

Gender and Family Empowerment of Indonesian Migrant Workers through the BK-TKI Program in the Coastal Region of the Mandalika Special Economic Zone, Indonesia

¹Ratih Rahmawati*, ¹Taufiq Ramdani, ¹Nuning Juniarsih

¹Department of Sociology, University of Mataram, Jl. Majapahit No. 62, Gomong, Selaparang, Mataram, Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia

*Corresponding Author:
Email: ratihrahma@unram.ac.id

Received:
1 September 2024

Revised:
30 October 2024

Accepted:
15 November 2024

Published:
16 December 2024

Abstract

Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI) are the country's foreign exchange heroes who generate remittances, by rotating funds (wages) from the results of work abroad. Coastal areas have their own characteristics because they have distinctive potential as marine tourism that holds the potential for the development of productive businesses in coastal areas. This potential needs to be balanced with the ability to manage the potential of marine resources. However, the problems experienced by them such as inequality of remittance management practices and social problems. This study aims to determine the implementation of the development of migrant workers and their families in coastal areas from the bottom through the Building Indonesian Workforce Families program or BK-TKI program, this is a strengthening of migrant workers families so that they can reduce difficulties in managing remittances, avoid vulnerable conditions because migrant workers' families are left behind to work, and the possibility of migrant workers returning to work abroad for the next period so that migrant workers and their families are declared out of the poverty chain after implementing the program. This research is qualitative research with a case study approach and analyzed with Robert K. Merton's structural functionalism theory. Data on the conditions of implementation of the BK-TKI program in coastal communities were obtained for 3 months. The results show that the implementation of the BK-TKI program in this region only has 2 pillars running, namely the pillar of economic empowerment and guaranteeing the rights of migrant workers' children.

Keywords: *migrant workers; BK-TKI Program; Mandalika*

INTRODUCTION

Migrant workers are people who move and live abroad in search of work in order to improve their lives and those of their families in their home countries (Maksum et al., 2020). People who work abroad are usually unemployed in their home regions, and are prepared to work abroad so as to generate remittances. They adapted to the indigenous people of the country. This migration and work are beneficial for migrant workers and their families in the area of origin, the role of migrant workers can increase development in a country if balanced with well-formulated policies (International Labour Organization, 2021). Indonesian migrant workers are heroes of the country's foreign exchange by obtaining remittances as the largest contribution to Indonesia's foreign exchange (Hasmi et al., 2022). Remittances generated by Indonesian Migrant Workers

(PMI) are beneficial for the development of the country because these remittances are carried out by the turnover of funds (wages) to improve the quality of families (husbands, wives and children of migrant workers) and become a driver of business capital.

The coastal zone is a transition zone between terrestrial areas and ocean areas on the earth's surface (Crossland et al., 2005). This zone as a system and ecosystem of marine natural resources that has community interactions in it as a coastal or coastal zone that depends on climate and tides. Coastal areas have a relationship between marine resources and the economic development of an area if managed in an integrated manner (Zhang & Chen, 2022), so that it can generate economic demand for the management of these resources, the most important thing is that the management process can be evaluated with an understanding of sustainable development. Coastal areas have their own characteristics because this area includes land areas and areas that are submerged by the ocean, people depend on the sea and its resources, as well as the livelihood of the people.

Communities in coastal areas have diverse and heterogeneous livelihoods, they seek to reduce dependence on natural resources, and have a way of life that has rules for the use of coastal resources (Hossain et al., 2020). Coastal areas as marine tourism store marine potential for the development of productive businesses in coastal areas, as well as equipment found for the development of new products (Lemos et al., 2021). This potential needs to be balanced with the management of the ability or capacity of coastal communities who also work as migrant workers. The majority of people in the Mandalika SEZ area, process seaweed as a processed ingredient for snack products, people bring seaweed from their own area and outside the district.

However, the problems experienced by migrant workers in this region, inequality in remittance management practices and social problems. Income inequality occurs in young heads of households living outside their area, whereas, the older they are, the greater the responsibility, and the greater the remittances sent to the family (Disney et al., 2022). This means that entry-level households have a higher vulnerability because they cannot accommodate or manage income properly, so remittances are not distributed effectively. While adult households understand responsibility, can work with families in their home countries.

Remittance turnover is related to reducing poverty levels but inequality or inequality is found in the management process (Chea, 2021). This also affects the increase in the economy of the recipient households, but there is inequality in it, this is because the increasing economic level makes household consumption patterns increase. Households receiving remittances have higher per capita expenditures, the cost of shopping for daily necessities is higher than non-remittance households or households without migration (Shair & Anwar, 2023). This results in social jealousy between households in one area and tends to cause conflict.

Social problems that occur in migrant families, divorce of migrant, and agrarian families are not dominated by husbands (Wirawan & Mas'udah, 2020). Factors that cause divorce are increased bargaining position because female migrants have income (salary) and separation of husband and wife for a long period of time. Migrants do not get fulfilment of rights and obligations from spouses or do not get inner satisfaction from marriage with spouses (Puspawati, 2022). This is due to many problems experienced by migrant workers such as long-distance contact with spouses, high levels of consumption, disputes, and child development problems. As explained earlier, the problems faced by migrant worker families in Malaysia are the fulfilment of disturbed love needs, family economic imbalances, and unbalanced parenting methods and child needs (Yuliani & Rasalwati, 2020). Some of these factors led to the decision to divorce.

Children abandoned by migrant worker parents, the majority tend to be unhappy and more vulnerable, especially children who are cared for by extended families (Alfiasari, 2022). Children not accompanied by the nuclear family cause disorganization in the family and inhibit child

growth and development. Migrant workers are vulnerable to divorce due to infidelity, remittances used for consumptive purchases, and childcare dysfunction (Suryadi et al., 2022). Divorce that occurs among migrant workers due to dysfunction of the husband's role or long-distance relationships, besides that the husband cheated and remarried in the country of placement, these two things trigger conflicts so that divorce occurs.

TKI families, the majority of which are wives and children, need to join umbrella organizations to cooperate with various layers of actors in society (Friedrichs & Marie, 2023). Migrant organizations are usually sheltered by non-profit institutions or organizations from the central and local governments, the main driver in these organizations is human resources, not funding. The nature of migrant organizations is to have coaching actors from the government and volunteer actors to work together in running the organization. Social protection is not only for migrant workers, but also for their families (International Labour Organization, 2021).

This has been explained before, that to ensure the use of remittances for all families, reduce poverty, and avoid vulnerable conditions and exclusion. All this includes the responsibility of the state to facilitate migrants and their families in a social security for the welfare of all migrant workers. The migrant umbrella group (empowerment) in Indonesia has productive activities for former female migrants who have worked in East Asian countries, this business group is a community initiative and collaborates with the government and NGOs (Zid et al., 2020).

Problems that occur in the Productive Migrant Village (DESMIGRATIF) group and village governments due to differences in opinions and interests, resulting in conflicts in the form of protests and resignations from group members (Wahyuni et al., 2023). The problem that occurs in migrant institutions/groups does not reach agreement even though negotiations have been carried out, but productive activities continue to run in accordance with the group's goals. The umbrella institution not only for ex-migrants but for migrant families, the government formed the group 'Bina Keluarga TKI (BK-TKI) (Utami, 2018).

This program starts from economic empowerment activities gradually in all sectors, the government oversees the protection and guarantee of rights for migrant families left to work abroad. In addition, children of migrant workers need to be taken care of collectively (Triwardhani, 2021), by both extended families and migrant umbrella groups, because children's conditions are not always cared for by biological parents. This is to get good communication and nurturing, from family and all walks of life. This study aims to determine basic development by families through the BK-TKI program, through mentoring and coaching for migrant workers' families.

This research was analyzed with Robert K. Merton's theory of structural functionalism. Functionalism explains that society has both the nature of function and dysfunction (Turner, 2022). Social change in society when it is good and gives positive results is called functional, when in a bad direction, not working, not providing benefits is said to be dysfunctional. A system of human life can come into being if different functions are available (Lee, 2021). If one element of the function is damaged, it can affect other elements and become dysfunctional. Social class in this theory leads to the adaptation of group actions and their behavior (Deflem, 2017). Thus, the range of this theory is limited and intermediate. Not within the breadth of human behavior or actions as a whole. The elements analyzed in this theory are groups, organizations, societies, cultures, and anomy in a patterned and repeating manner (Merton, 1968). Culture is considered as the value of prevailing norms or rules, social systems are considered as orderly social relations and anomy is considered as dysfunction of norms. Conformity is the end of adaptation to social deviation, that is, the group follows the goals and way of life that has been determined by society to achieve common goals (Calhoun, 2010). That way, real functions (manifests) and hidden functions (latent) appear. A manifest function is an expected function, and a latent function is an

unexpected (hidden) function. The purpose of this study is to find out the gender practices and empowerment of families of Indonesian migrant workers (wives and children) who are left behind to work abroad.

METHODS

This research is qualitative research with a case study approach, this method is used to gain an understanding of contemporary problems. In practice, case study researchers make in-depth observations of groups that produce a phenomenon so that researchers gain an understanding of real life. Researchers use this type and approach of research, to gain a detailed understanding of phenomena with typical cases, and acquire new theories, knowledge, and insights (Mtisi, 2022). So that the discoveries obtained are new experiences and knowledge carried out by the community. The location of the research is in the Mandalika Special Economic Zone, Central Lombok Regency. The Mandalika SEZ area is one of the Super Priority Tourism Destinations, with the main infrastructure development, namely the Pertamina Mandalika International Circuit. The informants of this study are the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control and Family Planning (DP3AP2KB) of West Nusa Tenggara Province and the Chairman of BK-TKI of Central Lombok Regency as key informants, the main informants are members of the BK-TKI program, and the supporting informants are the Mandalika SEZ Coastal Region apparatus with a total of 6 informants. This study uses interview, observation and documentation techniques in collecting data (Creswell & Poth, 2018), to obtain knowledge and phenomena about migrant migrant families who carry out 2 of the 3 pillars of the BK-TKI program, in addition, they have access from extended family and the community in the care of abandoned PMI children and the implementation of productive activities for PMI's wives. In this case researchers find answers to the what, how, and why of the phenomenon in the study effectively (Yin, 2018). This study uses an interactive model data analysis technique with data reduction activities, data presentation, and data conclusion or data verification (Miles et al., 2014). The researcher selects, simplifies, and transforms the data through data reduction, then presents important data that has been classified per topic of discussion, finally, the researcher draws conclusions on the data that has been collected and verified (Miles et al., 2020).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

Coastal communities work as fishermen, farmers, agricultural laborers, construction workers, contractor workers in the Mandalika Circuit area and the majority as migrant workers, they work outside their area because residential land and plantations are taken over for circuit construction, the community is given some funds and new residential land in exchange for land for circuit needs. The majority of people work outside the area to trade, become construction workers and migrant workers. Many migrant workers in this area go to East Asia and the Middle East to earn large salaries. The majority are both unmarried and married men, for married coastal communities, they leave their wives and children in their home areas, thus requiring them to send remittances to their families. Migrant workers families use salaries/remittances wisely as business capital, however, there are also those who behave consumptively or are used for consumptive purchases without rotating money for business purposes

The amount of salaries or remittances from East Asia is greater than the Middle East, this makes coastal communities more interested in working in East Asian countries such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, and South Korea. The community stated that salaries in Saudi Arabia or the Middle

East area, with an amount of 3-4 million rupiah per month, were not sufficient for the needs of life in the country of placement and for those sent to the country of origin, therefore people in the coastal areas of the Mandalika SEZ went more to East Asian countries, with salaries of around 5 to tens of millions of rupiah per month. This is in accordance with the duties at work, the task of being a housekeeper with the task of taking care of children only, the task of caring for the elderly only, or both. Each of them has a different amount of salary.

Remittances sent by migrant workers to families in their home areas, if used wisely, this improves the economy and social status. The majority of coastal communities working abroad are changing their economic status to become more established, this is felt by migrant families. Therefore, those who arrange finances for business capital and meet basic needs, have a different social status when returning to their home country or region. For example: children's school needs, buying or renting rice fields, making shops or kiosks, trading at home, etc. Thus, coastal communities who use remittances for productive activities can have a different social status from before they went to work abroad. They have a respected social status in the region where they live.

Coastal communities that cannot manage remittances are families who use migrant remittance salaries/wages for non-productive activities. They cannot manage remittances and used for consumptive purposes. Thus, migrants who return to their home areas after several years of working abroad cannot change their economic status. In addition, people need to return to work abroad for the second and third time. This indicates that migrant workers who worked in the first period were unable to use remittances wisely, used for consumptive purchases, and not used for productive activities or business capital. Therefore, they need to return to work abroad for the next round or period.

Remittances sent by migrant workers to migrant families cause social jealousy and problems in the event of discommunication in the nuclear family. Social problems arise both from the side of the extended family and the side of neighbors or the community around the place of residence. The method of sending remittances to the nuclear family is to transfer / entrust salaries / wages to relatives (extended family). This is done so that the nuclear family (wife) does not treat remittances excessively for consumptive purchases, because the salary / wages directly given to the nuclear family often do not work. Therefore, to minimize social jealousy, remittances are not only used for the nuclear family, but deposited in the extended family (trusted people), the salary will be taken at any time when returning to the area of origin.

Organizations that accommodate migrant workers' families have an important role in the psychological and physical development of the nuclear family (wives and children), because organizations or groups provide motivation, experience, and knowledge for the nuclear family. One of them is the migrant worker family group in the BK-TKI Program / Indonesian Manpower Family Development Program by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia. This program has 3 pillars, however, only 2 pillars are implemented in the coastal area of the Mandalika SEZ, namely the pillar of 'economic empowerment of migrant families' and 'guarantee of migrant children's rights'. This work program group has a role to carry out socialization to migrant workers' families, regarding the importance of this program for economic improvement, household integrity and ensuring the rights of migrant workers' children.

Socialization in economic empowerment carried out by the group plays a role in providing knowledge and motivation to coastal communities regarding the use of remittances sent by husbands from placement countries to be used as productive activities or business capital. Productive business or business carried out by managing and processing the potential of natural resources around the residence, or home production with small capital, or Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). In this case, the BK-TKI group of Central Lombok Regency

provides solutions for the wives of migrant workers who are left to work abroad to have productive activities, thus strengthening the economy and mentality.



Figure 1. Monthly Routine Meeting of BK-TKI Group of Central Lombok Regency

Strengthening in the pillar of economic empowerment in this group is carried out by providing training on seaweed commodity processing. West Nusa Tenggara Province is one of the largest producers of seaweed from five provinces in Indonesia. Therefore, seaweed commodities are one of the prima donnas in this province. Processed seaweed is mainly used as dodol and candied seaweed as one of the typical souvenirs of Lombok, other products are seaweed flour and dried seaweed which are sent outside Lombok Island (Java, NTT, and Makassar). The abundant production of seaweed on Lombok Island requires action from coastal communities for processing, therefore this commodity needs to be processed to become a typical souvenir product in other types.



Figure 2. Training on Making Traditional Sasak Cakes (Dodol Banana)

The BK-TKI program group of Central Lombok Regency carried out training in seaweed processing. Seaweed for processed products of this group is imported from East Lombok, West Lombok, Central Lombok, even from Sumbawa and Bima. In this group, processed seaweed reaches 25-50 kg per production. The BK-TKI group processes seaweed product commodities into crackers and seaweed sticks. This processed product became one of the participants in the home-processed product competition in the Role of Women in Improving Family Welfare (P2WKSS) program in Central Lombok Regency and won 2nd place. Furthermore, the expansion

of this group makes snacks such as traditional Sasak cakes. In addition, the group received women-specific skills training such as group sewing training for bag and wallet production.

BK TKI group members who are wives of migrant workers, who have gone through education or training in the group join the seaweed processing and traditional cake making business group, the community receives orders for the group, even if only seasonally, or when welcoming or during Eid al-Fitr only. About 2 or 3 kg for one production. When training moments from agencies from local governments, agencies or speakers buy processed seaweed products in large quantities. Similarly, the sewing group, this group received training from the BK-TKI program on sewing knowledge and was given sewing tools. If there is an order from an agency or school that requires uniforms to be made in groups, in addition, making brooches from patchwork.

These productive activities improve the self-quality and economic quality of migrant workers' families if followed up by each individual. Training activities are not routinely carried out, with a range of 1 time in 1 time period, but for BK-TKI group meetings are held every month. This activity is a productive activity because it contains the delivery of material and knowledge about entrepreneurship and general information about women and families packaged in the form of monthly social gatherings of the BK TKI group of Central Lombok Regency. This activity educates the nuclear family of migrant workers (wives and children) to manage remittances into productive business or business activities. Therefore, the first pillar of BK-TKI has been implemented in this umbrella group. This matter is expected to strengthen and improve the economic quality of each migrant worker's family, even though the family is left to work abroad.

The phenomenon of abandoned children in the coastal area of the Mandalika SEZ is the child of migrant workers who are not taken care of by their biological parents because their father works abroad, while their mother returns to her parents' house. This is because, there is discommunication in husbands or wives, one of whom works abroad, so that infidelity is the basis for divorce, coastal communities who experience this meet other women / men in the country of placement, therefore do not focus on communicating and caring for the family in the country of origin, so the divorce is carried out while still abroad. In addition, another phenomenon is migrant workers who marry abroad for the second time, this causes family rifts in migrant families in the country of origin, because there is infidelity in the country of placement. When returning to the area of origin, male migrants bring new wives, this is one of the factors in divorce.

In addition, the distance between husband and wife is very far due to different countries and time ranges, becoming the basis or reason for household rifts or reducing household harmony. This is what makes migrant workers' wives divorce. For social problems, the rampant divorce carried out by coastal communities who become migrant workers and wives in their home countries, solutions are not given by local governments. There is no direct socialization and guidance on household strengthening and family resilience from the BK-TKI program. Solutions are offered for the settlement of divorce issues up to the village government level, because divorces are carried out while migrant workers are still working abroad. Thus, it can be said that the second pillar of the Central Lombok Regency BK-TKI program regarding 'migrant worker family resilience' has not been implemented.

Migrant workers' household problems have an impact on children being uncared for and not taken care of because they are entrusted to large families (grandmothers or aunts). Despite living with a large family, children need to get attention from biological parents. If you do not get attention from biological parents, physically and psychologically it is stated that it is inhibited in growth and development compared to children of their age who live together with at least one of the biological parents so that it becomes uncontrolled. Differences in the growth and development

of abandoned children or unkempt children such as fighting with children of the same age, not having the desire to continue school, and merariq kodeq (underage marriage).



Figure 3. Assistance for PMI Children (Adolescents and Toddlers) Adolescent Physical-Psychological Development and Children's Growth and Development

Faced with this, the BK-TKI program together with the Posyandu program provide assistance and counseling for adolescents, groups provide coaching materials for adolescents and children regarding the process of physical and psychological development of adolescents. Coastal communities (wives and children) who attend the activity can be detected early if there are problems so that solutions can be given. In addition, the management and members of the Central Lombok District BK-TKI have received material from relevant agencies on 'gender and adolescent development' to reduce the possibility of child neglect and child growth and development barriers. Thus, the third pillar of 'guaranteeing the rights of children of migrant workers' families has been implemented in the BK-TKI group of Central Lombok Regency

Discussion

In the theory of Structural Functionalism, Merton explains that the social processes formed in actions carried out by humans have several functional structures (Sztompka, 1986). These functions can support or disrupt patterns created in a system. Furthermore, mechanisms in social structure have relationships between each element that support the creation of systems and minimize changes in social structure is an effort to create functions (Merton, 1968). Analysis in the cultural aspects of society embodies different structural positions, the position of functioning is to benefit society, bring contributions. While the position of dysfunction is detrimental to society. There are four premises analyzed, namely social function, social dysfunction, latent function, and manifest function. Behavior patterns form a structure in society, thus realizing the social and cultural systems implemented by society and producing these functions. This is in accordance with community development practices, it can solve community problems, using analysis of regional conditions-needs, local resources (utilization of potential and improvement of human resource capabilities) (Meirinawati et al., 2018).

In this case, coastal communities working abroad have formed a pattern in the community, especially in the coastal area of the Mandalika SEZ, because the community is affected by land eviction. Despite being compensated for land, they try to find other income outside their area, one of which is becoming a migrant worker. This behavior forms a pattern of functioning and dysfunction. The social function between these two structures is not only formed in the behavior

of migrant workers, but also in migrant families. Migrant families who receive remittances have several actions such as carrying out productive activities and behaving consumptively. Thus, productive activities carried out by migrant families (wives) have structures that contribute to the lives of migrant wives, however, have dysfunction if they are not properly regulated or coordinated. This relates to social functioning can be analyzed in depth and is not something subjective (Merton, 1968).

This corresponds to the phenomenon in Poland, that Polish migrants bring new rules, norms, values, social capital, and social practices to their home regions. This affects the role of society, especially in the domestic and lifestyle sectors, so there are patterns of functioning and dysfunction in migrant workers from Poland (Barbarito, 2012). Another phenomenon occurs in community development brought by PMI to their home region, in Jordan, they make women's empowerment with social norms such as roles, freedom of mobility, and decision-making power by women (Tuccio & Wahba, 2018). In this case, ex-migrant women transfer gender equality norms from the placement country so as to produce economic strength, high labor force participation, and others. This phenomenon is a manifestation of the pattern of functioning of migrant workers for the people of their home regions as a contribution by forming an empowerment group.

'Function' means having a contribution to society (social institutions and cultural practices) to maintain social order, unity and cohesiveness (accommodation). Order cohesiveness in the system (Sztompka, 1986). In accordance with the results of research that coastal communities form a systematic pattern by working outside the region and even working abroad. Those who seek to find other income abroad produce social functions for the surrounding community and family and even have an impact on the development of the country, this is because sending remittances can increase the country's foreign exchange and grow the family economy. Remittances of migrant workers can be the accumulation of household economic capital or productive enterprises in the area of origin, the delivery of remittances is allocated for household savings and investment (Lim et al., 2023).

The social function formed is to improve the quality of the family so that it can meet its needs, if it can be used wisely. Especially migrant workers' families who use remittances for home-based businesses, PMI does not return to being migrant workers for the second time. In this case migrant workers who carry remittances and are used wisely can make productive efforts or businesses at home, besides not being migrants again. This is in accordance with the situation in developing countries, at the beginning of the condition of society having low savings rates, but the delivery of remittances in these countries by migrant workers can shape the development of entrepreneurship at the local level so as to contribute to the GDP of developing countries (Alhassan et al., 2023). This happens in other cases, there are communities that depend on tourism businesses and sending migrant worker remittances to invest in people's livelihoods, thus generating household income (Kagin et al., 2023). This explains that the reduction in the amount of remittances can affect local employment incomes and local goods in the area of origin, including in tourism business areas.

In this theory, the analysis of social structure in terms of stability and social dynamics so that it undergoes changes in society (Elwell, 2009). This is in accordance with the phenomenon in East Java, that the separation of husband and wife for a long time because the husband is a migrant worker, is one of the reasons for the dysfunction of migrant workers. So that the wife has control over divorce (Wirawan, & Mas'udah, 2020). Dysfunctional structures give rise to tensions, conflicts, contradictions, this creates changes in the system prevailing in society. The occurrence of social dysfunction of infidelity, divorce, and abandoned children due to social changes in coastal communities to migrant workers. The dysfunction of the rise of migrant workers and

remittance remittances is a negative impact such as reducing the quantity or labor market supply of poor household members to self-employment in the home area (Murakami et al., 2021). This means that a program is needed for the management of remittances in the development process.

Furthermore, according to the results of the study, dysfunction in Central Lombok migrant workers formed due to this action caused social changes due to factors such as remote factors from different countries and discommunication factors with the nuclear family causing infidelity in the country of placement, this resulted in family rifts and divorce, resulting in children becoming abandoned. The abandoned child is caused by the wife returning to her parents' house, while the child is deposited in the house of the husband's extended family (grandmother and aunt). The act of discommunication and disharmonization in the family means dysfunction, that is, it does not contribute to society, its actions bring chaos, a system that brings chaos in a condition (Lee, 2021).

Migrant families who receive remittances have several actions such as carrying out productive activities and behaving consumptively, productive activities carried out by migrant families, especially wives of migrant workers obtained from the BK-TKI group of Central Lombok Regency, because members of the migrant worker group/wives are vulnerable groups, so this activity provides alternative solutions in managing remittances to be used as productive businesses or businesses and managing the mentality of its members. This social action has a manifest function with phenomena that are directly visible (IGNOU, 2017).

This is in accordance with the phenomenon of manifest function in ex-migrant groups in Central Java, that former female migrants are also included in vulnerable groups, they form ex-migrant groups, productive activities to use remittances optimally, so that they can use some remittances for productive things (Rahmawati et al., 2019). According to the findings, people who are members of empowerment groups for former migrant workers or their families have human resource capacity building activities so that they are wise in managing remittances. This is because community participation in the community has a function to create opportunities for individuals/members to learn new skills, knowledge, and experiences (Gamo & Park, 2022).

Meanwhile, the actions of coastal communities/wives of migrant workers have latent functions which if observed are hidden in all actions that have been carried out in productive activities or activities in the BK-TKI group of Central Lombok Regency, such as having a double burden in activities in the domestic realm and public domain, leaving home in a neat state to carry out productive activities (regular monthly meetings, socialization, and training from agencies), and children do not get full attention because they have productive activities outside the home if they cannot coordinate time. Community action when observed in depth has a latent function that is not seen in the activities shown in social and cultural systems (Merton, 1968). Whereas in other cases, commercial entrepreneurs or commercial entrepreneurial activities, they sell products, but latently cause a process of sustainable community development and achieve SDGs, this becomes the creation of latent social value due to entrepreneurship (Liaqat, 2023).

Deep, more detailed and detailed observations are needed in knowing the meaning implied in the functions performed by society but not realized and not expected. This corresponds to the statement that latent functions are unrecognized or unconscious, containing often unexpected meanings of social action (Turner, 2022). This is in accordance with the phenomenon of migrant workers from Ukraine working in Poland that there are latent functions in the conditions of these migrant workers, such as various issues regarding benefits and pensions, minimum wages, work permits for work security and safety, but they never complain (Filipek & Polkowska, 2020). Whereas, in China, migrant workers pose latent functions with problems such as feeling threatened due to negative attitudes or negative stereotypes evoked by other groups towards migrant worker groups (Jiang et al., 2023).

In this social function is beneficial for some people, but not beneficial for others in the same community group (Deflem, 2017). Productive activities in the BK-TKI group have benefits and contributions to the lives of group members/wives of migrant workers, these activities/activities can increase knowledge in managing remittances and coordinating abandoned children in the third pillar of the program, on the other hand migrant workers' wives need permission to carry out productive group activities, it does not benefit neighbors/relatives not migrant workers, because this self-development is specifically for migrant families in the BK-TKI group.

In other cases, women's work has a negative influence on women's reproductive workload (Krumbiegel et al., 2020). This means that women who work in the public sector, they have productive activities or jobs to improve the economy of themselves and their families, but, on the other hand, they have the obligation to complete various household chores, this causes women to bear the influence or negative impact of public sector activities, because it creates imbalances and even causes problems in reproductive workloads. In the latent function there are moral actions carried out collectively.

This function results from social action, society does not realize what the meaning of an action is in depth regarding the socio-cultural aspect (IGNOU, 2017). In this case especially disputes arise, conflicts or contradictions in society. For example, in the phenomenon of sending remittances/wages/salaries by migrant workers to families in their home countries, this can increase honor and social status, with evidence, having productive businesses or businesses in their homes, purchasing rice fields/land, children's education, and purchasing electronic goods or motor vehicles. The impact of this increase in social status or honor gives rise to social functions in society. However, both productive efforts and consumptive purchases cause dysfunction in society, which causes social jealousy in society, contradictions and even conflicts or arguments.

In other cases, social jealousy also occurs because former migrant workers and families have high social status. This is evidenced by the large number of migration back, migrant workers returning to their areas of origin, remittances are used for consumptive purchases, are unproductive and personal, however, they are also used for investment (property or housing), this creates jealousy and hatred by the surrounding community (non-migrant workers) [50]. This is because, non-migrant workers do not have the ability to make consumptive purchases, in addition, former migrant workers and their families create a certain lifestyle that is followed by the community around where they live.

The act of increasing pride or honor in each family can disturb the solidarity of the community in a small scope (Merton, 1968). This is in accordance with the condition in society that differences in socioeconomic status within the same area can cause social jealousy, which is related to the cognitive abilities and achievements of each member (Korous & Causadias, 2022). This happens in society in Jordan, women who do self-development (trained) for entrepreneurship tend to be ignored by society, even experience rejection from family and society, when they have made money this makes social jealousy in society (Razzaz, 2017). The increase in the socio-economic status of certain parties or groups creates an imbalance in the solidarity of the people in their region. This is because Jordanian women perform a type of menial work that is identical to men's work and has domestic responsibilities that women must perform. Related to the phenomenon in this study, women have domestic responsibilities, if having more workload in the public sector (formal work or empowerment groups) makes them abuse domestic work (household affairs and child development).

In this case, functional postulates have little to do with decision-making attitudes, but rather, an analysis of the consequences of social and cultural systems (usage, beliefs, behavior patterns, institutions) for groups and their members (Merton, 1968). In accordance with the

phenomenon found in coastal communities, this is not about how decisions are made in the use of remittances, but rather, the impact or effect of the use of remittances on the social and cultural systems prevailing in society. In this case, the traditional social system in the community, provides remittances to the nuclear family through the extended family. Sometimes used together. Therefore, the pattern found in society seems collective in the use of remittances.

One of the causes of gender equality and mainstreaming in society is the understanding of actors or program implementers regarding gender equality and responding effectively to policies (OECD, 2023). This is in accordance with the conditions of coastal communities in the Mandalika SEZ, gender equality occurs in empowerment activities in the BK-TKI program, the community has a high understanding because it has a driving force that initiates and invites members to carry out empowerment activities, understanding is also obtained from related agencies during socialization activities on understanding equality and gender mainstreaming in several different methods, manifested by the formation of activities in the BK-TKI group.

In addition, coastal communities respond to policies quickly, as evidenced by the formation of organizational / group structures after socialization by the central government or related ministries in each region. The commitment is embodied in the rule of law in ASEAN member countries, they take specific steps so as to change the condition of ASEAN women, this ensures that women migrant workers become prosperous and have concrete improvements in every sector of their lives (The ASEAN Secretariat, 2022). Furthermore, understanding gender equality in the lives of former migrant workers and their families is very important because the application of this understanding will be related to economic outcomes and development of human resources and a region/country (Pervaiz et al., 2023). In this case, gender equality affects the economic growth of developing countries. Protect women's rights, as workers, they are treated fairly so as to achieve the growth and economic development targets of a country.

In the United States, women access various sectors (education, employment, and leadership positions, labor) thus creating well-being and security for themselves (U.S. government, 2023). Furthermore, countries that apply this understanding can harness the potential of their citizens, make innovations, increase economic growth, and create solutions to global challenges. In the phenomenon of coastal communities, the form of gender equality is gaining access to human resources in the implementation of productive activities, obtaining access to wealth (managing remittances) with the consent of husbands who work abroad to be used as productive business capital, and access to intangible resources (information, influence, and relationships), PMI wives obtain socialization and training information from agencies and groups, as well as relations from outside their region/group. This is in accordance with the understanding of gender equality that women obtain gender equality according to SDGs 5, not only human rights but tend to support inclusive community development, increased economic growth, and sustainable development (Beloskar et al., 2024).

CONCLUSION

Migrant families (wives and children) get guaranteed rights from the government by participating in the BK-TKI program in Central Lombok Regency. Of the three pillars of the BK-TKI program, only two pillars are running, namely the first pillar of 'economic empowerment of migrant workers' families, the group carries out economic empowerment for migrant workers' wives by providing entrepreneurial socialization. Processed seaweed ingredients are the main snack products on Lombok Island, so it is necessary to carry out further processing for this commodity, so that it has a variety of products. The third pillar of 'guaranteeing the rights of children of migrant workers' families has been implemented, the BK-TKI program provides assistance and

counseling for adolescents and children regarding the process of physical and psychological development. Meanwhile, the second pillar of 'migrant worker family resilience' was not implemented because the government did not have a solution to the rampant cases of infidelity and divorce in migrant worker families in Central Lombok Regency

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author would like to thank to Institute for Research and Community Service (LPPM) Mataram University; the research team in the field of 'Social Problems' of Department Sociology of Mataram University; BK-TKI of Central Lombok Regency; Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control and Family Planning (DP3AP2KB) of West Nusa Tenggara Province. Thank you to all informants and all who have helped so that the research has been completed properly.

REFERENCES

- Alfiasari., Sumarti, T., Wahyuni, E.S., & Johan, I.R. (2022). Optimizing Left-behind Children's Well-being of Migrant Worker's Families in Rural Areas through Strengthening the Nuclear Family System: A Perspective from Child's View. *Sodality: Jurnal Sosiologi Pedesaan*, 10(02)
- Alhassan, U., Maswana, J., & Inaba, K. (2022). *Remittances and Formal Entrepreneurship Development: The Role of Local Financial Development*. Research Square
- Barbarito, A. (2012). Remittance Impacts in Eastern Europe: A Case of Poland. *European Journal of Migration and Diaspora*, 8(1)
- Beloskar, V.D., Haldar, A., & Gupta, A. (2024). Gender equality and women's empowerment: A bibliometric review of the literature on SDG 5 through the management lens. *Journal of Business Research*, 172.
- Calhoun, C., (2010). *Robert K. Merton: Sociology of Science and Sociology as Science. A Columbia / SSRC Book*. Columbia University Press.
- Chea, V. (2021). Effects of Remittances on Household Poverty and Inequality in Cambodia. *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*, 28(2)
- Coombs, H. (2022). *Case Study Research: Single or Multiple*. Southern Utah University
- Creswell, J.W., & Poth, C.N. (2018). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design Choosing among Five Approaches 4th Edition*. SAGE Publications Inc.
- Crossland, C.J., Kremer, H. H., Lindeboom, H. J., Crossland, J.I. M., & Le Tissier, M. D. A. (2005). *Coastal Fluxes in the Antropocene. Global Change – The IGBP Series*. Springer.
- Deflem, M. (2017). *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory*. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.
- Disney, R., McKay, A., & Shabab, C. R. (2022). Household Inequality and Remittances in Rural Thailand: A Life-Cycle Perspective. *Oxford Economic Papers* 418-443
- Elwell, F. (2009). *Macrosociology: The Study of Sociocultural Systems*. Mellen Press.
- Filipek, K., & Polkowska, D. (2020). The Latent Precariousness of Migrant Workers: a Study of Ukrainians Legally Employed in Poland. *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 21, 205–220

- Friedrichs, N., & Marie, M. (2023). Stronger Together? Determinants of Cooperation Patterns of Migrant Organizations in Germany. *Social Sciences*, 12(223)
- Gamo, B.R., & Park, D. (2022). Community capacity influencing community participation: Evidence from Ethiopia. *World Development Perspectives*, 27
- Hasmi, N. A., Lumumba, P., & Burhanuddin. (2022). Masalah Tenaga Kerja Indonesia (TKI) di Arab Saudi dan Perjuangan Diplomasi Republik Indonesia. *Hujia*, 2(2)
- Hossain, M.S., Gain, A. K., & Rogers, K.G. (2020). Sustainable Coastal Social-Ecological Systems: How Do We Define “Coastal”? *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 27(7)
- IGNOU. (2017). *Robert K. Merton: Manifest and Latent Function*. The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)
- International Labour Organization. (2021). *Extending Social Protection to Migrant Workers, Refugees and Their Families (A Guide for Policymakers and Practitioners)*. ILO, Geneva
- International Labour Organization. 2021. ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers (Results and Methodology). International Labour Office, Geneva
- Jiang, H., Duan, T., & Tang, M. (2023). Internal migration and the negative attitudes toward migrant workers in China. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 92
- Kagin, J., Filipski, M., Fletcher-Taylor, J., Gupta, A., Lindsay, A., Taylor J.E., & Whitney, E. (2023). *The impacts of COVID-19 and policy responses in rural economies – Findings from a local-economy general equilibrium modelling study*. FAO.
- Korous, K.M., & Causadias, J.M. (2022). A Systematic Overview of Meta-Analyses on Socioeconomic Status, Cognitive Ability, and Achievement: The Need to Focus on Specific Pathways. *Psychological Reports*, 125(1)
- Krumbiegel, K., Maertens, M., & Wollni, M. (2020). Can employment empower women? Female workers in the pineapple sector in Ghana. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 80
- Lee, J. (2021). The Legacy of Robert K. Merton: On Theories of the Middle Range. *Sociological Forum*, 36(2)
- Lee, J. (2021). The Legacy of Robert K. Merton: On Theories of the Middle Range. *Sociological Forum*, 36(2)
- Lemos, M.F.L., Novais, S.C., Silva, S.F.J., & Félix, C. (2021). Marine Resources Application Potential for Biotechnological Purposes. *Appl. Sci* 11
- Liaqat, M.M. (2023). Latent social value: why it matters for sustainable development goals? in book: digital resilience and sustainable entrepreneurship in the time of covid (pp.125-142). EFE ACADEMY PUBLISHING.
- Lim, S., Morshed, AKMM., & Turnovsky, SJ. (2023). Endogenous labor migration and remittances: Macroeconomic and welfare consequences. *Journal of Development Economics*, 163
- Maksum, A., Tsay, C., & Muhammad, A. (2020). Indonesian Migrant Workers in Taiwan: The State Dilemma and People's Realities. *JSP*, 24(1)
- Meirinawati., Prabawati, I., & Pradana, G.W. (2018). Strategy community development based on local resources. *IOP Conf. Series: Journal of Physics: Conf. Series* 953
- Merton, R.K. (1968). *Social Theory and Social Structure (Revised Edition)*. Free Press.

- Miles, M. B., Huberman, M. A., & Saldana, J. (2020). *Qualitative Data Analysis (4th ed.)*. SAGE Publications.
- Miles, M.B, Huberman, A.M, & Saldana, J. (2014). *Qualitative Data Analysis, A Methods Sourcebook, Edition 3*. Sage Publications
- Mtisi, S. (2022). The Qualitative Case Study Research Strategy as Applied on a Rural Enterprise Development Doctoral Research Project. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods* 21(1–13)
- Murakami, E., Yamada, E., & Sioson, E.P. (2021). The impact of migration and remittances on labor supply in Tajikistan. *Journal of Asian Economics*, 73
- OECD. (2023). *Institutional and governance frameworks for gender equality and mainstreaming”, in Toolkit for Mainstreaming and Implementing Gender Equality 2023*. OECD Publishing, Paris
- Pervaiz, Z., Akram, S., Jan, S.A., & Chaudhary, A.R. (2023). Is gender equality conducive to economic growth of developing countries? *Cogent Social Sciences*, 9(2)
- Puri, S. & Ritzema, T. (1999). Migrant Worker Remittances, Micro-finance and the Informal Economy: Prospects and Issues. Enterprise and cooperative development department—social finance unit. International labour office.
- Puspawati, A.A., Caturiani, S.I., Utami, A., Fadoli, M.I., Puteri, A.E., & Putri, T.D. (2022). *The Resilience Families of Indonesian Migrant Workers (PMI)*. KnE Social Sciences
- Rahmawati, R., Demartoto, A., & Soemanto, R.B. (2019). *Empowering Former Female Migrants in Sragen Indonesia*. WESTECH 2018
- Razzaz, S. (2017). *A challenging market becomes more challenging: Jordanian workers, migrant workers and refugees in the Jordanian labour market*. International Labour Organization, Beirut
- Shair, W., & Anwar, M. (2023). Effect of internal and external remittances on expenditure inequality in Pakistan. *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 11(1)
- Suryadi, K., & Yusmanto. (2022). Pekerja Migran Indonesia dan Potensi Masalah Keluarga yang Ditinggalkan (Family Left-Behind). *JURNAL EMPOWER: Jurnal Pengembangan Masyarakat Islam*, 7(1)
- Sztompka, P. (1986). *Robert K. Merton. An Intellectual Portrait*. Macmillan.
- The ASEAN Secretariat. (2022). *Women Migrant Workers in the Laws and Policies of ASEAN Member States*. ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta
- Triwardhani, I.J. (2021). Communication on the Collective Care of Migrant Workers’ Children. *MIMBAR*, 37(2)
- Tuccio & Wahba. (2018). Return migration and the transfer of gender norms: Evidence from the Middle East. *Journal of Comparative Economics* 46(4)
- Turner, B.S. (2022). Reintroducing Robert K. Merton. *Journal of Classical Sociology*, 22(4)
- U.S. Government, (2023). *U.S. strategy and national action plan on women, peace and security*. The White House
- Utami, T.K. (2018). Law Protection for Indonesian Migrant Workers Family in Cianjur District. *Jurnal Dinamika Hukum* 18(2)

- Wahyuni, A., Hadi, N., & Perguna, L.A. (2023). Segitiga Konflik Kelompok Desa Migran Produktif (Desmigratif) Di Desa Bedali Kecamatan Ngancar Kabupaten Kediri. *Jurnal Sosiologi Nusantara* 9(1)
- Wirawan, I.B., & Mas'udah, S. (2020). International migration and risk of divorce in families of female migrant workers. *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change*, 13(1)
- Yin, R.K. (2018). *Case Study Research - Design and Methods (6th ed.)*. Sage Publications.
- Yuliani, D., & Rasalwati, U.H. (2020). Wellbeing Condition of International Migrant Workers from Indonesia Who Worked In Malaysia: Study On International Migrant Workers Family In Krangkeng Sub-District Indramayu Regency West Java Province Indonesia. *IJSW: Indonesian Journal of Social Work*, 03(2)
- Zhang, H. & Chen, S. (2022). Overview of Research on Marine Resources and Economic Development. *Marine Economics and Management*, 5(1).
- Zid, M., Alkhudri, A.T., Casmana, A.R., Marini, A., & Wahyudi, A. (2020). Ex Migrant Workers of International Women and Social Entrepreneurship: Study at Kenanga Village in Indramayu Regency in West Java Province in Indonesia. *International Journal of Advanced Science and Technology*, 29(06)