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ABSTRACTS





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Local Policies Affecting Agribusiness System and Small Medium Enterprise Development in East Lombok – Indonesia: Lessons Learned From Rice Analog Production¹

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ABSTRACT

Food diversification has been a challenge for some districts in West Nusa Tenngara & the West Nusa Tenggara government its self. Rice staple food dependency has been a major concern in the era of fast land conversion where paddy production is also affected. The government then promotes food diversification policies and programs through the use of other food resources such as maize, cassava, and others. In 2012, the provincial & the district food security agencies established a rice analog processor plant at Masbagik village - East Lombok. The key question that will be answered through this study is to what extent the local government has reached these food diversification policies and programs? What are the challenges found in promoting food diversification through rice analog production? The objectives of this study are to understand the existing condition and performance of rice analog production policies, factors associated with the existing performance of rice analog production, and what are the challenges for future production, policies and programs? Modified participatory action research has been applied to the study (started from July 2016 - June 2019). Workshop, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), in-depth interviews & observation are used for data collection. The preliminary data collected from the study highlight that the rice analog production policies have not been implemented well as it was expected. Limited production activities are taking place to produce rice for commercial and other purposes. The study also found several hindering factors for the rice analog production such as the machine failures, absence of proper formula, no business plan was developed, and no clear demand of rice analog. The study identify the future challenges in producing rice analog such as the need to develop proper rice production formula, effective marketing of the product, the need to improve the capacity of human resources involved, and the availability of raw matterial for the rice analog production - maize, cassava, and sea weed flours.

Keywords: Food, diversification, rice, analog





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