

## Asset Re-Functionalization to Build Business Empowerment in the Community Of Scavengers in The Landfill of Njawar, Surabaya

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### ABSTRACT

The increase in the number of urbanization in big cities such as in Surabaya has its own impact, especially, in the availability of employment in the formal sector and it leads to an alternative of choice to switch to the informal sector. Scavenging is one of the informal sectors that many migrants in urban areas are interested in. Although the community lives with the severe limitations, they are still able to survive and maintain their lives in the bug city, and strive to improve their standards of living. They have their own assets of physic, finance, human resources, and social capital although they are at a lower stage. That is why that re-functioning those assets is really necessary to create a model of business empowerment consisting of 3 dimensions, namely: the dimensions of business opportunities, HR development of scavengers, and accessibility of business resources. The dimension of business opportunities includes a proposal for compost processing, sorting, washing and milling of scavenging products, and savings and loans (cooperatives). Whereas, the dimension of HR development of scavengers include the patterns of scavenger imaging, increasing the security and order, improvement of life skills and social security. The dimension of accessibility of business sources includes partnering with the government and non-government institutions. Qualitative method was applied in this research, and technique of collecting data was conducted by using observation, interviews and Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Purposive sampling was implemented to get the samples. The empowerment would result in some positive outputs such as the increase of income, the building of a positive image of scavengers by removing the negative stereotypes, and the building of networks with the central and regional governments and non-governmental institutions.

**Keywords.** Functionalization, scavenger assets, business empowerment

### INTRODUCTION

The study of the lives of scavengers originated from a deep concern for the poor condition of almost all of them who generally live in slums with all the poor limitations. Beside that, they sometimes have to face and overcome some inhumane actions. They, however, can manage to

survive and even try hard to improve their standard of living. On one side, their presence is considered to have disturbed the beauty, comfort and order of the city. On the other side, they do help the local Sanitation Department to reduce the mountain of rubbish in a temporary or final landfill. (Kusuma, 2016)

Although scavengers live in the poor conditions and are lack of facilities, they are able to live in the structure of harsh urban life. It indicates that they have assets or potential or capital as an effort of adaptation with the condition (Priyono and Pranaka, 2006)

One of the assets owned by the scavengers is human resource (HR) and 72.1% of them are in a moderate level. It means that their ownership is very limited. Their level of education is just elementary school, but they have the ability to sort waste which has the economic value. They also pay less attention to the occupational health and safety. The technology to process the scavenging products is still very simple.

One next asset owned by them is physical asset, and 97.4% of them do not have any physical assets. It includes the ownership of facilities of transportation, production and work. Then, the financial asset indicates that 63.2% of them have low financial asset because of their lower income which is only enough to meet their daily needs, and send some to the families in their hometowns.

In addition to the three assets above, as many as 93.5% of the scavengers have low social capital asset. The results of the identification in the field indicated that the norms, trusts, reciprocity, participation and networks among scavengers or waste collectors arised not from the awareness of each member of this community but from the necessity or compulsion due to the good services they already got from the collectors and the expected benefits from the good deeds they served for the fellow scavengers.

Based on the description above, a business empowerment with the three dimensions of business opportunities, the development of HR of scavengers, and the accessibility of business resources was built. It was expected to function to increase the value. This study is aimed to determine the application of business empowerment activities to the community of the scavengers in Njawar landfill.

## METHODOLOGY

The research took place in Surabaya as the second largest city in Indonesia with a lot of migrants, and a qualitative descriptive approach was implemented.

The subject of the study was the scavengers living in Njawar landfill. Purposive sampling technique was used to get the samples.

The observation technique was applied for data collection and carried out during the process of the research, and the relevant instrument for it was the interview guidelines consisting of several questions previously prepared. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) technique was also conducted for Data collection, done during the time of sharing of the asset-based empowerment models, and involved all related parties including experts. Interview Techniques were also used to collect data from the scavengers about the empowerment model found in the first year.

Qualitative method was carried out for Data analysis Technique and the interactive analysis model was used (Slamet Y, 2006). It is a logic of analysis consisting of three components of data reduction, data presentation and conclusion drawing.

## DISCUSSION

### **Response of scavengers to a model of business empowerment**

The FGD having conducted and talked about the dimension of business opportunity resulted in some proposed activities such as compost processing, sorting, washing and milling of the scavenging products and savings and loans (cooperatives). While in terms of the dimension of HR of the scavengers included the patterns of imaging, security and order, improvement of life skills and social security of the scavengers. The dimension of the accessibility of the business resources included partnering with the government and non-government institutions.

The proposals for the dimension of business opportunity include the product sorting, washing and milling.

### *Dimension of Business Opportunity*

#### **BUSINESS PROPOSAL OF SORTING, WASHING AND MILLING FOR SCAVENGERS IN NJAWAR LANDFILL**

Business unit	Market Aspect	Technical Aspects	Institutional Aspects	Legal Aspects	Impacts of Social Security on Scavengers
Sorting, washing and milling	Factory 5 Ton per week	a. Unorganic waste raw material b.6 units of washtubs of 100 liters c. 5 units of washing tools d.water pump e.Milling machine f. Genset g. Scales h. Carts	a. The early stage: productive business groups b.After being a strong group, it changed to an institution such as a cooperative	a. Necessity of MOU Partnership	a.Income increase of 70% -80% b.Employment c.Increase of the bargaining position of scavengers

### **Plastic Sorting, washing and milling**

This business started from the processes of sorting, milling and washing the dirty plastic. Then, it was dried. The procedures could be carried out by the scavengers. They did need any high capital and labor. Before the plastic was washed, it had to be sorted based on the type or form, such as plastic bags, plastic wrapping, PET plastic bottles and some other types. After being separated according to the type, then it was washed by immersing it in the first washing tub containing water and washing solution until the impurities dissolved. Then, it was transferred to the rinsing tub. After that it was washed and dried. The production process did not use too much human power. The availability of workforce as the machine operators was mostly required in the process of washing, sorting, and milling . They were first given some trainings to know and understand the tasks and work to be faced.

### **Making compost fertilizer**

Making compost was done by applying biotechnology and using microbes mixed with the organic waste raw materials. The material used was a material that served to accelerate the process of decaying waste into compost. The waste that had been separated into the organic

waste was then chopped, and after that it was put in a container closed with plastic sheets and kept for 14 days. After that the completed compost was dried and milled again so that it was softer. Finally, it was wrapped and packaged.

Next is the presentation of a business proposal and its feasibility for scavengers in Benowo Landfill.

#### **BUSINESS PROPOSAL AND ITS FEASIBILITIES FOR SCAVENGERS IN BENOWO LANDFILL**

Business unit	Market Aspect	Technical Aspects	Institutional Aspects	Legal Aspects	Impacts of Social Security on Scavengers
Compost	a.Forestry Service b.Agriculture and Farming c.Gardening Community	a.Organic waste raw material b.Processing Plant c.Available Technology d. Available Workforce	a. The early stage: productive business groups b.After being a strong group, it changed to an institution such as a cooperative	a Necessity of MOU Partnership.	a.Income increase of 30% - 40% b.Employment of 30 workforce

#### **Establishment of Cooperatives**

As it has been explained earlier that scavengers are marginal people as a result of urban bias development, and they have complex socio-cultural characteristics such as low education levels, inherent with disobedient cultural rules, living in wild huts, and high dependence on the collectors. On the other hand, they are such hardworkers, resilient people, and have the capability to change industrial and domestic waste into economic commodities that have such a high value.

Next is the presentation of a business proposal and its feasibilities for scavengers in Njawa Landfill.

#### **BUSINESS PROPOSAL AND ITS FEASIBILITY FOR SCAVENGERS IN BENOWO LANDFILL**

Business unit	Market Aspect	Technical Aspects	Institutional Aspects	Legal Aspects	Impacts of Social Security on Scavengers
Cooperative	a.Scavenger Rp 1000,- Per day b.Collector Rp 5000,- Per day c.People around (loan 3 X saving)	a. Room b.Furniture c.Office Stationery d.Software e.Management Staff	Cooperative	a.Statutes and bylaws b.Inauguration of cooperative as a legal entity c.Binding customers as members	a.Better Access of Scavengers to the capital b.Being able to break away from the binding of collectors

#### ***Dimension of HR Development Pattern of Scavengers***

The meaning of the development pattern here includes the patterns of the image, improvement of the security and order, life skill and social security of the scavengers. This pattern of empowerment is essentially from the HR dimension

**PROGRAMS FOR HR DEVELOPMENT PATTERN**

Proposed Activities		Aims	Targets	Involved Parties
Imaging of Scavengers	Radio Broadcast	Socializing about the Scavengers and the development programs	Scavengers and Community	-Sanitary Agency -Local Radio - Private Parties
	Formulation of Scavengers as a new term	Improving the image of the Scavengers in the Community	Academics, Scavengers, Society and Government	- University - Sanitary Agency - Environment Observer
	Residence Identity of Scavengers	Giving the Scavengers status	Scavengers	-Local Government - Scavengers
Health Care of Scavengers	Health Care	Improving the Quality of Health of Scavengers and their Families	Scavengers and their Families	-Public Health Office - Social Services
Social Security	Insurance of Scavengers	Giving protection to Scavengers and their Families as the workforce	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services -Labor Offices
Life Skill	Social Guidance	Having social responsibility in the Community	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services -Education Authorities -Community Empowerment Agency
	Physical Guidance	In order to maintain the health	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services - Education Authorities - Community Empowerment Agency
	Mental Religious Guidance	In order to have religious awareness	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services - Education Authorities - Community Empowerment Agency
	Guidance on Work Skills	In order to have Work Skills	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services - Education Authorities - Community Empowerment Agency
	Sorting the scavenging goods	In order to know various kinds of scavenging goods so as to be sold in different prices	Scavengers and their Families	- Social Services - Education Authorities - Community Empowerment Agency

***Dimension of accessibility of business sources***

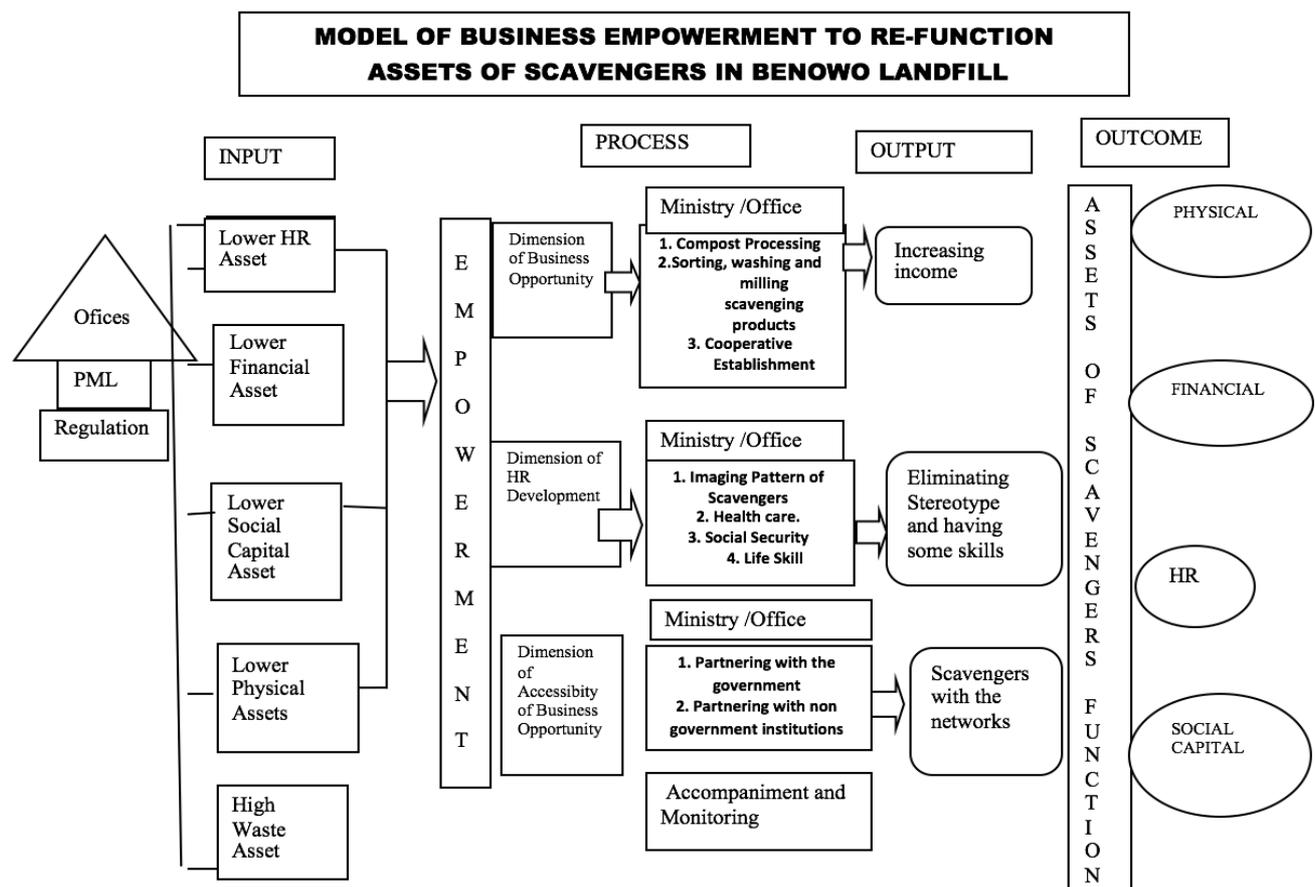
Business empowerment, carried out through three dimensions, namely: the dimensions of business opportunities, HR development, and accessibility of business sources, required some supports from integrated agencies of both central and regional levels. The dimension of business opportunity strongly needs the support from the business actors at the central level

and it is the duty of the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, and Ministry of Manpower. Whereas, the dimension of HR included the imaging program of the scavengers, and it was the task and responsibility of the Ministry of Home Affairs, and at the local level it was an official task of the agencies in charge of population. For health care programs, at the central level it was the duty of the health department, and the local level it was the responsibility of the Health and Social Service Offices. For the social security program at the central level it was the duty of the departments of labor and health, and at the regional level it was the task of the labor and health offices. The life skill programs at the central level became the responsibility of the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, the Department of Manpower and the Social Department. At the regional level it was the duty of the social service and labor.

**Business Empowerment Model to re-function the assets of the scavengers in Benowo Landfill**

Empowerment is an effort to build power by encouraging, motivating and raising awareness of the potential and trying to develop it. The community of scavengers in Njawar landfill was trying to have such a businesses empowerment so that their assets could function and help them reach the level of ideal scavengers with strong characteristics.

- a. Their income rate can meet the needs of the family's life and they are able to work independently.
- b. Their rights and obligations are guaranteed, their existence and role in the community are in accordance with the rights and protection of the state.
- c. They are able to meet the primary needs (clothing, food and shelter) and the secondary ones.
- d. They are recognized by the wider community not as a marginal group, but now they have the institution to strengthen the social functions. Next is the model of the business empowerment to re-function the assets of the scavengers in Njawar Landfill.



### MODEL EXPLANATION

1. Empowerment of scavengers must include or involve both central and regional institutions, and some regulations are highly needed to provide a legal protection.
2. Some assets owned by the scavengers are still not functioning or in lower value so that they need to be re-functionalized through a business empowerment consisting of 3 dimensions, namely dimensions of business opportunity, HR development of scavengers, and accessibility of business source.
3. The dimension of business opportunity is proposed for compost processing, sorting, washing, and milling the scavenging products, and establishment of cooperatives. The proposed activities for the dimension of HR development of scavengers include imaging, health care and social security and life skills of the scavengers. The proposed activity of the dimension of accessibility of business sources covers partnering with the central and regional governments and non-governmental institutions.
4. With the output, the less functional or lower assets will function to build the businesses empowerment of the scavengers in Benowo landfill.

### CONCLUSION

1. The empowerment model of the businesses of the scavengers in Njawar landfill consisted of 3 dimensions of business opportunities, and they were the proposals for compost processing, sorting, washing and milling of scavenging products as well as savings and loans (cooperatives). The dimension of HR development of scavengers included the imaging, security and order of scavengers, patterns of improvement in life skills and social security. Partnering with government and non-government institutions were the focus of the dimension of accessibility of the business resources.
2. Both central and regional institutions as well as non-governmental institutions had to be included or involved in the activities of empowering scavengers, and a regulation is seriously needed to provide a legal protection.
3. The empowerment resulted in the output which could increase the income, and build a positive image of the scavengers by removing the negative stereotypes and developing the networks with the central and regional governments and non-government institutions.
4. In an effort to complete the model, an academic text was prepared in the form of a manual for empowering the scavengers to run the businesses so that it could be used as the main guidelines in the implementation of empowerment. It is highly necessary to find out how the process of socialization, implementation, monitoring and evaluation can be well designed, managed and run.

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