

Analysis of Turmeric Commodity Development in Improving Farmers' Welfare from a Sharia Economic Perspective (Case Study of Riamau Village, Bima Regency)

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the development of turmeric commodities in improving farmers' welfare from the perspective of Islamic economics in Riamau Village, Bima Regency. This research uses a qualitative approach with a case study method. Data collection techniques were carried out through interviews, observations, and documentation involving 10 turmeric farmers in Riamau Village. The results of the study show that turmeric farmers in Riamau Village still sell their harvests directly to the market without intermediaries or middlemen. The selling price of turmeric ranges from IDR 30,000 per 10 kilograms, with the product sold in raw form. Turmeric production is still conducted traditionally, and the average harvest income only reaches around IDR 300,000–500,000 per harvest each year. This income has not been sufficient to meet daily living needs because turmeric farming is only considered an additional source of income. In addition, farmers have only received training once and still face unstable market prices. From the perspective of Islamic economics, turmeric farming practices in Riamau Village reflect the principles of honesty and transparency in transactions. However, these practices have not been optimal in realizing the welfare and public benefit (maslahah) of farmers. Therefore, government support, stronger marketing strategies, continuous training, and turmeric product processing are needed to create higher economic added value.

INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector is a strategic sector that plays a vital role in the economic development of Indonesian society, particularly in rural areas. Agriculture serves not only as a food provider but also as a primary source of income for rural communities and supports the economic well-being of farming households (Robiatul Adawiyah, Soetrisno, 2025). Indonesia has significant potential for the development of biopharmaceutical crops, one of which is turmeric, known as a spice and traditional medicinal plant with high economic value.

Turmeric is a biopharmaceutical commodity with significant potential for development due to high market demand, both for household needs, the food industry, and the herbal industry. In addition to its health benefits, turmeric also provides a source of additional income for rural communities who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods (Malika Nur Rohmah, 2024). This situation makes turmeric commodity development a strategy to improve farmer welfare.

The development of turmeric commodities can have a positive impact on increasing farmers' income because it has a relatively stable selling value and market demand continues to increase. In recent years, the need for turmeric is not only limited to traditional markets, but has also expanded into the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and herbal product industries. This opens up economic opportunities for rural communities to increase agricultural productivity through sustainable turmeric cultivation. Furthermore, turmeric commodity development can also create jobs and stimulate economic activity in rural communities, thereby improving the standard of living of farmers and their families (Sri Rahayu, 2023).

Given the significant potential of turmeric to increase community income, optimal management and development are necessary to increase the economic benefits for farmers. However, in practice, farmers still face various obstacles, such as limited marketing, low crop processing, and minimal training and mentoring (Padmadewi & Mahyuni, 2021). This situation is also found among turmeric farmers in Riamau Village, Bima Regency, who utilize turmeric as one of their agricultural commodities.

Riamau Village, Bima Regency is one of the areas that has the potential to develop turmeric commodities. Based on village data, the population of Riamau Village consists of 490 men and 451 women. Some villagers work as farmers, utilizing their land for turmeric cultivation. Data collected by researchers revealed approximately 50 turmeric farmers in Riamau Village, and 10 of them were interviewed for this study.

Based on the interview results, it was discovered that turmeric farmers in Riamau Village still face various limitations, especially in the aspects of marketing, processing of harvested crops, and farming income. Most farmers sell their harvest directly to the market in raw form at a price of around Rp. 25,000-30,000 per 10 kilograms, which means the price per kilogram is Rp. 2,500-3,000. The income earned by farmers from the turmeric business is around IDR 400,000–IDR 500,000 in one year, which is not enough to meet the family's overall economic needs.

In addition, the development of turmeric farming businesses in Riamau Village also still faces limited training and mentoring. Based on the interview results, training activities regarding the development of turmeric cultivation have only been carried out once. This condition causes farmers' knowledge regarding processing, marketing, and increasing the added value of turmeric commodities to remain relatively low. However, the development of agricultural commodities requires the support of human resources, innovation, and strong institutions to increase the productivity and welfare of farmers.

From a sharia economic perspective, agricultural commodity development must be based on the principles of justice, honesty, cooperation, and public welfare. Economic activities should not only aim to gain material profit but also to provide blessings and shared prosperity (Nina Amaliya, 2022). Therefore, research on turmeric commodity development to improve farmer welfare from a sharia economic perspective is crucial.

This study was conducted to determine how the development of turmeric commodities contributes to improving the welfare of farmers in Riamau Village, Bima Regency and to analyze its development practices based on a sharia economic perspective. Through this research, it is hoped that an overview can be obtained regarding the condition of turmeric farming businesses, the obstacles faced by farmers, and efforts that can be made to increase the economic value of turmeric commodities.

In addition, this research is also expected to provide benefits to the community, village government, and related parties in formulating agricultural development strategies that are more productive, sustainable, and in accordance with Islamic economic principles so that farmer welfare can be optimally increased (Sahoo et al., 2023) .

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a qualitative, descriptive approach. This approach was used to gain a deeper understanding of the socioeconomic conditions of turmeric farmers and the development process of the turmeric commodity in Riamau Village, Bima Regency. The research location was Riamau Village, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province. The location was selected purposively because the village has turmeric farming potential and some of its residents work as turmeric farmers.

The data sources in this study consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data was obtained through direct interviews with turmeric farmers, village officials, and relevant stakeholders. Secondary data was obtained from books, journals, village documents, and other relevant literature. Researchers collected data from 50 turmeric farmers and interviewed 10 key informants.

Data collection techniques were carried out through observation, interviews and documentation. In-depth interviews were conducted to obtain information regarding the condition of turmeric farming businesses, marketing systems, income levels, and farmers' views on the development of turmeric commodities. Data analysis techniques are carried out through the stages of data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Conditions of Turmeric Commodity Development in Riamau Village

Riamau Village is one of the villages that has quite good turmeric farming potential. Turmeric is a commodity cultivated by the community as an additional source of income besides other agricultural commodities. Based on research results, turmeric farmers in Riamau

Village still use simple cultivation methods and have not utilized agricultural technology optimally.

Most farmers sell their turmeric harvest directly to the market without further processing. Interviews indicate that raw turmeric is sold for around Rp 25,000-30,000 per 10 kilograms, which translates to a price of Rp 2,500-3,000 per kilogram. The price is considered relatively low because the product has not been processed into forms with higher added value, such as turmeric powder or other herbal products.

Marketing conditions are still simple, meaning that farmers' incomes have not yet experienced a significant increase. Farmers only depend on selling their harvest directly to market traders so their bargaining position is still low. This shows that the development of turmeric commodities in Riamau Village still requires marketing support and product innovation.

Lack of training also impacts on low innovation in managing turmeric harvests. Most farmers only sell turmeric in raw form so the economic profits obtained are still low. Therefore, a more intensive empowerment and mentoring program is needed so that the development of turmeric commodities can run more optimally. Based on the research results, training on developing turmeric farming businesses has only been conducted once.

This causes farmers' knowledge regarding modern cultivation techniques, crop processing, and marketing strategies to remain limited. In fact, training and community empowerment are crucial for improving the quality of human resources among farmers. Through ongoing training, farmers can understand how to improve production quality, process crops into value-added products, and expand market access.

Income and Welfare of Turmeric Farmers

The development of turmeric commodities contributes to the income of the people of Riamau Village. Based on the results of interviews with farmers, income from turmeric farming ranges from IDR 400,000–IDR 500,000 in one year. This income is obtained from the direct sale of turmeric to the market. Although turmeric farming provides additional income, research shows that this income is still insufficient to meet the family's overall needs. Most farmers still rely on other employment to meet daily household needs. This situation indicates that turmeric commodity development has not yet fully improved farmers' welfare.

Farmers' welfare is not only measured by the amount of income, but also their ability to meet basic needs such as education, health, and family economic stability. In this context, turmeric farming has helped increase community income, but still requires business development support to provide a greater economic impact.

Sharia Economic Perspective in Turmeric Commodity Development

The development of turmeric commodities in Riamau Village, Bima Regency, can be analyzed from a sharia economic perspective because the farming activities carried out by the community are directly related to production, distribution, and meeting the community's daily needs. In sharia economics, economic activities are not only aimed at profit but must also

consider the values of justice, honesty, public welfare, and shared prosperity (Aprilia et al., 2024) . Based on the research results, turmeric farming practices in Riamau Village have demonstrated the application of sharia economic values, although their implementation has not been fully optimal in improving farmer welfare.

Principle of Honesty (Sidiq)

The principle of Islamic economics that is seen in the development of turmeric commodities in Riamau Village is the principle of honesty (şidq) in buying and selling transactions. Based on the interview results, farmers sell their turmeric harvest directly to the market without any quality manipulation or deception of buyers. The transaction system is carried out openly according to the condition of the goods being sold. This practice reflects the values of honesty and transparency in economic activities, as taught in Islamic economics. Honesty is a crucial principle because it fosters trust between sellers and buyers, enabling economic activity to proceed fairly and mutually beneficially (Aprilia et al., 2024).

Principle of Justice ('Adl)

Apart from the principle of honesty, turmeric farming practices in Riamau Village also reflect the principle of justice (' adl) in sharia economics. Farmers sell their crops directly, bypassing middlemen, allowing them to set their own selling prices based on market conditions. This system demonstrates that farmers have freedom in conducting transactions and are not subjected to detrimental exploitation (Muhammad Azani, Hasan Basri, 2021) . However, the still-low selling price of turmeric, around IDR 25,000-30,000 per 10 kilograms, indicates that farmers' economic position remains weak due to limited market access and the lack of processing of their harvest with higher added value.

The Principle of Benefit

From a sharia economic perspective, turmeric commodity development is also related to the principle of *maslahah*, which means that economic activities must benefit the community (Khalidin et al., 2024) . Turmeric farming in Riamau Village contributes to household income, although this is still limited. An income of Rp. 400,000–Rp. 500,000 per year helps people meet some of their family's economic needs. This shows that turmeric farming has economic benefits for village communities because it is a source of additional income in addition to the community's main job as farmers.

However, the principle of welfare in Islamic economics has not been fully achieved. In the Islamic economic concept, welfare is measured not only by income but also by a community's ability to adequately meet their living needs, achieve a sense of security, and create a better life (Sayem et al., 2023) . Research shows that income from turmeric farming is still insufficient to meet daily needs, resulting in most farmers relying on other sources of income. This situation indicates that turmeric commodity development requires greater support to improve farmers' overall welfare.

The Principle of Ta'awun

Sharia economics also emphasizes the importance of the principle of ta'awun, or cooperation, in economic activities. In developing turmeric in Riamau Village, collaboration between the village government, the community, and farmers is essential, particularly in the form of training, mentoring, business capital assistance, and developing marketing of the harvest. Research shows that training on turmeric farming has only been conducted once, leaving farmers with limited knowledge of crop processing and marketing strategies. In fact, in Islamic economics, community empowerment through education and mentoring is an important part of improving shared prosperity.

Furthermore, turmeric cultivation in Riamau Village is still carried out traditionally, with the harvest sold raw without further processing. From a sharia economic perspective, this situation indicates that turmeric's economic potential has not been fully utilized to create added value. When turmeric is processed into herbal products, turmeric powder, or other health products, its selling value can increase and provide greater economic benefits for farmers. This crop processing aligns with the goals of Islamic economics, which encourage the productive use of resources and provide broader benefits to society (Navyashree, B. M, K. B. Vedomurthy, Vaishnavi, and Venkataramana, 2024).

Thus, the development of turmeric commodities in Riamau Village has reflected several principles of Islamic economics such as honesty, justice, and welfare in the economic activities of the community. However, its implementation is still not optimal in improving farmer welfare due to limited training, low innovation in crop processing, and a marketing system that is still simple. Therefore, government support and strengthening of community empowerment are needed so that the development of turmeric commodities can be more productive, sustainable, and in accordance with the goals of Islamic economics in realizing community welfare.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Turmeric cultivation in Riamau Village, Bima Regency, has contributed to increased farmer incomes, although yields remain relatively low. Farmers sell raw turmeric directly to the market for around Rp 25,000-30,000 per 10 kilograms, earning around Rp 400,000-Rp 500,000 per year. This indicates that turmeric farming is not yet fully meeting the economic needs of farming families.

Turmeric commodity development also faces several obstacles, such as limited training, low innovation in crop processing, and a rudimentary marketing system. From a sharia economic perspective, turmeric farming practices in Riamau Village reflect the values of honesty, justice, and welfare, but still require empowerment support to optimally improve farmer welfare.

This study recommends that village governments and related parties improve training and mentoring programs for turmeric farmers, particularly in crop processing and product marketing. Furthermore, the development of sharia-based businesses that can provide added value and improve farmers' welfare sustainably is necessary.

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