

**COMMUNITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CONDITIONS IN THE OIL  
PALM PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT AREA (*ELAEIS GUINEENSIS JACQ*) PT.  
FARMING PRIMA MAKMUR IN ANDABIA VILLAGE, ANGGABERI DISTRICT,  
KONAWA REGENCY**

**Sarty Syarbiah**

Universitas Halu Oleo

Email : [sarty.syarbiah@gmail.com](mailto:sarty.syarbiah@gmail.com)

**Usman Rianse**

Universitas Halu Oleo

Email : [usman.rianse@gmail.com](mailto:usman.rianse@gmail.com)

**Ine Fausayana**

Universitas Halu Oleo

Email : [inefausayana@gmail.com](mailto:inefausayana@gmail.com)

**Idrus Salam**

Universitas Halu Oleo

Email : [Idrussalam030897@yahoo.com](mailto:Idrussalam030897@yahoo.com)

Author Correspondence : [sarty.syarbiah@gmail.com](mailto:sarty.syarbiah@gmail.com)

**Abstract**

This study aims to determine the social, economic and cultural conditions of the community in the development area of the oil palm plantation of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency. The population in this study were all people who grow oil palm independently and/or who work as laborers at the palm oil company PT Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency, totaling 32 families. The sample determination in this study was carried out by census means that the entire population is sampled. The results of this study indicate that the social, economic and cultural conditions of the community in the development area of the PT Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) oil palm plantation in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency have had positive impacts in the form of opening new jobs and negative impacts in the form of environmental pollution.

**Keywords:** Social, Economic, Culture, Oil palm.

**INTRODUCTION**

Indonesia has one of the world's highest rates of unemployment and one of the world's largest populations. Indonesia's population is estimated to have grown to more than 27 million people by 2020. To be able to improve welfare as a whole, this number is not insignificant. As a result, every

community expects the government to play a role in creating employment opportunities (BPS, 2021). One of a nation's national development objectives to promote equity is economic growth. In order to achieve an equitable distribution of development across the nation, this activity is closely linked to the implementation of development at the regional level. According to Chimhowu, Hulme, and Munro (2019), national development planning is a means of conveying national objectives to internal and external stakeholders.

Since the majority of Indonesians live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihood, it is safe to say that agricultural development and rural development are closely linked. In the context of the national economy, agricultural development is currently a significant and strategic sector that continues to focus on raising farmers' incomes and standard of living in order to expand farming and employment opportunities. This is because the majority of Indonesians work in agriculture and live in rural areas. The presence of oil palm plantations in the midst of a community frequently has both positive and negative effects on the community as a whole. Naturally, this plantation will be able to offer employment opportunities to the community around it, particularly to unemployed individuals with skills (Siradjuddin). I. 2015).

Businesses, as well as physical or regional development, can be used in regional economic development strategies. human capital; and numerous other methods for growing the community's economy. Economic growth, per capita income, the rate of poverty, and other indicators can be used to assess the success of economic development (Chisadza and Bittencourt, 2019).

Due to favorable ecological conditions for cultivating plantation crops, numerous regions of Indonesia have the potential for plantation sector development. Indonesia has a variety of soil types that can be planted with any kind of plant, a tropical climate that meets the requirements for growing plant species, and an average of quite a bit of rain per month. In general, tropical and subtropical regions are excellent places to plant plantation crops. As a result, a variety of plantation commodities, such as oil palm, tea, rubber, clove, cocoa, sugar cane, quinine, and so on, are emerging in Indonesia. According to Nurdjanna (2007), the potential that needs to be developed is related to commodity diversification, particularly in the plantation sector, specifically the commodity of oil palm on both the domestic and international markets.

The agricultural sector contributes significantly to Indonesia's economic growth. According to Fadhil and Rizki (2019), this sector is one of the ones that is relying on because it provides numerous benefits, including the capacity to absorb a significant amount of labor, its role as a

food-producing sector for the purpose of ensuring food security, and its capacity to generate significant amounts of foreign exchange. Because the majority of people, particularly in developing nations, rely on agriculture for their very existence, the agricultural sector plays a crucial role in economic development efforts. According to Suyatno in Ramlawati 2020, the only way to truly consider community welfare in planning is to improve the well-being of the majority of people whose lives are reliant on the agricultural sector.

Through more advanced, efficient, and resilient agricultural development, the current policy direction for agricultural development aims to raise farmers' incomes and standard of living, expand employment and business opportunities, and fill and expand domestic and international markets. which is capable of supporting the industrial sector and competing with production from outside sources to support rural development. According to Caroline B.D.at.al. (2018), revitalizing agriculture and rural areas will benefit both the majority of people's well-being and the establishment of a solid foundation for economic growth.

Plantation products have a good chance of creating and increasing the community's income in terms of economic development. Mustard is a plantation crop with high economic value because, in addition to producing a variety of beneficial derivative products for a variety of industries, including the food, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, oleochemical, and furniture industries, palm oil also produces palm oil (CPO), which, when compared to other plantation commodities, is one of the largest contributors to the nation's foreign exchange reserves (Effendi, 2011).

Oil palm plantations have a greater impact on social, cultural, and economic factors in some locations. Plantations have created new jobs, lowering unemployment among the surrounding population. As a result, the community's economy will greatly benefit from the impact. The company also provides social facilities like schools, health centers, and places of worship. According to Caroline B.D.at.al. (2018), the impacts brought about by a business are at least described by the issues mentioned above.

The community in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency, began to recognize oil palm plants in 1998. The community believed that oil palm gardening would be able to improve the community's economy because the income generated from oil palm was quite promising, maintenance and management were simple, and the existence of oil palm plantations can also provide a job opportunity for those who do not already have oil palm plantations in the area. People who do not currently have oil palm plantations can become employees in the process of harvesting

In addition, the prospects for the palm oil industry in Indonesia are undeniable from a macro perspective. Palm oil is a staple commodity that plays a crucial role in the development of the country's economy in the years to come. According to Decky Rinaldi (2013), research shows that fertilization is absolutely necessary because it can significantly increase production and maintain plant stability. As a result, oil palm is typically maintained with fertilization.

In the Konawe Regency's Anggaber District, Andawia Village is one of the villages that produce palm oil. Production from oil palm plants in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, fluctuates annually. The current issue that oil palm farmers in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency frequently face is the fluctuating price of fresh fruit bunches (FFB) for oil palm and the decrease in FFB produced by smallholders. The community's social, economic, and cultural conditions in the PT development area were the focus of this study. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) in Andabia Village, Konawe Regency, Anggaber District.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

All 32 families in Andabia Village, Anggaber District, Konawe Regency, who either grow oil palm on their own or work as laborers for the palm oil company PT Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), comprised the population of this study. This study used a census to select its sample, which means that the entire population was sampled. (1) Data collection, which entails collecting data at research locations through the conduct of observations, interviews, and documentation by determining the data collection strategy in view appropriate and to determine the focus and depth of the data in the subsequent data collection process. (The interactive qualitative descriptive data analysis model developed by Miles and Huberman) 2) Data presentation, specifically a collection of information structures that make it possible to conduct research. Data obtained through various methods, networks, activities linked together, or tables are presented. 2) Researchers must comprehend and respond to something that is directly examined in the field by compiling patterns of direction and causation in order to draw conclusions, specifically when collecting data (Sugiyono, 2016).

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Society's Social Conditions**

PT. Since 1998, Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) has been in business. At the very least, there have been a number of repercussions that have affected the lives of the community that surrounds

the company for as long as it is in business. There are both positive and negative effects. These are the effects:

### 1. Quality of education

The author's interview with Mrs. Tuti Sumanti, S.Sos., and the quality of education Prior to the establishment of the oil palm plantation company PT, the education level in the Andabia Village was M.Sc. (Lurah Andabia). The overall Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) is still low. According to interviews with informants, the majority of oil palm farmers' families only had elementary school education, and even more did not attend or graduate from elementary school. This is due to the community's uncertain economic situation; however, since this company has existed, the community's education has improved, and many residents have graduated from Senior High School (SLTA). Even some people from Tapuwatu Village are sending their children to college. Education is very important for everyone because the more knowledge we have, the higher our level of education is. Education can also determine a person's fate, as evidenced by the fact that people with high levels of education are more likely to have successful careers than people with low levels of education. The community cannot be separated from education in order to achieve a prosperous standard of living because the higher the level of education, the higher the quality of the work, and the higher the income.

### 2. Facilities and infrastructure

Facilities and infrastructure are the social effects of a company's existence that are most significant. The acquisition of facilities and infrastructure is done so that everyone in the area of the company's location can feel every effect, especially the positive ones, that the company has. The author's interview with Mr. Muhtar, S.Hut's findings. According to Secretary of the Andabia Lurah, the existence of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) has had a number of positive and negative effects on the Andabia Village's survival. PT provided an explanation for that. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) is still going strong; at least the mosque has been fixed, which is good news for the community as a whole. In addition, the Prosperous Kindergarten in Andabia Village is getting better. This definitely has a positive impact on the community around it, which makes it possible for PT to exist. The community, particularly those living in the Andabia Village, will fully back Tani Prima Makmur (TPM).

There is no doubt that the existence of a business places a great deal of hope in the community for changes that can be made to ensure the community's continued existence. As previously stated, PT's positive influence. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) serves the public interest of the community of Andabia Village in a very useful and beneficial manner. In addition to the above-mentioned public assistance, local residents also anticipate enhancements to other public facilities.

The people of Andabia Kelurahan, like the Secretary of the Andabia lurah, gave their opinions based on what happened in the field and how they felt up until that point, according to interviews with them. The professionals of the Andabia Village have every reason to believe that with PT. If Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) makes some changes, then their social conditions can be better than they were before.

### 3. Environmental pollution

In addition to the positive impacts mentioned above, the negative impact of the existence of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) has apparently caused a lot of unrest in the surrounding community, especially the people of Andabia Village. The existence of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), which is not far from residential areas, causes various natural damages such as air pollution, environmental pollution and water pollution.

Environmental pollution is something that is very common in an area where there are industries or companies that are operating. According to Mr. Rais as a community whose house is located close to PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), said that, the existence of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) had several negative impacts, such as burning marks in the form of thick black smoke which often blocked the main road, the smell of sewage due to the operation of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) which has reached community settlements and water conditions that are no longer as healthy as before PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) operates.

The same thing was conveyed by Mr. Rahman as a member of the Andabia Village community, that the condition of the existing river water can no longer be used as before because the condition is no longer healthy.

*"My complaint as a community whose house is close to PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) is about water conditions. Because of the operation of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) river water conditions are no longer as good as they used to be. During the rainy season, the waste must enter the river and inevitably continue to be used because there is no other choice. In the past, if the*

*well water was bad, there was still river water that could be used, but now the river water is also polluted due to waste from PT. Farmers Prima Makmur (TPM). Indeed, the river here is only a small river, but at least it used to be used for various purposes, now it is no longer. My hope as a member of the Andabia Village community, that PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) can operate well and still pay attention to the surrounding environment, especially regarding waste management. In the future, we hope that the waste from factory operations can be treated even better so that it no longer pollutes river water."*

They confirm the environmental effects that the Andabia Lurah Secretary mentioned based on the results of interviews with several communities. PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) and the Kelurahan government in the area must be concerned about a single issue in addition to the ones previously mentioned.

The unrest in the community as a whole can be seen in the complaints made by a number of residents in the Andabia Sub-District. The negative effects that PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) had should get the attention of the local government, who should investigate the situation right away and then offer a solution so that the company and the community around it can benefit from it.

Mr. Rasyid claims that a farmer told him that the impact of PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) must be investigated right away, particularly in regard to the issue of waste.

*" Since there is a plantation company owned by PT, I feel grateful. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM): a few of the people who used to be unemployed here are no longer employed. Unfortunately, the issue at hand is waste. The improper disposal of waste has resulted in numerous problems. The smoke sometimes gets so thick that it reaches the streets, where the bad river water used to be. The smell is everywhere. that all of this actually requires immediate attention. The worst part is that waste overflows and pollutes the river during the rainy season. I sincerely hope that the management of PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) will also pay attention to the state of our environment to prevent environmental damage."*

The same was said by Mrs. Tini and Mrs. Romlah: the existence of PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) had a positive impact on the community's economy; the poor waste management, on the other hand, contributed to environmental pollution, which necessitated immediate attention.

### **Cultural Conditions in Society**

Norms or values and customs are always present in every region, where these values are trusted by the community and used as guidelines for their lives from generation to generation. Cultural conditions in society One of the villages with a culture that has become ingrained in every local community is Andabia Village. helping out with things like weddings, building houses, and so on, for example. Social interaction among community members is one of the Andabia Village residents' routines. The people who live in this area now do it very often. from PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), which is known for having a lot of employees, also hires people from outside the area. The majority of them would rather settle in the Andabia Village.

It was discovered through conversations with a number of Andabia Village residents that the existence of PT. This culture has been influenced by Tani Prima Makmur (TPM).

*" Compared to prior to the presence of PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) in this area, the habits of the people of the Andabia Village have begun to change. In the past, residents gathered and interacted with one another every afternoon until the Maghrib call to prayer rang out to maintain their personal connection. However, because some individuals have joined PT. The practice of getting together in that manner, known as Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), is extremely uncommon. Perhaps because of exhaustion. However, cooperative efforts in the public interest continue to thrive up until this point."*

It is common knowledge that the local community's cultural structure or customs frequently shift as a result of the arrival of new residents. Be that as it may, it is unique in relation to the new occupants who got comfortable the Andabia Town. According to a resident by the name of Hamzah, the Andabia Village's culture and customs were unaffected by the presence of workers who chose to settle there from outside the region.

*"Alhamdulillah, I have never heard of anyone changing or deviating from the customary order in this Village since PT.Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) was operating and several new residents settled in this Andabia Village. However, it cannot be said that local residents and Newcomers do not have a good enough relationship due to the lack of interaction between us. We hope to be able to communicate more effectively in the future."*

From the results of the interview above it can be said that the presence of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) does not completely shift the cultural values that exist in society, although there are habits that are no longer carried out in the Andabia Village, namely interacting with each other to increase kinship.



## Community Economic Conditions

The most influential impact on the whole community from the existence of a plantation company is the economic impact. Likewise with the people of Andabia Village, which is one of the areas where the plantation company PT. Farmers Prima Makmur (TPM). The company is engaged in oil palm plantations. The existence of the company is expected to be able to provide a positive economic impact on the surrounding community. The economic impact caused during PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) operating in this area, namely:

### 1. Labor

Workers are absolutely necessary for any business, whether it is privately owned or state-owned. PT. Naturally, Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), a private company, also requires workers, both unskilled local workers and professional workers from other regions. According to the findings of interviews with the Secretary of the head of the Andabia village, so long as PT. This is where Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) operates. The presence of several workers recruited from the surrounding community, specifically the Andabia Village community, has the potential to improve the financial circumstances of some individuals. The Andabia Village Head claims that the community's economic conditions have improved as a result of the number of workers recruited by PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) from the Andabia Village community. In addition, a significant number of workers were hired, totaling 93.

According to Mr. Rahman's interview, a member of the Andabia Village community, our region's economic conditions have begun to improve since PT's establishment. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), as I and a number of other members of the community were recruited to work for PT. Prima Makmur Farmers (TPM) We may gain value from this.

*"Alhamdulillah, I am extremely grateful to Allah SWT and the management of PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), as PT. Since Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) employs me and operates, our family's economy has begun to improve."*

### 2. New Work

The existence of a palm oil mill owned by PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) in this area, the economic impact felt by community members is not only the large number of residents recruited as employees, but also opening up other business opportunities that have been felt by the surrounding community. The new job opportunities in question are a number of people whose

homes are not far from the factory location opening new businesses such as food stalls, cell phone counters, basic food stalls and so on to serve as additional income for women or young people who have not had the opportunity to become company employees.

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Ms. Sartini, a community member whose house is not far from the factory, as well as a resident who has opened a food stall, said that since PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) operates our income has increased quite significantly. Risman, one of the youth youth organizations of the Andabia Village, who opened a basic food kiosk and a cell phone counter, said that his opinion has increased significantly since the existence of the palm oil company PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), because their business turnover has increased along with the increase in company employees as consumers.

*"Alhamdulillah, since the palm oil factory owned by PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) is operating, my business is growing and the turnover is getting bigger, this is because there are several factory employees who come from outside the area and choose to stay here, plus my selling location is quite strategic so that many dump truck drivers are again queuing, preferring to stop and rest here shopping for drinks or food while waiting for the cargo in the form of palm fruit bunches or palm oil (CPO) to be sent out of the area."*

### **3. Job Opportunities**

PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) was established by immigrants who do not currently reside in that area. However, residents of the Andabia Village naturally have the opportunity to work at PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) due to its location. The outcomes of the author's interviews with Mr. Rahim, a permanent PT employee. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) stated that up to 259 PT employees Tani Prima Makmur (TPM), 93 of whom are occupants of the Andabia Town, this implies that the quantity of inhabitants in the Andabia Town has expanded since PT. Tani Prima Makmur (TPM) is able to function because workers from out of the area choose to live close to the factory. Another thing that can be concluded is that, given the number of employed individuals, employment opportunities for outsiders are greater than those for locals.

## **CONCLUSION**

The acquisition or maintenance of facilities and infrastructure like schools and places of worship are examples of positive social impacts felt by the community. Environmental pollution

caused by the company's operations is one of the negative effects, as well as the positive ones, that have a significant negative impact on local residents. Air pollution is one type of environmental pollution that takes place. The palm oil company PT's current financial situation. The employees of Sultra Prima Lestari, some of whom are from the local community, show that the company has a positive effect on the economy of the community. The community's economic situation can reduce the number of unemployed and open up new business opportunities in Andabia Village.

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