

POST-EARTHQUAKE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH BANANA-BASED PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION IN SARAMPAD VILLAGE CIANJUR DISTRICT

Diny A SANDRASARI^{1*}, Hari Eko IRIANTO², Iman BASRIMAN³

^{1,2,3}*Department of Food Technology, Faculty of Food Technology and Health, Sahid University, Indonesia*
Corresponding author: diny_agustini@usahid.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The earthquake that hit Cianjur left deep wounds on the community. Many of them have lost family members, places to live and also lost their jobs which will then cause new problems. Sahid University, through community service activities coordinated by LPPM and funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, Technology and Higher Education, held training in making processed bananas for women in Sarampad Village, Cugenang, Cianjur. This activity is not only intended to restore the economic and social conditions of the people affected by the earthquake, it is also hoped that new entrepreneurs will grow after the earthquake by taking advantage of business opportunities in making various processed bananas so that they can increase income and improve the family economy. This activity was held on Tuesday, December 13 2022 on the terrace of one of the evacuation points which was attended by 25 refugee housewives. The training in making processed bananas began with an introduction to the team members, a brief explanation of the aims and objectives of the activity, the process of producing processed banana chips which was followed by direct practice by residents who were very enthusiastic about participating in this activity. This community service program ended with the handover of 2 sets of banana processing equipment represented by the RT lady of Sarampad Village.

Keywords : Post Earthquake Community, Diversification, Banana, Sarampad, Cianjur

1. INTRODUCTION

The earthquake that rocked Cianjur on Monday, November 21 2022 caused many casualties and quite a lot of physical damage. Many victims died and became homeless because their houses were damaged or even destroyed to the ground and the loss of their jobs created new problems. When the community service activities were carried out, 4 weeks after the Cianjur earthquake, the people affected by the earthquake were still occupying command posts in refugee camps. It cannot be denied that the psychological condition of the community is very worrying because most of them lost their homes and business premises which were damaged by the earthquake. This has left deep sorrow for the Cianjur earthquake survivors. One of the villages that experienced the worst damage due to this earthquake was Sarampad Village, Cugenang, Cianjur.

To reduce the burden of injuries they have experienced, it is hoped that the community empowerment program for earthquake survivors can provide solutions and be able to help and facilitate the community to be able to rise and develop their abilities after the disaster they experienced. Empowering earthquake victim communities in the social and economic fields is very necessary so that they do not become objects of a program but become active subjects in post-disaster recovery programs. The effort required is to revive the existing enthusiasm by providing motivation to encourage or boost the spirit that had collapsed so that it becomes upright and strong again to live the next life.

Based on observations at the location of the earthquake victims, especially in Kampung Pasir, 18, RT 03/RW 10 Sarampad Village, Cugenang, data was obtained that the area grew many types of bananas, including uli bananas, kapok bananas and horn bananas. The banana harvest is usually only consumed directly by boiling or frying. Seeing the natural potential of this area, there are many opportunities that can be developed to restore the economy through diversification of processed banana products. Therefore, to restore the economic and social conditions of the communities affected by the earthquake, Sahid University through the Community Service (community service) program with the tagline "CIANJUR BANGKIT - Building Community Independence with Sahid University" held training in making processed bananas for women in Kampung Pasir 18, RT 03/RW 10 Sarampad Village, Cugenang, Cianjur.

This activity is an action of social concern in the world of education, especially lecturers and students of the Food Technology Study Program, Sahid University towards the condition of earthquake survivors. Through this activity, it is hoped that there will be a sustainable impact, namely not only to fill free time or eliminate anxiety and boredom, but the community, especially mothers, can immediately get back on their feet after returning home or no longer living in refugee camps by developing banana processing entrepreneurship. Thus, this community service activity needs to be implemented with the aim of (1) motivating earthquake survivors to quickly get up to live a life in the future that is expected to be better and brighter (2) providing solutions and helping and facilitating earthquake survivors so that they can recover their family's economic conditions faster and better through products processed bananas, (3) increasing the knowledge and skills of earthquake victim communities in producing processed bananas, (4) encouraging and motivating the birth of new banana-based entrepreneurs around their homes, one of which is through alternative banana chip processing businesses

2. METHOD

Location and participants activities

This activity was carried out on Tuesday, December 13 2022, located at one of the evacuation points in Kampung Pasir 18, RT 03/RW 10 Sarampad Village, Cugenang District, Cianjur. This location is one of the villages that experienced the worst damage due to this earthquake. This activity was attended by 25 refugee housewives living in refugee tents which were coordinated by local RT women. The Sahid University Food Technology Study Program lecturer team consists of 3 people as activity resource persons and 3 students who act as companions for community service activities.

Implementation Method

The method used in this activity was lecture and question and answer followed by the practice of making processed bananas including banana chips, banana sponge cake and banana bolen. The lecture method delivered was in the form of motivation to the participating mothers to immediately get up and create new entrepreneurs after the earthquake by taking advantage of the business opportunity of making processed bananas so that they could increase their income and improve the family economy.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community service activity began with an explanation of the prospects for banana processing businesses such as banana chips, which currently still have huge opportunities for development. Based on the results of the questions and answers, it was discovered that as many as 7 (seven) participants had made banana chips using jackfruit bananas as raw materials which could be obtained easily where they lived. They make banana chips for their own consumption and to serve guests during Eid. Three of them have even marketed the chips they produce to the local community and sell them to stalls near where they live, but the production is not carried out continuously. The processing equipment used is the kitchen equipment they have. Through training, they will be introduced to equipment for making chips that is more effective than the method they have been using, so that they will be interested in producing banana chips just to meet their own needs, but banana chips are produced commercially on a household scale to increase family income on a more continuous basis. The training participants who had never made banana chips looked very enthusiastic about taking part in the training and were interested in making banana chips to meet family needs or even produce them for marketing.

The practical activity of making banana chips was carried out directly by involving 5 (five) training participants who of their own accord tried to choose banana raw materials that met the criteria for chips, as well as trying out banana slicing and frying methods. The next stage is that the participating mothers practice weighing using a digital scale according to the desired weight of the chips and then packing them in PP plastic packaging or pouch packaging. Overall, the training participants were very enthusiastic about involving themselves in the banana chip making training.

Based on direct observations in the field, this training was very inspiring for the participating mothers who attended, as indicated by the increase in knowledge and skills of the mothers who were very enthusiastic during the direct practice of

making banana chips together. At the end of the training, the participants were asked "Is it easy to process banana chips?" All participants with smiles simultaneously answered "easy". This brings optimism to the community service Usahid team, that one day it is hoped that processed banana chip products will appear from Kampung Pasir 18, RT 03/RW 10 Sarapat Village, Cugenang District, Cianjur Regency as a typical product from Cianjur which can be a product by -by Cianjur or marketed outside Cianjur. Thus, through this training in making processed bananas, it is hoped that there will be a sustainable impact, not only to fill free time, or eliminate anxiety and boredom, but also, to prepare the community, especially mothers, to get back on their feet after returning home and no longer being displaced.

Given the psychological condition of the participants, who had just experienced an earthquake, the training was conducted in an interesting, interactive, demonstrative and participatory manner, so that participation in the training could become part of the trauma healing process for them. Therefore, the main program after the speeches was the training, which began with a practical explanation of the stages of banana processing, starting with the process of making banana chips delivered by the head of the implementation team, which included (1) the selection of good banana types and criteria for banana chips, (2) slicing techniques, (3) frying techniques, and (4) packaging techniques. It was also explained that the critical point that needs to be considered when selecting raw materials in the form of bananas for banana chips is bananas that have old but not ripe criteria, which can be seen from the color of the banana skin which is still green with the corners of the fruit that are no longer visible. The bananas used range from medium to large in size. The next stage of the process that needs to be considered and determines the quality of the chips produced is the frying stage. The frying process must be done with a lot of oil (deep frying) with a high temperature ranging from 160-180oC. In this training activity, raw materials in the form of banana stumps are used, which are already known by the trainee women.

On this occasion, so that the program implementation objectives could be achieved, the community service team witnessed by the Head of the Institute for Research and Community Service Sahid University as the activity coordinator provided assistance in the form of 2 sets of equipment for the production of banana chips business consisting of a semawar stove (pressure cooker), frying pan, 2 types of slicer, sodette, scoop, spinner, digital scale, packaging pressing tool (sealer machine), gas cylinder and other cooking utensils each totaling 2 sets which were handed over directly by the community service team through the group leader who represented all the participants. present and generally representing the entire community of Kampung Pasir. Sarapat Village, Cugenang. By providing this banana chip production equipment, it is hoped that this equipment can be used by women or local residents who are interested in starting a banana chip entrepreneurship so that what has been done can form a new business that can increase income and improve the economy of the earthquake survivors. Thus, it is hoped that in the future the knowledge gained during the training and processing equipment for the production process that has been provided will be utilized jointly by the mothers under the coordination of RT 03 to be used together as capital to strengthen the family economy. Banana chip processing equipment can be used by mothers in groups or individually who are arranged to take turns using the equipment.

Apart from providing assistance in the form of production equipment for entrepreneurship, the community service team also handed over assistance in the form of mattresses and basic food packages to all participants who attended the training. Representing the people of Kampung Pasir 18, RT 03/RW 10 Sarapat Village, Cugenang District, Cianjur Regency, the lady of RT 03 expressed her gratitude to the Sahid University community service team and the head of LPPM Usahid as the community service program coordinator who has provided their knowledge and knowledge, especially the production of processed bananas and providing material assistance in the form of banana chip production equipment, kitchen equipment, mattresses and basic food packages for families affected by the earthquake. Apart from that, thanks were also expressed to the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education for providing funds for the implementation of this community service program.



Figure 1. Post-earthquake victim participants in banana diversification training



Figure 2. Participants make banana chips

4. CONCLUSION

The Community Service Program for earthquake survivors in Sarampad Village, Cugenang Cianjur is an effort to care for the world of education, especially the Food Technology Study Program at Sahid University, to transfer science and knowledge to improve the community's economy amidst the disasters experienced. It is hoped that assistance with banana chip production equipment, mattresses and basic food packages will lighten the burden and motivate post-earthquake communities to quickly get up and start businesses to improve the family economy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The community service team would like to thank the Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education & Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia in 2022 through the Integrated Community Service Incentive Program with IKU Performance-Based MBKM for the funding provided so that this program can be implemented smoothly.

5. REFERENCES

- Heriwiyanti, E.T. 2014. Studi Perbandingan Nilai Indeks Glikemik Pisang Kepok Kukus Dan Pisang Ambon Lumut (Musa spp.) Pada Kelinci (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*). [Skripsi]. Surabaya : Universitas Airlangga. 1 : 1-3
- Irfan M A, Astuti S. 2014. Analysis of Inventory Control and Banana Chips Agroindustry Development Strategy in Bandar Lampung. *Agroindustrial Journal* Vol. 3 Issue 2 164-173
- Moya V L. 2018. Leveraging technology and community partnerships in improving the banana chips industry in Brgy. Buray, Samar, Philippines. www.ssu.edu.ph.
- Wani S A., Sharma V and Kumar P. 2017. Effect of processing parameters on quality attributes of fried banana chips.

International Food Research Journal 24(4): 1407-1413

<https://www.dpr.go.id/berita/detail/id/41972/t/Cianjur+Tanggap+Darurat+Bencana%2C+HNW%3A+Semua+Berduka>

<https://www.dpr.go.id/berita/detail/id/41972/t/Cianjur+Tanggap+Darurat+Bencana%2C+HNW%3A+Semua+Berduka>

<https://journal.unusia.ac.id/index.php/MIZANIA/article/view/590>

<https://www.usahid.ac.id/berita/bantu-korban-gempa-cianjur-usahid-bangun-dapur-sehat/>

<https://www.kompas.com/food/read/2022/05/25/131700175/cara-membuat-keripik-pisang-kepok-pakai-5-bahan-tidakkeras>