680,000
422,750,000
543,930,000

Deadweight
- 
- 
- 
- 

Attribution
- 
- 
- 
- 

Drop Off
- 
- 
- 
- 

Total outcome Per year after dicount
66,500,000
54,680,000
422,750,000
543,930,000

Present value 2019 (r=5.63), 2020 (r=4.23), 2021 (r=3.58)
62,955,600
50,331,866
380,413,479
493,700,944

SROI
0.90
0.46
3.80
1.76

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