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## Poverty alleviation of beef cattle farmers through empowerment approach critical awareness-based

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**Abstract.** The issue that occurs in the community is that beef cattle farmers are helpless or poor in the financial economy, on the other hand, government programs continue to flow to the community with the hope that in a few years the farmers will be independent or run their own business without dependence on other parties. However, the reality is that until now the poverty of these farmers has not yet been resolved. Poverty occurs as a result of the empowerment principle approach that has not touched beef cattle farmers according to *Ta'awum* and *Shura* (*QS. Al- Maidah: 5.2*). To get the answer, this research was carried out in succession (1) determining the research location; (2) conducted pre-research, namely survey, focused group discussion; (3) determination of variables and indicators; (4) establish research objectives to get a picture of the critical awareness of beef cattle farmers based on the principles of *Ta'awum* and *Shura*, so that the answers obtained are the contribution of this research; (5) determine the type of research, namely quantitative descriptive; (6) data collection techniques by direct and in-depth interviews using a questionnaire to 25 beef cattle farmers who were determined intentionally; (7) data analysis tools that have been collected using descriptive statistics; (8) to facilitate the analysis in processing data, a 3-level categorization approach is used based on a Likert scale, namely high = 3, medium = 2, and low = 1; (9) determine the research results. The conclusions of the research showed that the farmers have not gotten out of poverty because the empowerment model has not focused on critical awareness factors and strengthening the institutional capacity of beef cattle farmers. There were still limited to help beef cattle farmers without being preceded by training, mentoring, monitoring and evaluation and continuous control, this was indicated by the value of critical awareness on strengthening institutional capacity and the process of understanding/monitoring the program, namely the medium category with a score of 1.47 and 1.50 respectively.

### 1. Introduction

One measure of social helplessness for beef cattle farmers is poverty, and the cause of poverty is the internal and external factors of the farmers' institution, in this case, the government who carries the program has not touched the root of the problems experienced by beef cattle farmers, namely socially critical awareness in strengthening institutional capacity and understanding/escorting government assistance programs in the form of beef cattle provided to farmers, this can be resolved through empowerment. In connection with the empowerment of beef cattle farmers as a solution to solving problems in the field, it is necessary to collect data on poor cattle farmers who have participated in



empowerment programs. It turns out that the facts in the field show that on average, poverty occurs mostly among smallholders as a result of their daily life which is still very difficult because of the natural limited area of agricultural land they have, so that it has a cultural and structural impact, namely they cannot continue their formal education to a higher level, so this affects the absorption capacity when receiving non-formal education, and this has been going on for a long time as a result of the low level of formal education in terms of the farmers human resources, and it also has an effect on low access to outsiders, weak character of help due to working daily to fulfill their life consumptive farmers, low awareness of progress due to weak business capital, weak technology, weak or unsustainable cooperation models with the government and those with capital, and weak internal self-awareness as a result due to educational background and socio-economic conditions, so that its presence within the institution only hopes to receive assistance from the government, and external parties such as investors.

This poverty condition continues until now so that if the government does not change the empowerment model it delivers to poor beef cattle farmers, namely only using the old model, which is only limited to providing beef cattle assistance without being based on empowerment that touches critical awareness and strengthening the institutional capacity of beef cattle farmers, not guarding with the mentoring method sustainably the planning model for the government and capital owners in empowering farmer farmers is suspected of not solving beef cattle farmers out of poverty. For sustainability and creating independent farmers, it is necessary to reveal in the causes of poverty for weak farmers, such as the need for accurate data held by investors or the government on the poverty of beef cattle farmers in terms of critical and institutional awareness.

In connection with the social capital problem, if it is weak, the expected sustainability of empowerment cannot be achieved because the problem of poverty is a complete circle, namely a system that is interconnected with one another and can have an impact on unemployment, underdevelopment in education, crime, and other social problems [1]. Because poverty as the main cause is social capital owned by internal and external institutional individuals, social capital includes trust, norms that govern the existence of a network to increase efficiency collective initiative from social organizations [2]. Meanwhile Foxton and Jones [3], stated that social capital consists of several dimensions, namely civic participation, social network and social support, social participation, reciprocity or cooperation and trust, a view of the local area. The functions and roles of elements in a network in the form of participation, support for cooperation followed by norms, trust between one another to achieve certain goals, namely satisfaction [4]. It is further stated that the elements of social capital play a role and function well so that CSR or corporate social responsibility programs in terms of poverty alleviation can be produced according to the expected target.

As a result of the weak social capital experienced by the nation is the creation of a society or nation's children who have the worst character, including beef cattle farmers who always expect help from other parties as a result of their powerlessness. On the other hand, the nation's children with a good character do not expect this kind of social condition. Therefore, it is hoped that the solution is through community empowerment by developing or strengthening institutional capacity based on critical awareness. Reference Wilson (2006) explained that four stages in community empowerment must be carried out if a project or program can be successful and sustainable, namely the critical awareness stage, the understanding stage, the utilization stage, and the habituation stage. It is further stated that understanding/escorting activities in the development of capacity building based on critical awareness of individuals, which at the implementation level in the community includes the process of socialization, training and implementation of the empowerment cycle [5]. In its implementation, the three processes must run continuously and sustainably because what is expected from empowerment is the habituation of the community in participatory development. Meanwhile, the habituation stage is the last in the empowerment process, where the community is accustomed to being actively involved in development in their environment. Sumaryadi [6] stated that participatory development is closely related to community empowerment, where participatory development requires efforts and steps to prepare the community to strengthen community institutions so that they can realize progress, independence and prosperity in an atmosphere of justice, trust, and sustainable openness to increase their dignity and to be

able to escape from the trap of poverty and underdevelopment. This effort is a concrete manifestation of community empowerment.

To build community and local government independence in sustainably tackling poverty in a sustainable manner. This program seeks to prepare a foundation for community independence in the form of community leadership institutions that are representative, rooted, and conducive to the development of social capital in the future and prepare medium-term community programs in poverty alleviation that bind community partnerships with local governments and caring groups local. Istan [1] stated that a solution to poverty alleviation requires a synergy of roles between the government, related institutions, and society that must be comprehensive from various elements as subjects and objects of change. The measure of poverty according to the Central Statistics Agency is per capita income per month of IDR 387,160. While the World Bank Standard, the measure of poverty is the income per capita is USD 1.9 per day. So if the size of the world bank is applied in Indonesia, there are 70 million people in Indonesia who are classified as poor, and there are only 40 million vulnerable to poverty [7].

About the size of poverty, if it is related to beef cattle farmers, based on the results of the identification of conditions at the research location, it turns out that the average life of the community in carrying out their life is farming and the ownership of beef cattle is not more than 4 heads, the condition of the pen is made of used logs from trees. Around the house or garden, the ground is ground, and the pen is only used at night, the average land area is 0.3 ha to 0.4 ha, cattle raising is carried out extensively from 6.30 am cattle are brought to the field not far from the house a place to live for grazing, and in the afternoon at 17.00, the cattle are herded to the pen. Meanwhile, the average experience of raising beef cattle is over 5 years. And beef cattle if more than 4 heads are sold because it is difficult to control their guarding, as well as the very limited availability of forage. Government assistance in the case of beef cattle has been carried out but has not developed according to the government's expectations, also the government has conducted guidance when beef cattle are given to beef cattle farmers, monitoring evaluation and control and empowering the farmer community is limited to only oral conversations. With the condition of beef cattle farmers, if it is related to the standard measure of poverty and the experience of farmers, it turns out that beef cattle farmers are categorized as poor, thus their development is needed through the empowerment stage of capacity building. However, theoretically, empowerment-based on capacity strengthening includes the awareness stage, the understanding stage, the utilization stage, and the habituation stage which are quite extensive in the discussion if comprehensive research is carried out. Therefore this research only focuses on the critical awareness stage and understanding / escorting government assistance programs in the form of beef cattle because if beef cattle breeders who are internal to the institution are fully aware and understand, then for the next stage of empowerment, namely utilization and habituation it is easily implemented.

Referring to the condition of beef cattle farmers in the research location who are in a condition of financial and economic poverty who have not been able to run farming optimally (natural poor) due to poor culture and structure, the questions posed in this study to get the answer are: (1) is the empowerment model for beef cattle farmers implemented by the government, in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry is focused or not focused on strengthening critical awareness-based institutional capacity, and (2) does the government, in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry, in empowering beef cattle farmers carry out understanding/escorting starting from socialization, training and mentoring and focus on critical awareness factors on institutional actors of beef cattle farmers.

## **2. Material and methods**

Because this research will reveal about poverty alleviation through the empowerment of beef cattle farmers based on critical awareness or social capital in running business partnerships with beef cattle farmers, as well as monitoring/understanding programs. This study determines the research location, namely in one regency in South Sulawesi. The pre-research approach method used was survey and focused group discussion (FGD), while the aspect studied was community empowerment by determining research variables, namely strengthening the institutional capacity of beef cattle farmers, and the measured indicator was critical awareness based on assessment criteria, namely the level of

fairness, openness, trust and cooperation. While the second variable is the program escort process, with the indicators used are the implementation of socialization, training, mentoring and control. The type of research used is descriptive quantitative, as well as for the purposes of research disclosure and processing. Data analysis on 25 respondents who came from poor beef cattle farmers who had participated in empowerment carried out by the livestock service was determined intentionally. The data collection technique was carried out by direct interviews and in-depth interviews and using the tools of a list of questions or questionnaires. The data that has been collected is processed using descriptive statistics, and to make it easier in terms of data analysis, a Likert scale is used with 3 levels of categorization, namely high = score 3, medium = score 2, and low = score 1. After the data is collected and obtained the results and the implications of theory and policy have been discussed, it can be concluded that the research results [8-11]. Then for further information to determine the category range, the value used moves from a score rating of 0.00 to 1.00, meaning the low category, the score rating of 1.00 to 2.00 is in the moderate category, and the score rating is 2.00 to 3.00 is in the high category. This means that if the value obtained is smaller than 2.00 then empowerment is far from perfect, and if the score rating is more than 2.00 then empowerment is close to 100% perfection.

This research is looking for solutions to the problems faced by beef cattle farmers, to get answers to accelerated poverty alleviation through critical awareness, and program monitoring/understanding so that it is hoped that in the future there will be an increase in population and beef self-sufficiency through improved social capital or critical awareness and strengthening beef cattle farmer institutional capacity. In connection with the strengthening of institutional capacity based on critical awareness in empowering beef cattle farmers to get out of poverty, 2 problems must be addressed and found the answers, which are included: (1) whether the empowerment model for beef cattle farmers implemented by the government, in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry, is focused or not focused on strengthening critical awareness-based institutional capacity. (2) whether the government, in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry, in empowering beef cattle farmers, carry out guarding / understanding starting from socialization, training and mentoring focused on critical awareness factors on institutional actors of beef cattle farmers.

The test foundation or grand theory in this research is social capital imposed by [1,4-6,12,13,] and has successfully conducted research in the field of animal husbandry as a novelty, this research is to compare this research with previous research. It is hoped that this research can contribute to policymakers and beef cattle farmers, as well as self-evaluation for sustainability in sustainably developing a beef cattle business based on strengthening institutional capacity and critical awareness or social capital to get out of poverty both naturally, culturally and structurally.

As an operational conception for the first problem, that is, if the empowerment model for beef cattle farmers is focused on strengthening the institutional capacity based on critical awareness carried out by the government, in this case, the Department of Animal Husbandry, then the farmer institutions run by internal actors of beef cattle farmers are getting stronger and accelerating the achievement of goals together, namely the development of beef cattle so that they get out of natural, cultural and structural poverty.

For the operational conception of the second problem, namely if the government, in this case, the Department of Animal Husbandry, in empowering beef cattle farmers, carries out supervision starting from socialization, training and mentoring, control that focuses on critical awareness factors for institutional actors of beef cattle farmers, then beef cattle farmers have awareness critical in carrying out beef cattle development activities and accelerating the achievement of common goals, namely to get out of natural, cultural and structural poverty.

### 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1. Description of the empowerment model provided by the government to beef cattle farmers through strengthening institutional capacity and critical awareness

Based on the results of research with data collected on 25 respondents of beef cattle farmers who have participated in the empowerment carried out by the government, in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry with the method of strengthening institutional capacity that focuses on critical awareness (justice, openness, trust, and cooperation) carried out by farmers. Internal institutional scope of beef cattle with the hope that beef cattle farmers will be stronger and beef cattle farmers out of poverty can be seen in table 1.

**Table 1.** Overview of empowerment models provided by the government to beef cattle farmers through strengthening institutional capacity and critical awareness.

Aspect	Variables and indicators	Value response			Rating score	Category
		1	2	3		
The empowerment model run by the government or the Department of Animal Husbandry	Strengthening institutional capacity through critical awareness:				1.47	Medium
	a. justice	16	5	4		
	b. openness	19	4	2		
	c. trust	19	4	2		
	d. cooperation	13	6	6		

Table 1 showed that the empowerment model applied by the government in this case the Department of Animal Husbandry to beef cattle farmers has not led to strengthening the institutional capacity based on critical awareness for the internal actors of beef cattle farmers (justice, openness, trust, cooperation) by a rating score of 1.47 or medium category, meaning that scientifically empowerment was still far from perfect. So that this empowerment model will not be able to solve the poverty problem of beef cattle farmers because it has not completely touched the upstream system of the community empowerment model. In other words, this empowerment has not resulted in a strengthening of institutional capacity based on critical awareness for cattle farmers as actors who are internal to the institution. This was in line with Sumaryadi [6] stated that participatory development was closely related to community empowerment, where participatory development requires efforts and steps to prepare people to strengthen community institutions so that they can realize progress, independence, and prosperity in an atmosphere of justice, trust, sustainable openness to enhance their dignity and to be able to escape from the trap of poverty and underdevelopment. This effort was a concrete manifestation of community empowerment. Istan [1] also stated that if the problem of social capital was weak then the expected sustainability of empowerment was not achieved because the problem of poverty was a complete circle, namely a system that was interconnected with one another and can have an impact on unemployment, underdevelopment in education, crime, and other social problems.

#### 3.2. Overview of the process of escorting/understanding the empowerment model provided by the government to beef cattle farmers

Based on the results of research with data collected on 25 respondents of beef cattle farmers who have participated in empowerment carried out by the government, in this case, the Department of Animal Husbandry with the method of escorting/understanding the assistance program in the form of beef cattle in the context of poverty alleviation included socialization activities, training, mentoring and control, can be seen in table 2.

**Table 2.** Overview of the process of escorting/understanding beef cattle assistance with empowerment the model provided by the government to beef cattle farmers.

Aspect	Variables and indicators	Value response			Rating score	Category
		1	2	3		
Government-run empowerment model	The process of implementation/escort				1.5	Medium
	a. socialization	4	7	14		
	b. training	22	0	3		
	c. accompaniment	21	2	2		
	d. control	23	1	1		

Table 2 showed that the supervision/understanding of the assistance program in the form of beef cattle with the empowerment model implemented by the government, in this case, the Department of Animal Husbandry for beef cattle farmers, has not yet led to the correct empowerment stage, meaning that it still needs to get improvements from the aspect of empowerment methods, because of this indicated by the results of the study were still far from perfect, namely obtaining a score of 1.50 or medium category. This was indicated by several facts in the research location that the assistance program was limited to socialization carried out at the village office, where the content of the discussion in the socialization was providing beef cattle assistance to be developed to improve community income and increase the population of beef cattle, without being accompanied by training, mentoring and control as well as other supports optimally, so that the effects caused by the assistance activities cannot be maintained as expected or are not sustainable. Thus it can be stated that the need for beef cattle assistance programs must be properly guarded starting from the critical awareness stage so that the institutional capacity of farmers becomes strong, as well as the socialization, training, mentoring, and control stages must be strictly guarded, thus the empowerment model carried out by the Department of Animal Husbandry must be totality and comprehensive. This was in line with Wilson [5], explaining that four stages in community empowerment must be carried out if a project or program can be successful and sustainable, namely the critical awareness stage, the understanding/escort stage, the utilization stage, and the habituation stage. So thus if the government assistance project or program, in this case, was not strengthened by the stages of the empowerment model, the hopes of the government and farmers in increasing the population and income of beef cattle farmers are difficult to materialize or in other statements the program was right on target but cannot continue or have not succeeded as a result due to the empowerment model method that has not been able to provide critical awareness for beef cattle farmers and strengthening of institutional capacity has not been able to provide meaningful results because it does not achieve the expected common goals.

#### 4. Conclusion

The conclusion of the research showed that beef cattle farmers have not gotten out of poverty because the empowerment model has not focused on critical awareness factors and strengthening the institutional capacity of beef cattle farmers.

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