

Socioeconomic Changes in Indigenous Peoples Due to the Presence of Mining Company in Sumbawa

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Abstract

The presence of mining companies in Sumbawa, an island rich in natural resource potential, has had a significant impact on socio-economic changes for indigenous communities who have long lived on this land. This research examines the implications of these changes and tries to summarize the complex dynamics that arise along with interactions between mining activities, indigenous communities, and the surrounding environment. This research includes an analysis of the impact on the social structure of indigenous communities, economic shifts, as well as environmental and cultural dynamics. The presence of mining companies triggers structural changes in employment patterns, income, and lifestyle of indigenous communities. Economic diversification through the mining sector has brought economic benefits but also created challenges such as job uncertainty and economic inequality. Social conflict arises along with inequality in the distribution of economic benefits and dissatisfaction with the involvement of indigenous communities in mining-related decision-making. This research uses qualitative methods with data collection techniques through observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation analysis to obtain holistic insights. The results of this research include; There are changes in the economic structure and changes in the lifestyle of indigenous communities. Therefore, better policies are needed to achieve sustainable socio-economic change and involve indigenous communities in an inclusive manner, as well as paying attention to cultural and environmental preservation.

Keywords: *Economy, Indigenous Communities, Social Change.*

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia, with its cultural diversity and natural wealth, is in the spotlight for mining companies that continue to grow. One of the areas experiencing significant economic transformation is Sumbawa, an island rich in natural resource potential, but also inhabited by indigenous peoples who have a rich cultural heritage. The presence of mining companies in Sumbawa not only brings economic changes but also presents complex social dynamics for indigenous communities who have long lived on the land (Anindita, 2020; Gunawan dan Irawansyah, 2018).

Mining, as an economic sector that intensively utilizes natural resources, often paves the way for major transformations in the social and economic structure of a region (Patunduk et al., 2020; Upe et al., 2019). In the Sumbawa context, these changes are not only limited to shifts in economic livelihood patterns but also include changes in the values, cultural identity, and social interactions of indigenous communities. Therefore, research on the socio-economic implications of the presence of mining companies in Sumbawa is important to understand the impacts and challenges faced by indigenous communities (Farakhiyah & Irfan,

2019; Matuankotta, 2010; Sondang, 2016; Syukron Anshori et al., 2017).

This research also discusses the socio-economic changes experienced by the Sumbawa indigenous community due to the presence of mining companies. In this situation, researchers will explore the impact of changes in economic structures, shifts in lifestyle, social conflicts, and challenges related to preserving cultural identity (Anindita, 2015; Citrawan, 2020; Haba, 2010; Kusnadi et al., 2008; Lampe, 2018; Upe et al., 2020). This research also aims to provide in-depth insight into how the presence of mining companies not only shapes the face of the local economy but also shapes the social and cultural identity of indigenous communities. Through a better understanding of these dynamics, it is hoped that sustainable solutions can be formulated to minimize negative impacts and maximize fair economic benefits for the indigenous people of Sumbawa. Socioeconomic change is a complex and profound phenomenon that can have a significant impact on the structure of society. Thus, the presence of mining companies in Sumbawa brings changes that not only include economic aspects but also create social dynamics that require understanding within the framework of sociological studies. By adopting a

sociological perspective, researchers can explore further how the presence of mining companies changes social interaction patterns, cultural values, and the economic structure of indigenous communities.

The concept of social change in sociological studies highlights shifts in the social structure of society. The entry of mining companies, class structure, division of labor, and patterns of social interaction can experience significant changes. This will lead to the formation of a new working class and possibly changes in power patterns in indigenous communities. Sociology emphasizes the importance of social interaction in shaping society. The presence of mining companies brings changes in daily interaction patterns. Indigenous communities that were previously agrarian and communal may experience a shift towards a more individualistic lifestyle along with increased economic activity related to mining. The cultural identity of indigenous peoples is an integral part of sociological studies. Mining companies can be a catalyst for change in cultural identity, both in terms of values, beliefs, and traditional practices. Identity conflicts and efforts to preserve culture are relevant topics in the context of this change (Amijaya et al., 2022; Wardiat, 2016).

Sociology views conflict as the result of inequality and dissatisfaction within society. The presence of mining companies can often cause social conflict, both between individuals and between groups, especially if economic benefits are not distributed fairly or if the rights of indigenous communities are ignored. The sociological theory of modernization suggests that economic development can bring about changes in society's values (Chairiyah, 2014). In the Sumbawa context, the presence of mining companies can accelerate the modernization process, replacing traditional values with values that are more related to economic and technological progress. Thus, in sociological studies, socio-economic changes caused by the presence of mining companies in Sumbawa require a holistic approach. Changes in social structure, social interaction, cultural identity, social conflict, and shifts in values are interrelated dimensions. Therefore, a deep understanding from a sociological perspective can provide valuable insights into overcoming all kinds of challenges and promoting sustainable change in the indigenous communities of Sumbawa.

METHODS

This research uses qualitative research methods that use Karl Marx's theory, with its focus on economic change and structural change in society, contributing to an understanding of social change as a result of class conflict and the transformation of economic structures. Karl Marx's approach focuses on socio-economic change, especially in the context of indigenous communities affected by the presence of mining companies, which can be understood through his famous theoretical perspectives, namely conflict theory and historical materialism analysis. In looking at the impact of mining companies on indigenous communities, Marx highlighted economic inequality, class conflict, and structural changes in society (Ritonga et al., 2022). Data collection techniques in this research include observation, interviews, and documentation. The data analysis techniques in this research are data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion (Asaka & Awarun 2020; Ningi, 2022).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Changes in Economic Structure

The presence of mining companies in Sumbawa generally has a significant impact on the economic structure of indigenous communities. Indigenous communities often rely on the agricultural and livestock sectors. However, with the entry of mining companies, a large part of the community can be involved in the mining sector as workers, changing the composition of the local economy. Mining companies with natural resource extraction and processing activities often have a significant impact on the economic structure of surrounding communities. The presence of mining companies can change income patterns, dominant types of work, and the distribution of wealth in indigenous communities.

This research discusses how the presence of mining companies can cause changes in the economic structure of indigenous communities. Changes in the economic structure of indigenous peoples refer to shifts or transformations in the way indigenous peoples produce, distribute, and use their economic resources. Economic structure includes various aspects, such as types of work, sources of income, consumption patterns, and economic relationships in society. This change can be triggered by various factors, including modernization, industrialization, or the presence of new economic sectors such as mining. Initially, indigenous

peoples relied more on work in the agricultural and other traditional plantation sectors. Changes in economic structure have led to job diversification, where people are involved in more diverse sectors such as mining, industry, or services.

Shifts in economic structure often create changes in people's sources of income. Previously relying on income from the agricultural sector, indigenous communities may begin to earn greater income from the mining sector or other economic sectors. Changes in economic structure can involve the application of modern technology in economic activities. The use of technology in mining or other sectors can modernize the way indigenous peoples produce and work. This shift can bring an increase in income and the level of social welfare. Increasing individual or household income can provide better access to education, health services, and other public facilities. With increasing income, indigenous communities may experience changes in consumption patterns. Consumption of modern goods and services may increase, creating changes in people's lifestyles and needs. Even though there is an increase in income, changes in economic structure can also create economic disparities between communities. Not all individuals or groups may benefit equally from these changes. Changes in economic structures also create social conflicts and challenges, especially if there are inequalities in the distribution of benefits or if the rights of indigenous peoples are not properly recognized.

Changes in the economic structure of indigenous communities usually involve complex dynamics related to social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors. Therefore, a deep understanding of these factors is necessary to plan policies and interventions that support sustainable and equitable economic change. The presence of mining companies can provide increased income for indigenous communities. As more people become involved in the mining sector, per capita income can increase, having a positive impact on people's purchasing power and economic well-being.

Changes in the economic structure of indigenous communities as a result of the presence of mining companies include increased income, job diversification, and a shift towards a more modern economy. However, these changes also bring challenges such as job uncertainty, economic inequality, and the influence of inflation. Therefore, there needs to be a coordinated effort to ensure that the

economic benefits of mining activities can be felt fairly and sustainably by all indigenous communities.

Lifestyle Changes

Increased income often supports changes in the lifestyle of indigenous communities. People who previously lived simply in an agrarian environment may experience a transformation towards a more urban lifestyle, with impacts on consumption patterns and cultural preferences. Although there is an increase in income, the emergence of economic inequality and social conflict can also occur. Some indigenous communities may not have equal access to employment opportunities or economic benefits, leading to dissatisfaction and potential conflict between citizens. The presence of mining companies can change the social dynamics of indigenous communities. Traditional values and cultural identity may experience shifts in line with the influence of modernization. This can pose challenges in safeguarding cultural heritage and preserving traditions. Economic changes are often accompanied by environmental impacts. Mining activities can damage natural resources and local ecosystems, placing additional pressure on the well-being of indigenous communities who directly depend on their surrounding environment. The importance of the involvement of indigenous communities in decision-making regarding mining is highlighted. Their lack of participation can harm local understanding and interests, resulting in policies that are not aligned with the needs of indigenous communities.

Changes in the lifestyle of indigenous communities due to the presence of mining companies can cover various aspects of their daily lives. The implications of these changes can vary widely depending on factors such as the scale of mining operations, company policies, and local community responses. Here are some general aspects of lifestyle changes that may occur. Indigenous peoples may begin to shift from traditional livelihoods such as farming or hunting towards employment in the mining sector. Many indigenous communities are involved in contractual work with mining companies, which can provide higher incomes but can also be unstable. The presence of mining companies can increase the income of indigenous communities, but it can also create economic disparities between those involved in the mining industry and those who are not. Mining companies can also build or improve local infrastructure such as roads, bridges, or electricity

systems, which can improve accessibility and connectivity for indigenous communities. The presence of mining companies in Sumbawa brought significant socio-economic changes for indigenous communities. Increasing income, changing lifestyles, and social conflict are important aspects that need to be considered to maintain a balance between economic development and preserving the values and sustainability of indigenous communities. A sustainable approach is needed to minimize negative impacts and ensure that economic benefits are inclusive.

CONCLUSION

Changes in the economic structure of indigenous communities as a result of the presence of mining companies include increased income, job diversification, and a shift towards a more modern economy. However, these changes also bring challenges such as job uncertainty, economic inequality, and the influence of inflation. Therefore, there needs to be a coordinated effort to ensure that the economic benefits of mining activities can be felt fairly and sustainably by all indigenous communities.

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