

## Original Article

### Learning from Livelihood Outcome of Social Safety Net Policy to Eradicate Poverty Amongst Fisherman Community in Surabaya, Indonesia

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#### Abstract:

The fishermen in Kalanganyar, Sidoarjo Regency are mostly in poor condition, as seen from their income, education, and settlements. Therefore, Kalanganyar government provides assistance to them, in the form of Social Safety Net (SSN). The purpose of this study is to analyze the livelihood outcomes of SSN on fishermen's lives. The method used is qualitative with primary and secondary data. The data analysis technique used is thematic analysis. The framework in this study adopts the thoughts of Moser (1998), World Bank (2014), and Devereux (2000) regarding livelihood outcomes. The results of the study show that SSN have helped fishermen improve their lives by increasing educational security for beneficiary children and food security. However, there are some problems such as the village apparatus being unable to determine beneficiaries due to data coming from the central government, uncertain timing of assistance, jealousy amongst the community over who receives assistance, and an a priori assumption of assistance from the apparatus. Therefore, the study recommends that village officials re-check the data of beneficiaries and submit it to the District Social Service for revision. Additionally, conducting socialization about the SSN program would lead to better understanding among the community.

**Keywords:** SSN, Livelihood, Fisherman

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#### Introduction

The Social Safety Net (SSN) is considered important for fighting poverty. [Bailey](#)

[et al. \(2020\)](#) explains that SSN is the program designed to help the poorest members of society to meet their housing, food, and health care needs. Furthermore, [Ahmed et al. \(2014\)](#) argues that SSN Program is a series of public actions taken by the government to protect vulnerable society from various types of social and economic difficulties, especially those caused by a significant decline in income.

Moreover, various countries such as India, China, and Brazil have applied SSN programs. One of the goals of this program is to improve the livelihood security of rural households by providing guaranteed wage jobs ([Khalid et al., 2021](#)). According to ([Devereux, 2000](#)) conducting an impact assessment of the broader effectiveness and consequences of three SSN programs in South Africa. These are cash for work in rural Zambia, social pensions in Namibia and cash transfers in urban Mozambique. Studies show that cash transfers in Mozambique account for 25% of cash income for the poor and are used to support their informal sector activities, such as small retailers and farming in the backyard. In addition, cash transfers are used to purchase clothing and kitchen utensils, support the financial needs of their children's education, and often invested in income-generating activities. Cash transfers have made a significant difference in the livelihoods of poor beneficiaries. Other study also found that cash transfers in Mozambique have the beneficiary for households who previously living in an absolute poverty has decreased from 71% to 65%.

Nevertheless, social pension income in Namibia has provided a stimulus to local trade, specifically in remote rural communities. Besides that, social pension encourages the establishment of grocery stores, including businesses in the smallest villages. This business is difficult to survive without income from social pension program. Overall, one-third and two-thirds of retail stores in southern Namibia are covered by social retirees account and more than half of these retirees are provided with credit facilities at these stores because of guaranteed by social income. In addition, social pensions support the entire extended family and strengthen the social role of grandparents in caring for their grandchildren. The money to work in rural Zambia is enough to cover consumption needs, create income multipliers, stimulate local trade, create lower commodity prices, and increase the purchasing power of all local residents. So, from all these findings, it can be concluded that SSN programs in Mozambique, Namibia, and Zambia have a positive impact on income-generating businesses, meeting consumption needs, investing in human resources, and supporting their social capital. This shows that SSN programs are feasible, affordable, and politically sustainable even in the poorest parts of Africa ([Devereux, 2000](#)).

In Indonesia, SSN programs were first launched by the government to cover food security, education, health, job creation, and community empowerment ([Sumarto et al., 2005](#)). There are several SSN programs that provide labor market programs, social insurance, health insurance for the community and civil servants, social assistance, programs for people with disabilities and child protection, staple food for the poor, and direct cash assistance ([Ahmed et al., 2014](#)). Some of these programs are also implemented for the poor in Kalanganyar, Sidoarjo. These include the Non-Cash Direct Assistance (Bantuan Langsung Non-Tunai/BLNT) under the Family Hope Program (Program Keluarga Harapan/PKH), Village Fund-Cash Direct Assistance (Bantuan Langsung Tunai Dana Desa/BLT-DD), and Non -Cash Food Assistance (Non-Cash Food Assistance/BPNT) The program aims to improve the livelihoods of Fisherman by providing them with cash, basic needs, and food. With this assistance, the beneficiaries can pay for their children's school fees, buy their basic necessities, have food security in

their homes, and even generate additional income.

Based on the data, even though the poor receive assistance, their livelihood outcomes are still questionable considering the current conditions. The children are unable to continue their education beyond high school or university, the environment is still unhygienic, and they face difficulties in meeting their daily needs. The community feels that BLT-DD and BLNT are not evenly distributed throughout the population, leading to a sense of injustice. Additionally, some people believe that SSN has not been directed to the right individuals. Whilst, there has been no specific research measuring the livelihood outcomes of the SSN program in fishing communities, especially in Kalanganyar, Sidoarjo. Previous research was conducted by [Sumarto et al. \(2005\)](#) on SSN in Indonesia, which found that SSN had a positive impact on household welfare, especially the subsidized rice program that reducing poverty risk among participating households significantly. Another study was conducted by [Casmiwati et al. \(2019\)](#) which showed that SSN in Surabaya City provided benefits for the fishing community in terms of children's education, food supplies, increased income, and other areas. However, the number of beneficiaries of this program is still too small compared to the population in need.

Therefore, this study purposes to analyze the livelihood outcomes of SSN for coastal Fisherman in Kalanganyar, specifically focusing on the impact of three SSN programs: Village Fund-Direct Cash Assistance (BLT-DD), Non-Cash Direct Assistance (BLNT), and Cash Transfer under the Family Hope Program (PKH-BLT). Besides that, the research will contributes theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research can improve the public policy theory, especially policy on poverty. Meanwhile, practically, this research can contribute as reference in improving the poverty eradicating in Kalanganyar and Indonesia as whole.

### **Social Safety Net (SSN)**

SSN is government programs aimed at helping the poor or vulnerable individuals lift themselves out of poverty. SSN has been in place for hundreds of years in the form of assistance to the poor ([Grindle, 2004](#)). Many countries have agreed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to eradicate poverty. Today, SSN coverage has been extended to the poor in low-income countries and more than half of the poor in upper-middle-income countries ([World Bank, 2015](#)). This shows that both poor and rich countries' governments are committed to providing SSN programs to poor and vulnerable households, providing them with protection from crises' impacts ([Grindle, 2004](#)).

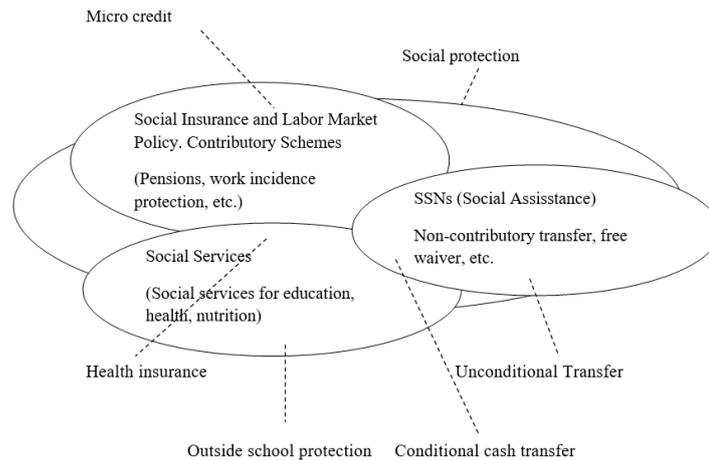


Figure 1. SSN Part of Security Program (World Bank, 2014)

SSN is a government program aimed at helping poor people improve their living conditions. In a broader definition, SSN refers to social welfare services provided by both the community and the government (World Bank, 1994). These services take the form of various programs aimed at alleviating poverty. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, the implementation of Social Safety Net programs has developed significantly, particularly in response to economic shocks such as the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis and, more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the flagship SSN programs is Program Keluarga Harapan (PKH), a conditional cash transfer initiative launched in 2007. Research shows that PKH has been effective in reducing poverty gaps, increasing school attendance, and improving access to maternal and child health services among the poorest households (Alam et al., 2023; Widiastuti et al., 2021).

### Sustainable Livelihood

The concept of livelihood is crucial in understanding the outcomes of government interventions. According to Chambers (1994), livelihood refers to the means of earning a living. For the poor, livelihoods are based on various activities and sources of food, income, and security. Meanwhile, according to Whitehead, (2002), livelihoods are the diverse activities carried out by humans for their survival and how they construct their world. Furthermore, sustainable livelihoods are characterized by the maintenance of productive resources or the improvement of life in the long term. Life does not only mean meeting basic needs, but also depends on continuity. Each family has a different way of earning a living, such as farming, fishing, and hunting. Thus, in a broader sense, livelihood emphasizes the search for a life that can reflect the strategic and tactical behavior of humans.

Similarly, Devereux (2000) argues that SSN is crucial for sustainable livelihoods. Sustainable livelihoods refer to the capabilities, assets (supplies, resources, claims, and access), and activities necessary to sustain life. A livelihood is considered sustainable if it can withstand and recover from stress and shock, maintain or improve capabilities and assets, provide opportunities for sustainable livelihoods for future generations, and offer tangible benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels, both in the short and long term. Therefore, this study uses livelihood outcomes to assess the impact of the SSN program on coastal Fisherman in Kalanganyar Sidoarjo.

### Livelihood Outcome

Livelihood outcomes are the result of various efforts undertaken to improve people's living conditions by relying on their assets. The goal is to maintain community survival despite various shocks, such as economic crises, natural disasters, and other social pressures. Some forms of livelihood outcomes include increased income and well-being, reduced vulnerability, increased food security, asset accumulation, and increased resource management capacity ([Haidar, 2009](#); [Moser, 1998](#)). Conceptually, [Moser \(1998\)](#) defines livelihood outcomes within the Asset Vulnerability Framework, which explains that community livelihood outcomes are the result of structural and process transformations by the government and the private sector, such as policies, laws, and social norms. In this context, the Social Safety Net (SSN) programs implemented by the government can be seen as a form of structural transformation that supports the achievement of livelihood outcomes.

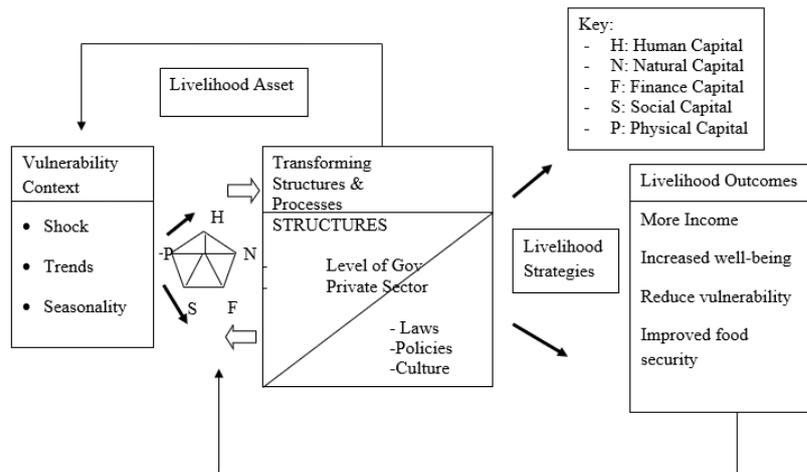


Figure 2. The Asset Vulnerability Framework (Moser, 1998)

[Haidar \(2009\)](#) broadened the definition of livelihood outcomes as the result of government interventions in the form of consumption assistance, asset transfers, skills training, financial savings, literacy, life skills development, village counseling, and improved health services. These outcomes include food security, income diversification, increased assets, better income management, savings to mitigate risks, increased self-confidence, and improved sanitation and public health. The contribution of the National Social Security Scheme (SSN) to improving livelihood outcomes has been demonstrated by various previous studies. According to the [World Bank \(2017\)](#) the SSN program has been proven to protect poor families from economic shocks, natural disasters, and other crises and has improved the living conditions of billions of vulnerable people. In 2017, 69 million people escaped absolute poverty and 97 million people escaped relative poverty. In India, the SSN has successfully created jobs for unskilled workers, distributed food; improved basic literacy based on micro-assets, and supported nutrition and health programs ([Grindle, 2004](#)). In Indonesia, the SSN program particularly the rice subsidy program for poor households has been shown to significantly reduce the risk of poverty, as demonstrated by a study by [Sumarto et al. \(2005\)](#) using longitudinal data from 10,000 households over 14 months.

In the context of coastal communities, [Hussin et al. \(2015\)](#) demonstrated that a homestay-based SSN program on Mantanani Island successfully improved the income and quality of life of 800 Fisherman. They transformed from traditional Fisherman to

sustainable tourism entrepreneurs. Although this program differs from the SSN program examined in this study, the findings indicate that SSN has a positive impact on Fisherman's livelihoods. The importance of the livelihood concept in understanding government interventions is explained by [Chambers and Conway \(1992\)](#), who define livelihood as how people meet their living needs through their capabilities, tangible assets (such as land, livestock, savings), and intangible assets (such as access to resources, information, and services). For poor communities, livelihoods are typically multi-sectoral and depend on various sources of food, income, and social security. [Ellis \(1998\)](#) adds that livelihoods also encompass social institutions, gender relations, and property rights, all of which are essential for sustaining life and maintaining sustainability.

Sustainable livelihoods are a crucial dimension of the outcomes achieved. A livelihood is considered sustainable if it can persist or improve over the long term, does not deplete local or global resources, and provides benefits to other life forms. [Chambers \(1995\)](#) explains that sustainability is supported by the interaction between humans, tangible assets (such as land, food, and savings), and intangible assets (such as claims, access to resources, jobs, technology, and services).

Therefore, livelihood outcomes not only contribute to improving people's living conditions but also serve as a crucial instrument in achieving Sustainable Livelihood (SL). This concept developed in the mid-1980s through the thinking of Robert Chambers and was expanded by Chambers and Conway in the early 1990s. It has been adopted by various international institutions as an alternative development approach responsive to the food crisis and the livelihood security of poor communities. It also describes the novelty of the article, in which SSN tries to improve community livelihood and eradicating the poverty.

## **Methods**

The study employs a qualitative method with the aim of revealing phenomena based on background and reality ([Merriam, 1998](#); [Nasution, 2006](#)). The participants consist of Fisherman, their families, village staff, and SSN assistants, who were selected based on their experience and knowledge of the SSN program in Kalanganyar ([Suri, 2011](#)). To ensure data richness, information was gathered through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. The data collection process will continue until data saturation occurs, meaning that complete data has been obtained. Data triangulation will be conducted to ensure data validation and reliability ([DiCicco-Bloom & Crabtree, 2006](#)).

Furthermore, data analysis is a process of making data reasonable by reducing, classifying and interpreting what people say, see and read ([Miles et al., 2014](#)). While the data analysis uses thematic analysis techniques in which data analysis based on themes that explains something important about the data related to the research question ([Braun & Clarke, 2006](#)). Then the instrument used in this study was the researcher, as said by [Merriam, \(1998\)](#) in qualitative research, researchers are the main instrument.

## **Results and Discussion**

Kalanganyar is directly adjacent to the sea, and almost 2/3 of its area is used for aquaculture. This condition significantly influences the profession of the community, as most of them work as Fisherman. The total population of Kalanganyar has about

8,450 residents whom majority work as Fisherman besides selling products from these ponds such as crackers, processed milkfish, tiger prawns and shrimp paste. Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Number 1 of 2018 concerning the Family Hope Program (Program Keluarga Harapan), in article 1, the Family Hope Program or PKH is a program that provides social assistance to the poor and vulnerable families or individuals who are listed in the integrated data by the social department. The program is given with certain conditions, such as the floor house made from soil; the income is lower than minimum regional salary, having not enough assets, etc. Moreover, the beneficiaries of the program are households that are considered poor, which include pregnant women, elderly individuals, children aged 5-7 years who have not entered primary education, elementary school children, junior high school children, and children aged 15-18 years who are not married. All the data of beneficiaries is processed by the Social Welfare Data and Information Center and designated as PKH beneficiary families.

Based on the findings, the number of PKH beneficiaries in Kalanganyar, Sidoarjo Regency in 2024 was 113 people. This figure has decreased compared to the number of beneficiaries in 2023, which were 124 people. This happened because even though they already had a PKH card, it could not be used for the disbursement of funds. When this situation was confirmed to the village officials, they did not know the reason because the data and the card were decided by the Central Government. It is recommended that the government evaluates the beneficiaries' conditions and increases the number of people who are no longer categorized as poor and replaces them with other poor people who are eligible for the program. Furthermore, according to the PKH assistant, beneficiaries can indeed be changed, dismissed, and transferred to other beneficiaries if the previous beneficiary has improved their welfare. In its implementation, PKH is always monitored and evaluated by the sub-district assistant, who is a staff member of the Social Service. At the village level, this is assisted by someone from the relevant village. The sub-district facilitator can propose changes to the Coordinator at the district level, and then a survey will be conducted. If the data is correct, changes will be made. Therefore, the number of beneficiaries may not be the same from year to year.

In addition, PKH assistance in the form of rice and money, each recipient of assistance received a different nominal based on need. The money they get is as much as IDR 1,850,000 or USD 127.5 (1 USD = IDR. 14,500). This money will be gives 3 times for 3 months, first and second month is IDR. 500.000, - or USD. 34.4 and the third month is IDR. 350.000,- or USD. 24.1. The research found that PKH give benefit to beneficiaries, meanwhile, the number of beneficiaries of the PKH program is very small, is approximately 1/8 of population (8450 people). The next impact of these findings is that people often protest, because they feel their condition is worse than the beneficiaries, while on the other hand, village officials cannot make any changes to the data. That's why it needs to change the procedures so the government will implement the program better in future. It is similar with [Khuda \(2011\)](#) found that the government needs to maintain a high level of political commitment, strengthen program management, better target beneficiaries, minimize leakage, improve financial management and payment systems, and strengthen monitoring and supervision.

It is undeniable that bureaucratic problems always appear in every policy regarding SSN programs and this often reflects the weakness administrative capacity of the government ([Ananta & Siregar, 1999](#); [Noer & Madewanti, 2020](#)). In some cases, the program has not reached the specified target group due to low coverage and loose

target. Program effectiveness varies across programs and regions. The general conclusion of this study indicates the need for improvement in program implementation, especially in targeting the beneficiaries of certain programs, and in increasing coverage within the target group ([Suryahadi et al., 2021](#)). Bureaucracy with tiered stages, both in election data collection, implementation, and reporting provides very limited space, especially in pandemic conditions that require policy issuance in a fast time ([Noer & Madewanti, 2020](#)). Beside that, there are some officials who become a priori or have a negative assessment of the SSN even though it is important for the people. This is similar what [Ahmed et al. \(2014\)](#) revealed that in order to achieve the goal of reducing poverty and improving the welfare of society as a whole, better targeting of beneficiaries as well as monitoring and supervision to avoid the problems from society.

### **Village Fund - Cash Direct Assistance(BLT-DD)**

In addition to the PKH described above, the SSN received by the poor in Kalanganyar is Fund-Cash Direct Assistance (BLT-DD). This is in line with the Regulation of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia Number 222/PMK.07/2020 abbreviated as Village Fund Management in article 1, where the BLT-DD is the provision of cash to poor or underprivileged families in the village originating from The Village Fund. The purpose is to reduce the economic impact due to the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. BLT-DD is an SSN program for the economic recovery of communities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

BLT-DD beneficiaries are determined based on 14 criteria set directly by the Ministry of Social Affairs (Regulation of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia Number 222/PMK.07/2020). Based on findings, the number who received BLT-DD in Kalanganyar Sidoarjo in 2024 was 116 people. According to several sources, it shows that the amount of BLT-DD was IDR. 300,000.- or USD. 20.6. The only problem is that the time of receipt cannot be ascertained by the beneficiary, sometimes 1 month, 2 months or 3 months. Initially the form of the SSN-Village Fund assistance was cash, but later it was changed to food items, such as rice, oil and eggs. Beneficiaries are determined by the central government with data originating from the village levels.

The main problem with the BLT-DD is that the community feels the distribution is unfair. Some of them feel their conditions are worth, but they don't accept. On the other hand, those who are seen as having economic and social capabilities accept the BLT-DD. This situation creates jealousy amongst community member. In addition, another problem that arises is the residents do not know that they are receiving assistance. They feel suddenly on the list of beneficiaries and get the cash. This situation was due to the data collection being carried out by village officials, namely the heads of neighborhood associations in each region and then being submitted to the village head's office. Residents did not know when they were listed into the data as beneficiaries so that when the aid arrived, they would only know.

The similar problem in the implementation of direct cash assistance also occur in various regions, as stated by [Akib & Risfaisa \(2016\)](#) that in the implementation of direct cash assistance, there are many obstacles in data collection such as there are some people who are not recorded in the target of poor households. Nevertheless, the absence of government socialization about direct cash assistance that causes some people who are categorized as poor do not receive assistance. Likewise, [Dewi & Andrianus \(2021\)](#) argues that the cash transfer program has a direct impact on poverty

in Indonesia, but the program's policies have drawn protests because the distribution and disbursement are considered confusing. Thus, the central and regional governments should coordinate to provide direct cash assistance taken from village funds to be distributed to the community through a predetermined mechanism and time ([Arumdani et al., 2021](#)).

Furthermore, [Pramanik \(2020\)](#) described that cash transfer assistance was very influential, so the government should increase cash transfer assistance appropriately, considering the survival of the poor due to the COVID-19 pandemic who did not get money to finance their lives. However, according to [Moffitt \(2013\)](#) in low-income populations, the increase in the amount of cash transfers is not very progressive across income classes. The assistance gives small impact to increase poor welfare. In the other side, the cash transfer program provides greater benefits for those with higher family incomes. However, this program is considered more effective and efficient to be given to the community than social assistance in the form of basic necessities, because the community can spend funds for other needs besides food needs ([Akib & Risfaisal, 2016](#)).

In practice, social assistance distribution is not a new phenomenon for either the central or local governments in Indonesia. However, persistent problems in implementation remain, particularly related to targeting accuracy and data overlaps. Many local governments face difficulties in distributing both cash and non-cash aid due to the lack of up-to-date data, while the assistance often needs to be disbursed urgently ([Saroh et al., 2021](#)). These challenges indicate the urgent need for a more responsive, transparent, and accountable social assistance system, especially when relying on village-level governance structures.

### ***Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT)***

BPNT is social assistance in the form of non-cash from the government that is given to beneficiaries every month through an electronic account mechanism. The money from government is used only to buy food at grocery/e-warong traders directly in collaboration with banks. The stores that become e-warongs have been determined and appointed by the Government. Based on the research, the number of BPNT beneficiaries in Kalanganyar, Sidoarjo in 2022 was 223 people. At first, the implementation time was once every 3 months but now became once a month. The form can be in the form of rice as much as 15 kg. In addition, BPNT has provided benefits for beneficiaries that are used to meet needs that they do not have. Thus, it can be concluded that BPNT has been implemented and provided benefits for the beneficiaries.

The problem that arises in the BNPT program is that the beneficiaries have been determined by the central government. The data is taken from data provided by the Village and the Central Bureau of Statistics. But in implementation, the beneficiaries are the same from time to time even though their economic conditions have changed, they are more prosperous. This then causes jealousy from other community member. However, from a social perspective, it can trigger turmoil in the form of conflict and the emergence of corruption. Despite the assistance provided in the form of goods is useful for the recipient. The recipient can use it to meet their basic needs and reduce expenses.

Policies for providing non-cash food assistance like this have also been carried out by various countries, such as in Bangladesh, which provided food during the crisis

[\(Ahmed et al., 2014; Khuda, 2011\)](#). However, this program should be expanded such as additional job creation, build infrastructure, and increasing access to and utilization of maternal health care services. These programs deserve high priority to ensure the rights of disadvantaged groups, including poor in urban and rural areas [\(Maun, 2020\)](#). Another study by [Safitri et al. \(2021\)](#) showed that social assistance coupled with capacity building and community empowerment strategies proved more effective in reducing poverty sustainably. Therefore, programs like BPNT need not only to be improved in terms of distribution effectiveness but also expanded into more comprehensive social interventions.

### **Increasing Revenue**

Increasing people's income is an ability possessed by the community through an increase in the purchasing power of the family to finance the daily needs, both basic and social needs. The research shows that BLT-DD or other assistance in the form of cash in Kalang Anyar provides benefits as additional income for the beneficiaries. The money from the government is used as business capital. Beneficiaries are also helped to finance their daily needs. Thus, the Livelihood outcome is giving positive impact to Fisherman livelihood, although in the short term. But it also gives negative impact that it makes people depend on government assistance [\(Akib & Risfaisal, 2016\)](#).

Then studied further, in the long term, SSN provides opportunities for beneficiaries to earn revenue. This is because some of their main assistance in the form of cash transfers is used for additional business capital. Some of the beneficiaries previously owned businesses, such as fish products manufacturers and traders. Once they receive assistance in the form of a cash transfer, it is used to increase their capital which then generates revenue for them. It's just that in this study, it is not known the percentage of beneficiaries who use their money for capital because the distribution of their livelihoods varies. The only problem is that during a pandemic, some beneficiaries become dependent on aid. They have calculated when the assistance will be received and already have a plan to use the money from the assistance.

Similarly, previous study found that SSN gives negative impact. It makes people depend on government assistance [\(Akib & Risfaisal, 2016\)](#). Then, [Tach, and Edin \(2017\)](#) found that cash transfer has not been maximized especially for the unemployed poor. It gives positive impact for employed people, long-term benefits for children's health and development as well as capital for economic development. [Bitler, M., Hoynes, H., and Kuka, E. \(2017\)](#) added that SSN programs have different impacts on each beneficiary. Economically, the provision of BLT has a significant impact on maintaining purchasing power and on groups of business actors for business continuity and minimizing the impact of termination of employment.

### **Income Diversification**

Income diversification means having various sources of income in addition to the basic income received by the beneficiary. Regarding Cash Direct Assistance in KalangAnyar, beneficiaries feel that they have received additional income apart from what they have received so far. Furthermore, research results show that this additional income is used for various things. According to informants, some were used to buy groceries, given to their children for school, and used to pay off debts. This is related to the cash transfer assistance program. Meanwhile, non-cash food assistance does not have an impact on income diversification, only money from beneficiaries, which should

be used to buy staples, can be used for other things. Non-cash food assistance can indirectly help beneficiaries' finances. This condition is similar to previous research conducted by [Casmiwati et al \(2019\)](#) found that SSN non-cash food assistance has a positive impact on the sustainability livelihood of the beneficiaries. This situation is the same as the research findings in Kalang Anyar, Sidoarjo.

### **Improved Food Availability Guarantee**

Guaranteed food availability refers to the condition where food is available and accessible to the beneficiary. From the results of interviews in the field, it is apparent that BLT-DD is used by beneficiaries to fulfill their daily food needs. According to two informants, the assistance received has improved the guarantee of food availability. Social safety net programs play a key role in protecting poor households from food shortages ([Ahmed et al., 2014](#)). By providing food or basic materials, the survival of the poor can be improved and their health can be positively impacted through access to basic food standards. [Sumarto et al. \(2005\)](#) also explained that the impact of participation in social safety net programs on household consumption is generally positive. However, it should be noted that only the subsidized rice program has been shown to significantly reduce poverty risks among participating households.

### **Education Improvement**

Improving education refers to actions taken to enhance the quality of education in accordance with existing education policies aimed at improving education standards in Kalanganyar Village. Field data shows that assistance has helped beneficiaries to finance their children's education. Educational support is provided by the government through the Family Hope Program (PKH). [Khuda \(2011\)](#) also mentioned that social safety net programs have resulted in increased enrollment and attendance in schools, especially for girls in secondary schools, and have reduced the gender gap. This program has been highly effective, particularly for the poor who benefit greatly from it, and most of the community supports the central government's program.

### **Challenge**

Based on research findings, several challenges exist in implementing social assistance programs such as the Direct Cash Assistance (BLT-DD) and the Non-Cash Assistance (BPNT) program to improve community welfare in Kalanganyar. First, there is a tendency to become dependent on government assistance. Although beneficial in the short term, some recipients become passive and simply wait for assistance without making independent efforts to increase their income, which can hinder economic independence. Second, the use of assistance as business capital has not been precisely measured. Although some recipients use it for small businesses, quantitative data on the exact number is not available, making it difficult to assess its overall impact.

Third, non-cash assistance does not contribute to income diversification. Because it is only in-kind, this assistance cannot be used for productive activities, so opportunities to increase income sources remain limited. Fourth, the impact of assistance varies depending on the recipient's socioeconomic condition. Those with businesses are better able to utilize assistance, while the unemployed tend not to experience significant economic benefits. Fifth, the lack of integration with empowerment programs is a barrier. BLT-DD and BPNT have not been optimally

linked to skills training, access to capital, or business mentoring, so the benefits are not sustainable. Finally, although social assistance improves access to education, evaluation of its impact on education quality is still limited. It is not yet clear how this assistance improves student learning outcomes or competencies.

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### **Conclusion**

The results of the study show that BLT, BLT-DD, and BPNT have helped Fisherman improve their sustainability livelihoods. Livelihood outcome of SSN is good for fisherman communities in Kalang Anyar, Sidoarjo. BLT-DD has helped Fisherman to buy basic needs and some have used it as business capital. Furthermore, there has been an increase in educational security for beneficiary children and food security. Moreover, SSN has resulted in income diversification because the target group gets another cash and non-cash beside previous business they have.

The only problem is that the village apparatus cannot determine the beneficiaries because the data comes from the center, the timing of aid is not clear, there is jealousy among the community and there are biases towards the beneficiaries of assistance from the apparatus.

#### **Theoretical Contribution:**

1. The research proves that the public policy from government gives impact to society with a certain purpose, for people welfare. In this case, Social Safety Net (SSN) has benefit to the sustainability Fisherman livelihood. It helps their lives in providing foods, revenue, income diversification as well as increasing their children education.
2. Public policy concerns on the implementation. The SSN needs socialization and society participation to avoid the social conflict.

#### **Practical Contribution:**

1. Village officials need to carry out data collection on the poor and non-poor groups which are then submitted to the District Social Service.
2. Conduct socialization about the SSN program so there is a good understanding from the community and village officials and there are no polemics and a priori amongst the community and officials.
3. Hold a meeting with the Social Service in the District to improve the timing of receipt.

Based on the above discussion, this study concluded that firstly, the foremost issue that should be tackled down in order for peace to be sustainable in Kalang Anyar, Sidoarjo, was economic empowerment, and the MSEs program was introduced. Secondly, the people were provided with financial support for starting a small business corporation by the central government through the Ministry of Social Affairs in that direction managed by the regional social bureau and the one managed by the village

program, BUMG. Unfortunately, those business groups could not sustain themselves and broke away. Finally, although, the MSEs have failed to improve the economic condition of the former combatant and conflict victim, it has positively and gradually enhanced the social integration process of the former combatants into the community. In addition, warm welcoming and positive attitude of the people towards the former combatants, which paved the way for social interaction within the society. Feeling being accepted by the community had healed their disappointment feeling and grateful for the peace.

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