**SURROUNDING COMMUNITY PERCEPTION ON PRODUCTION FOREST – A CASE STUDY**

**OF PT. INHUTANI I UMH PIMPING IN TANJUNG PALAS UTARA DISTRICT**

**BULUNGAN REGENCY, NORTH KALIMANTAN PROVINCE**

**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the study was to determine the perception and attitude of the community and its impact on the existence of the company. The study was a qualitative descriptive study conducted from May to July 2024 around the Production Forest of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping Village, Tanjung Selor District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province. The stages of research activities, namely: research preparation, observation, determination of samples/respondents, collection of primary and secondary data, data analysis, conclusions, and reporting. Determination of the sample (respondents) using the purposive sampling method of 25 respondents. The method used is to use a descriptive approach method. Public perception was measured using the Likert scale method, namely: 1 = disagree, 2 = neutral, and 3 = agree. The results of the study showed that the community around the company stated that they agreed and accepted the existence of the company because it provides benefits and improves community welfare with an average category value of 2.73 (accepting). The community's attitude also accepted the existence of the company with a category value of 2.37 (accepting); and the community felt the benefits of social assistance provided by the company in the form of public facilities, road repairs, scholarships, plant seeds, and others with a category value of this social assistance of 2.69 (agree); The community around the company stated that the existence of the company had a positive impact on increasing community income and community education levels; and the community around the company was allowed to work on the company's land on a limited basis for farming, gardening and raising livestock after obtaining the company's permission, the land being worked on was not in the company's industrial plant development area.

Keywords: Community, Company Existence, Perception, PT. Inhutani I Forest Management Unit Pimping

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Forests are natural resources that play an important role in human life because they can produce goods and services and create environmental stability (Steinlin, H. 2015). Over time, forests that were originally considered inexhaustible have gradually begun to decrease, because much forest land is used for other purposes, such as agriculture, plantations, settlements, industry, and other uses.

The problem of forest conversion is rooted in the increasing population, the increase in population demands that food needs, firewood needs, carpentry wood needs, and residential areas be met. Meanwhile, agricultural land as a food producer has a limited area, so the main alternative to meet food needs is to convert forest land into agricultural land (Simon, 2018). The limited land owned by communities around the forest will affect the condition of the surrounding forest. They will depend on the forests around their settlements for their livelihoods to meet their increasing living needs. Without proper management, this is a threat to the existence and sustainability of forests and can reduce the function of the forest's designation.

Regarding the conversion of forest areas, it has been regulated in the Regulation of the Minister of Environment and Forestry Number 104 of 2015 P.51/Menlhk/Setjen/Kum.1/6/2016 concerning Procedures for the Release of Forest Areas that can be Converted into Production. In addition to forestry activities, forest areas that can be developed are Convertible Production Forest (HPK) areas. HPK is a productive forest area that can be spatially reserved for development other than forestry activities or can be used as replacement land for exchanging forest areas, especially HPK that is no longer productive, namely HPK whose land cover is dominated by non-forest land, including shrubs, empty land, and mixed gardens.

The paradigm of forestry development has shifted, leading to the realization of forest sustainability as a buffer for life, strengthening the people's economy, supporting the national economy for people's welfare, and increasing community participation in forestry development, so forest management and utilization policies must really involve and directly affect the community, especially the community living around the forest. The forestry development paradigm also influences the socio-economic conditions of the communities around the forest area, because some communities use the forest as a source of livelihood so the existence of the forest is very important for the local communities living around it.

Anggraini et al., (2019) stated that community knowledge and perception regarding forest management are very necessary as a further basis for community development. If there are still people who do not support the management of a forest area, this is because the community's perception does not properly understand forest management. Wulandari and Inoue (2018) stated that perception is a process that provides awareness for someone about an object outside themselves through the five senses. Furthermore, Masria et al. (2015) stated that correct perception of an object is needed, because perception is the basis for forming attitudes and behavior. Community perception is important to know as a reference for implementing community empowerment in effective forest management and is expected to be a solution to solving problems that occur.

In line with the new paradigm of forestry development that leads to the realization of forest sustainability as a life support system, strengthening the people's economy, supporting the national economy for people's welfare, and increasing community participation in forestry development, forest management, and utilization policies must truly involve and directly touch the community, especially the community living around the forest. PT. INHUTANI I Forest Management Unit (UMH) Pimping Village is a company engaged in the forestry sector in the Industrial Plantation Forest (HTI) sector and is located in Tanjung Selor District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province. PT Inhutani I UMH Pimping Village in the 2020-2029 period plans to develop a business utilizing wood forest products for raw materials for the renewable energy industry, Non-Timber Forest Products businesses in the form of rubber latex, natural honey processing, rattan processing, bamboo processing, agarwood utilization business, herbal medicine utilization business, Agathis resin utilization business, Palmyra tree leaf utilization business, *talun* cloth utilization business, and business utilizing the potential of game animals.

In addition to the processing of wood forest products for industrial raw materials and the utilization of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) which can increase the social and economic impacts on the surrounding community, there are also natural resources that can improve the economy of the community around the forest, including processing of hot water resources (unutilized), processing of waterfall tourism potential and the utilization of freshwater fish and soft-shelled turtles.

Based on the description above, it is necessary to conduct a study to examine the perceptions and attitudes of the community and the impact of the existence of PT INHUTANI I UMH Pimping, Tanjung Selor District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province on the surrounding community.

The purpose of the study was to determine the perceptions and attitudes of the community and the impact of the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping on the community around the Pimping Village forest, Tanjung Palas District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province.

**2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**2.1. Time and Place**

The study was conducted from May to July 2024 around the Production Forest of PT. INHUTANI I Forest Management Unit (UMH) Pimping Village, Tanjung Selor District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province.

**2.2. Determination of Population and Sample**

The population in this study were residents around the Production Forest area of ​​PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping Village, Tanjung Selor District, Bulungan Regency, North Kalimantan Province, with a population of 2,271 people consisting of 1,225 men and 1,046 women. The sampling method used Purposive Random Sampling, Determination of the number of samples using the Slovin method with the formula (Sugiyono, 2017):



Description: n = number of sample members N = population; and e = Error level (error level) used (20% or 0.2). Based on the calculation results, 25 heads of families were obtained as samples (respondents).

**2.3. Data Collection**

The data collected consists of: (1) primary data taken directly in the field by conducting observations, interviews, and questionnaires to the Village Head, RT Head, Community Leaders, and the Village Community itself as key information that knows the situation and condition of the village community; and (2) secondary data obtained from data collected by the company, census data collected by the government, non-governmental organizations and others. Community perception of the social and economic impacts of the existence of the company PT. INHUTANI I UHM Pimping was measured using the Likert scale method, namely by describing several question items that had been prepared in the questionnaire, and for each question item a score was given according to the respondent's choice, namely: 1 = disagree, 2 = neutral, and 3 = agree (Table 1).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Respondent's Answer | | | | | | Score | Category |
|  | Perception | Attitude | Income | Education | Social Contribution | Land  Cultivating  Status |  |  |
| 1. | Agree | Agree | Agree | Agree | Agree | Agree | 3 | 2.36 - 2.73 |
| 2. | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral | 2 | 1.68 - 2.35 |
| 3. | disagree | disagree | disagree | disagree | disagree | disagree | 1 | 1.00 - 1.67 |

Table 1. Likert Scale

Description: the provisions of the range of numbers per category are as follows:

- Difference per category = (highest score - lowest score) / number of categories

- Difference per category = (3 - 1) / 3 = 0.67

**2.4. Data Analysis**

Data analysis begins by reviewing all data obtained through observation, interviews, and questionnaires. Data from the respondent recapitulation is then processed and analyzed descriptively. According to Soehartono (1995), descriptive research aims to provide a picture of a society or a particular group. Descriptive analysis provides a picture or description of facts, and characteristics objectively in the field.

**3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**3.1. General Description of Research Location**

The administrative area of ​​Tanjung Palas Utara District consists of 6 (six) Villages/Sub-districts with the Capital being Karang Agung Village. Pimping Village is the largest village/sub-district with an area of ​​307.99 Km2 or 38.2 percent of the total area of ​​Tanjung Palas Utara District. Pimping Village has a population of 2,271 people with a composition of 1225 males and 1046 females. The distance from Pimping Village to the Sub-district Capital is approximately 5 Km and the distance to the Regency Capital is 54 Km. Each village/sub-district in Tanjung Palas Utara District has a village/sub-district government apparatus as an element of the village/sub-district government administration.

**3.2. General Description of PT Inhutani I**

PT Eksploitasi dan Industri Hutan I (PT Inhutani I) is a State-Owned Enterprise (BUMN) Forestry Holding Company under the auspices of the Perhutani Group Public Company, which is the result of a merger between PT Inhutani I, PT Inhutani II and PT Inhutani III. The company is engaged in the management of wood and non-wood forest products located on the island of Kalimantan and part of South Sulawesi Province, with a managed area of ​​1,045,596 hectares. In addition, the Company also manages a wood industry located in Juata, North Kalimantan, Gresik, and Kediri, East Java.

In carrying out forest management, PT Inhutani I adheres to the principles of sustainable forest management, namely forest management which ensures the sustainability of the function and benefits of forest resources by paying attention to the sustainability of economic, social, and environmental functions in a balanced manner.

The North Kalimantan Regional Division is one of the work units of PT Inhutani I that manages forests in North Kalimantan Province. The forest area managed by PT Inhutani I North Kalimantan Regional Division is 459,365 hectares or 6.09% of the area of ​​North Kalimantan Province of 7,546,770 hectares. The division of forest areas managed by the North Kalimantan Regional Division based on their function consists of protected forests covering 7,747 hectares (1.69%), limited production forests covering 369,474 hectares (80.43%), permanent production forests covering 72,580 hectares (15.80%) and other use areas covering 9,564 hectares (2.08%).

The working area of ​​the North Kalimantan Regional Division is divided into 8 (eight) Forest Management Units (UMH) located in 3 regencies, namely 3 FMUs in Bulungan Regency, 4 UMH in Malinau Regency and 1 UMH in Nunukan Regency. The UMH consist of: Pimping, Pangean, Segah Hulu, Kunyit, Simendurut, Malinau, and UMH Sei Tubu.. The management of forest products from the North Kalimantan Regional Division includes Wood forest products: Meranti, Kapur, Keruing, Bangkirai, Nyatoh, Resak, Jabon, Jambu-jambu, and others. The North Kalimantan Regional Division has obtained Sustainable Production Forest Management (PHPL) certification at each location of the Natural Forest Management Unit with a validity period of 6 years. In forest management, PT Inhutani I involves the participation of the community and other stakeholders, the North Kalimantan Regional Division collaborates with village communities around the forest, and provides contributions in the form of partnership and environmental development programs, sharing of forest product production, and absorption of labor from forest village communities.

The working area of ​​UMH Pimping based on the Decree of the Minister of Forestry Number: SK.200/Menhut-II/2006 dated June 2, 2006, in conjunction with the Decree of the Minister of Environment and Forestry Number: SK.1143/Menlhk/Setjen/HPL.0/11/2021 dated November 18, 2021, is 45,480 Ha which is valid for a period of 45 (forty-five) years which is retroactive from December 8, 1993, to December 7, 2038 (Website of PT Inhutani I).

**3.3. Respondent Characteristics**

Respondent characteristics are used to determine the diversity of respondents based on age and education level.

**3.3.1. Respondent Characteristics Based on Age**

Productive age is a major capital to improve the economy, welfare, income, and competitiveness of the Indonesian nation. The condition of respondents based on age is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Condition of Respondents Based on Age

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Age | Amount (People) | Percentage |
| 15 – 35 years | 16 | 64% |
| 36 – 64 years | 8 | 32% |
| > 64 years | 1 | 4% |
| Total | 25 | 100% |

Source: Processed Primary Data

Based on Table 2, shows the young productive age (15-35 years) as many as 16 people (64%), old productive age (36-64 years) as many as 8 people (32%), and non-productive age there is 1 person (4%).

**3.3.2. Respondent Characteristics Based on Education**

Education is one of the important factors in the life of every individual, education plays an important role in developing a person's potential. Through education, individuals can find and recognize their interests and talents. The knowledge gained can be used in everyday life, both to overcome problems or challenges and to make the right decisions. The condition of respondents based on education level is presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Condition of Respondents Based on Education Level

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Level of education | Amount (People) | Percentage |
| Elementary school | 2 | 8% |
| Junior high school | 5 | 20% |
| Senior High School | 7 | 28% |
| Diploma and Bachelor | 11 | 44% |
| Amount | 25 | 100 |

Source: Processed Primary Data

Based on Table 3, shows the condition of respondents based on education level as follows: Elementary School as many as 2 people (8%), Junior High School as many as 5 people (20%), Senior High School as many as 7 people (28%), and Diploma and Bachelor as many as 11 people (44%). The data shows that some respondents have adequate education.

**3.4. Community Perception of the Existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping**

Community perception is the view given by the community in responding to a phenomenon that occurs around the residential environment. Public perception is the response and environmental knowledge of a group of individuals who interact with each other because they have values, norms, methods, or procedures that are shared needs in the form of a system of customs that have a continuous nature and are bound by a shared identity obtained through interpretation of sensory data. The results of the study on community perception of the existence of PT Inhutani I UMH Pimping are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Community Perception of the Existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | **Question** | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| **S** | **N** | **TS** |
| 1. | I am satisfied with the existence of PT. INHUTANI I Pimping. | 21 | 4 | 0 | 71 | 2.84 |
| 2. | I feel great benefits from the existence of PT. INHUTANI I Pimping. | 20 | 5 | 0 | 70 | 2.80 |
| 3. | I feel that PT. INHUTANI I Pimping helps the community a lot. | 22 | 3 | 0 | 72 | 2.88 |
| 4. | I feel that PT. INHUTANI I Pimping provides jobs to the surrounding community | 12 | 12 | 1 | 60 | 2.40 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 2.73 |
| **Conclusion** | | | | | | **Accepting** Accepting |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 4, shows the community's perception of the existence of the company is to accept the company well, with an average category value of 2.73 (accepting). The public considers that the existence of the company can improve welfare, provide public facilities, provide assistance for places of worship, educational facilities, road repairs, and provide public health facilities. Respondents who have a high perception of the existence of the company are respondents who directly or indirectly feel the benefits of the company. As per Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 72 of 2010 concerning State Forestry Public Companies, the intent and purpose of the company is to organize a business aimed at public benefit in the form of goods or services related to forest management and quality forest products at prices affordable to the community based on the principles of sustainable forest management and the principles of good corporate governance. Communities who understand and know these functions and objectives will participate in forest management and conservation. In line with Wibowo's opinion (2009) that forest sustainability is not only the responsibility of the government but the awareness or role of active participation of the community also greatly determines forest sustainability. This is because the impacts caused, both positive and negative, by the existence of the forest are the people living around the forest area. The results of the questionnaire to respondents as in Table 3 show that the majority of people living around the company can accept the existence of the company very well. There is 1 respondent who has a low perception of the existence of the company, this is because the person concerned does not understand the function and benefits of the existence of community forests as an important part of their lives and environment. The results of a similar study reported by Lien, et al. (2022) that community perceptions of the presence of the Gunung Naning protected forest are divided into two categories of perception, namely high perception of 61% and moderate perception of 39%. The socio-economic factors of respondents that influence community perceptions of the presence of the Gunung Naning protected forest are the age of the respondents, namely with a moderate level of relationship, and the length of residence of the respondents with a weak level of relationship. Public perception of the presence of protected forests from social, ecological, and economic aspects is good. Furthermore, Muin et al. (2023) reported that as many as 43 respondents (50.59%) of the Sungai Radak II Village community tended to have a negative perception of the existence of the Industrial Plantation Forest company PT. Wana Subur Lestari, the assessment of the negative perception of the community was because the community considered that the existence of the company had not made many positive contributions to the social, economic, and environmental conditions of the community.

**3.5. Community Attitude towards the Existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping**

Attitude is a predisposition to do or not do a certain behavior, attitude is more of an individual process of awareness. Attitude is also interpreted as a tendency to consistently provide a pleasant or unpleasant response to an object, this tendency is the result of learning, observation, and experience, not innate or hereditary. Attitude can be positive and can also be negative. In a positive attitude, action tends to approach, like, and expect a certain object, while in a negative attitude, there is a tendency to stay away from, avoid, hate, and dislike certain objects. The results of the study of community perception of the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping is presented in Table 5.

Table 5. Community Attitudes towards the Existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Question | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| S | N | TS |
| 1. | The community accepts the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping | 19 | 6 | 0 | 69 | 2.76 |
| 2. | The community gets permission to use the land of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping | 5 | 13 | 7 | 48 | 1.92 |
| 3. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping has a positive impact on the community by opening up employment opportunities | 11 | 14 | 0 | 61 | 2.44 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 2.37 |
| Conclusion | | | | | | **Accepting** |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 5, shows that the community's attitude towards the existence of the company is to agree with the existence of the company with an average category value of 2.37 (accepting), this means that the attitude of the community living around the company strongly agrees and can accept the existence of the company. This is because the existence of the company has a positive impact on the community by opening up employment opportunities and helping public facilities, educational facilities, health facilities, and village development funds. However, there are some people, namely 7 respondents, who stated that they did not agree because the company did not permit them to use the company's empty land. This is because the community does not fully understand that the company will still develop the processing of forest products and non-timber forest products and develop new industrial plants on the empty land. The results of this study are not in line with the results of the study reported by Deli et al. (2019) that the community with low perceptions was 14 (16.87%) respondents, then the community with low perceptions considered the existence of HTI PT. Finnantara Intiga in Terati Village was still far from community expectations and did not have enough contribution to be able to change the economic and social conditions in the local community environment. Then it was reported by Sarah, et al. (2023) that the community's attitude did not agree (category 1) regarding the existence of the HTI company because the community considered that the existence of the HTI company did not provide benefits and there no routine assistance (Corporate Social Responsibility Program) provided by the HTI company to the community for the past 10 years.

**3.6. Community Perception of Social Assistance of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping**

Social assistance is the provision of assistance that is not continuous and selective in the form of money/goods to the community to improve community welfare. Social assistance in this study aims to see an activity where the company is responsible to the community in improving welfare and providing a positive impact on the environment. The results of the study of community perception of social assistance of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping is presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Community Perception of Social Assistance of PT Inhutani I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Questions | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| S | N | TS |
| 1. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping has provided public facilities to the community such as road access | 21 | 4 | 0 | 71 | 2.84 |
| 2. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping has provided scholarship assistance to schoolchildren | 10 | 15 | 0 | 60 | 2.40 |
| 3. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping has provided assistance in the form of seeds to the community to be planted on their land | 9 | 16 | 0 | 59 | 2.36 |
| 4. | PT. INHUTANI I Pimping has provided financial assistance for village development | 18 | 7 | 0 | 68 | 2.75 |
| 5. | PT. INHUTANI I Pimping has socialized the nature conservation program to the village community | 23 | 0 | 2 | 71 | 2.84 |
| 6. | PT. INHUTANI I Pimping has socialized the existence of the company to the village community | 25 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 3.00 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 2.69 |
| Conclusion | | | | | | **Accepting** |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 6 shows the community's perception of social assistance from PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping is accepting and agreeing with an average category value of 2.69 (accepting). This means that the community living around the company feels the benefits of assistance from the company in the form of public facilities, education, village development funds, plant seeds, and health facilities. Social assistance from the company in the form of road repairs can make it easier for people to transport farmers' crops, seed assistance can reduce production costs, educational scholarship assistance can help underprivileged families provide decent education and improve higher achievements for students who have special talents and interests and health facility assistance can improve the health of the community.

**3.7. Community Perception of the Economic and Social Impacts of the Existence of PT Inhutani I UMH Pimping**

**3.7.1. Public Income**

Public income is the amount of real income from all household members used to meet joint and individual needs in the household. Public income is a reward for work or services or compensation obtained for contributions made in production activities. The income of communities around forest areas usually comes from the utilization of processed forest products themselves, both wood and non-wood. The more income obtained from forest products, the higher the community's dependence on the forest (Dedi, Naparin, and Rezekiah, 2021). The results of the study of public perceptions regarding the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping on the economy of the community around the company is presented in Table 7.

Table 7. Community Perception of the Income of Communities Around PT Inhutani I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Questions | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| S | N | TS |
| 1. | The community's income has increased after the presence of PT. INHUTANI I Pimping. | 7 | 18 | 0 | 57 | 2.28 |
| 2. | The community works at PT. INHUTANI I Pimping, thus helping to improve the village economy. | 11 | 14 | 0 | 61 | 2.44 |
| 3. | The employment opportunities for the village community are very open with the presence of PT. INHUTANI I Pimping. | 8 | 17 | 0 | 58 | 2.32 |
| 4. | The income of the village community has decreased with the presence of PT. INHUTANI I Pimping. | 2 | 8 | 15 | 37 | 1.48 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 2.13 |
| Conclusion | | | | | | Neutral |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 7, shows the community perception of the increase in income from the company is an average category value of 2.28 (neutral). The existence of a company can increase community income because most of the company's employees are taken from the local community, either as permanent employees or freelancers. In addition, the company also helps provide facilities and infrastructure that support community activities, such as road facilities, educational facilities, places of worship, health facilities, and others. Respondents who work at the company as permanent employees are 11 people (44%) and 14 people (56%) around the company have the status of freelance employees, village officials, civil servants, traders, farmers, and others; and no respondents stated that there was no increase in income. However, when viewed from the category value of 2.44, it is included in the agreed category. This shows that the income of the community around the company has increased since the company was established. The company has opened up job opportunities for people living around the company's area in the hope of helping to increase income and improve the economic prosperity of the community.

In question item 3 the job market for the people of Pimping Village is very open after the presence of the company, the respondents' answers were as many as 8 people (32%) stated that they agreed or confirmed that the company provides job opportunities for the local community; respondents who gave neutral answers were 17 people (68%), and no respondents disagreed. The category value of 2.32 (neutral), this right shows that the existence of the company has a positive impact on employment for the community.

In question item 4 about the decrease in community income with the presence of the company, the respondents' answers were as many as 15 people (60%) stated that they did not agree or rejected this assumption. This is because the reality felt by the community after the presence of the company turned out that their income had increased. Meanwhile, respondents who answered neutral were 8 people (32%), and only 2 respondents (8%) answered strongly agree. The results of another study reported by Nugraha (2023) showed that the socio-economic impact of the II forest investment program on the community in the Tanah Laut KPH greatly increased in terms of: (1) education aspects (community involvement in FIP II resulted in farmers being able to send their children to college and seek additional education such as courses or training in certain skills); (2) employment aspects (with the existence of FIP II, the community has permanent jobs and additional jobs; and farmers who have their land receive assistance in the form of superior plant seeds and capital assistance to open new businesses, and (3) income aspects (the existence of FIP II can increase the income of the community around the company.

**3.7.2. Community Education**

The results of the study on community perceptions regarding the impact of the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping on the education of the community around the company is presented in Table 8.

Table 8. Community Perceptions of the Level of Education of the Community around PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Questions | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| S | N | TS |
| 1. | The existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping can increase the number of elementary, junior high and high school graduates | 19 | 6 | 0 | 69 | 2.76 |
| 2. | The existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping can increase the number of Diploma and Bachelor graduates | 15 | 10 | 0 | 65 | 2.60 |
| 3. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping holds independent learning training to improve the skills of village communities | 6 | 17 | 2 | 54 | 2.16 |
| 4. | PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping holds comparative studies for outstanding students to improve their abilities outside the region | 4 | 10 | 11 | 43 | 1.72 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 2.31 |
| Conclusion | | | | | | Neutral |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 8, shows the community's perception of increasing education graduates at the Elementary School, Junior High School, and Senior High School levels with the existence of the company is an average category value of 2.76 (agree). This shows that the existence of a company can increase education graduates at the Elementary School, Junior High School, and Senior High School levels. This can be seen from the respondents' answers, as many as 19 people (76%) agreed 6 people (24%) respondents answered neutral, and no respondents answered disagree. This illustrates that the existence of the company can increase education. The increase in education is due to the increasing welfare of the community and the demands of the company for educational qualifications as a requirement to be accepted as an employee/employee of the company. The existence of the company also increases Diploma/Bachelor graduates. This can be seen from the respondents' answers, as many as 15 people (60%) stated that they agreed or confirmed the increase in graduates, while 10 people (40%) of respondents answered neutrally; and none of the respondents answered disagree. The respondent's answers can also be seen in the average category figure of 2.60 (Agree) which shows that the existence of the company can encourage an increase in the number of Diploma/Bachelor graduates.

Community perception of company holding independent learning training to improve the skills of village communities, it turns out that out of 25 respondents, 6 people (24%) stated that they agreed that there was independent training for residents around the company; respondents who answered neutrally were 17 people (68%) and respondents who answered disagree were 2 people (8%). However, if seen from the category value of 2.16 (neutral) it can be stated that the majority of the community agrees that the company often holds independent training for residents living around the company area to improve skills both technically and managerially.

Community perception of company holding comparative studies outside the region for outstanding students to improve their abilities/experience, it turns out that out of 25 respondents, 11 people (44%) stated that their families had never received assistance for comparative studies outside the region; respondents who answered neutrally were 10 people (40%) and respondents who answered agree or often received assistance for comparative studies from the company were 4 people (16%). In general, the category value is 1.72 (neutral), which means that the company has assisted the community in the form of comparative studies, but not routinely and the number of comparative study participants is not large.

**3.7.3. Status of Cultivated Land**

Cultivated land is land that is cultivated or worked by someone without having clear ownership rights. Often, cultivated land is owned by villagers or farmers who do not yet have a certificate of ownership of the land. Cultivated land has a very important role in the agricultural sector and land development. However, the lack of a certificate of ownership can be a serious obstacle for owners of cultivated land. The results of the study of community perception regarding the impact of the presence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping on cultivated land around the company is presented in Table 9.

Table 9. Community Perception of the Status of Cultivated Land around PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Questions | Amount | | | Score | Category |
| S | N | TS |
| 1. | Villagers are free to use the unused land of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping | 4 | 13 | 8 | 46 | 1.84 |
| 2. | Villagers have the right to cultivate land on PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping land | 4 | 13 | 8 | 46 | 1.84 |
| 3. | Communities are allowed to use PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping land for livestock and gardening | 2 | 15 | 8 | 44 | 1.76 |
| 4. | Communities only have permission from PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping to cultivate the land | 2 | 17 | 6 | 46 | 1.84 |
| 5. | Communities help the company PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping in managing the land | 15 | 9 | 1 | 64 | 2.56 |
| 6. | The determination of the boundaries of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping from the beginning did not involve the community | 10 | 3 | 12 | 49 | 1.96 |
| Value | | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| Average | | | | | | 1.96 |
| Conclusion | | | | | | Neutral |

Source: Processed Research Data

Note: S =Agree, N =Neutral, TS = Disagree

Based on Table 9, shows that overall the average value of the category is 1.96 (neutral) so it can be stated that the company has not fully permitted the community to work on land controlled by the company. However, the community is allowed to help the company manage timber and non-timber forest products.

The perception of the village community is free to use the unused land of the company, namely respondents who answered that they were allowed to work on the company's land amounted to 4 people (16%), 13 people (52%) were neutral, and 8 people (32%) answered that they were not allowed to work on the company's land. This situation means that the community around the company is sometimes allowed to use the land for farming and others, but sometimes some people are also not allowed to use the land, this is adjusted to the interests of land use by the company.

Perception of village communities having land rights on company land, namely 4 people (16%) stated that they were allowed to work on the company's land, 13 people (52%) chose a neutral answer, and 8 people (32%) answered that they were not allowed to work on the company's land. This situation shows that people living around the company can sometimes use certain parts of the land for farming and others, but there are locations of the company's land that the community is not allowed to work on. Perception of village communities having land rights on company land, namely the use of company land for livestock and gardening, namely 2 people (8%) answered that it was allowed, 15 people (60%) were neutral, and 8 people (32%) answered that they were not allowed to use the company's land for livestock and gardening. Based on information from the company, the community can use the company's land for livestock and gardening on the condition that it is not in the company's industrial plant development area.

Perception of the village community having permission to work on land owned by the company, namely 2 people (8%) who answered that they were allowed to work on the company's land, 17 people (68%) were neutral, and 6 people (24%) answered that they were not allowed to work on the company's land. Based on information from the company, the community can be allowed to work on the company's land on a limited basis (not freely), and some conditions must be met to be able to get permission to work on the company's land.

Perception of the village community that the community helps the company in managing the company's land, namely 15 people (60%) who answered agree, 9 people (36%) were neutral, and 1 person (4%) answered disagree. The answer category value is 2.56, which means that the majority of the community around the company actively participates in helping to manage the company's land.

Perception of the village community regarding the determination of the boundaries of the company from the beginning did not involve the community, namely 10 people (40%) answered that involved, 3 people (12%) were neutral, and 12 people (48%) answered not involved. The value of the answer category was 1.96 (neutral), this condition indicates that in determining land boundaries. Based on information from the company determining the boundaries of land owned by the company has involved the government, community leaders, and the community around the company.

Other research results related to the status of cultivated land were reported by Sarah, et al. (2023) that the status of the land that the community is currently using is unclear because they do not have a letter or deed to their land, this happens because they have used the land for generations from their parents for farming, gardening and raising livestock. Currently, the community is still using the land while the HTI company has not used the land. In determining the HTI boundaries from the beginning, the community was never involved, making the community confused and restless, if at any time their cultivated land was taken and used by the company.

**4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of the research and discussion, it can be concluded as follows:

1. The community around the company stated that they agree and accept the existence of PT. INHUTANI I UMH Pimping, because the existence of the company provides benefits and improves community welfare with an average category value of 2.73 (accepting). The community's attitude also accepts the existence of the company with a category value of 2.37 (accepting); and the community feels the benefits of social assistance provided by the company in the form of public facilities, road repairs, scholarships, plant seeds and others with a category value of this social assistance is 2.69 (agree).

2. The community around the company stated that the existence of the company has a positive impact on increasing community income and community education levels.

3. The community is allowed to work on the company's land on a limited basis for farming, gardening, and raising livestock after obtaining the company's permission, the land being worked is not in the company's industrial plant development area.

Disclaimer (Artificial intelligence)

Option 1:

Author(s) hereby declare that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc.) and text-to-image generators have been used during the writing or editing of this manuscript.

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**REGULATION**

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