

Women's Empowerment in Coastal Areas as a Strategy for Poverty Alleviation Based on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Annisa Eka Nurjannah¹, Susi Dian Rahayu²

^{1,2}Universitas Islam 45. Bekasi City. Indonesia.

Correspondence: susidianrahayu@gmail.com²



Received: May 14, 2026 | Revised: May 22, 2026 | Accepted: May 31, 2026



<https://doi.org/10.31629/jmm.v10i1.8400>

ABSTRACT

Poverty in coastal communities remains a persistent barrier to sustainable development, particularly for women whose access to education, economic opportunities, finance, and productive resources is limited. This study examines coastal women's empowerment as a poverty reduction strategy aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals in Segarajaya Village, Bekasi Regency. A qualitative case study design was employed to obtain an in-depth understanding of empowerment practices and cross-sector collaboration. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, observation, documentation, and literature review involving coastal women's groups, the Segarajaya Village Government, the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises, PT PJB Muara Tawar, and other relevant stakeholders. The findings show that women's empowerment through the Seraci Batik business group and the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area has improved skills, expanded employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, increased household income, and strengthened women's economic independence, while reducing their dependence on unstable fisheries-based household livelihoods. Programme implementation is supported by cross-sector collaboration through skills training, business legality assistance, product promotion, market access, mentoring, and corporate social responsibility funding. However, collaboration remains constrained by unequal stakeholder participation, limited monitoring and evaluation, and institutional inflexibility. These empowerment initiatives directly support SDG 1 on poverty reduction, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, and SDG 17 on partnerships. The study concludes that balanced, continuous, and participatory collaboration is essential for strengthening coastal women's capacity and ensuring sustainable local economic development.

Keyword: Women's Empowerment, Coastal Areas, Poverty Alleviation



INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals constitute an integrated global framework for addressing poverty, inequality, economic exclusion, environmental degradation, and institutional limitations through development that leaves no population group behind. Among these challenges, poverty remains particularly persistent in rural and coastal communities because livelihood opportunities are often limited, income sources are

unstable, and access to education, finance, infrastructure, markets, and productive resources remains unequal. Coastal poverty is also multidimensional, encompassing not only insufficient income but also limited capabilities, weak social protection, vulnerability to environmental change, and exclusion from decision-making processes. Consequently, achieving SDG 1 on poverty eradication requires interventions that connect economic assistance with community capacity building, locally appropriate livelihood development, and cooperation among institutions operating at different levels of governance (Syahza et al., 2025; Boadi et al., 2024)

The effects of coastal poverty are not distributed equally between women and men. Women in fishing and coastal households commonly perform domestic responsibilities, unpaid care work, seafood processing, informal trading, and other livelihood activities that remain economically undervalued despite their contribution to household survival. Their vulnerability is intensified by limited education, restricted ownership of productive assets, inadequate access to capital and technology, and weak representation in organisations responsible for managing fisheries and coastal resources. Dependence on seasonal fishing income also exposes women to economic uncertainty when catches decline, adverse weather prevents fishing activities, or coastal environments experience degradation. Empowering coastal women is therefore important not merely for improving individual welfare but also for strengthening household resilience, food security, livelihood diversification, and women's participation in local development (Gopal et al., 2020; Torell et al., 2019; Chapata et al., 2024; Rao et al., 2024).

These socioeconomic conditions are evident in Segarajaya Village, Tarumajaya District, Bekasi Regency, a coastal settlement located along the northern coast of Java. The village has previously been classified as a disadvantaged village, with educational limitations, unstable household income, and restricted employment opportunities contributing to community vulnerability. Village demographic data for 2026 indicate that residents who are unemployed constitute the largest occupational category and that women form a substantial proportion of this group, followed by residents engaged in unpaid household work, self-employment, casual labour, agriculture, and fisheries. The data illustrate that many women remain outside stable productive employment even though the village possesses coastal, cultural, and tourism resources that could be developed to support local livelihoods. This situation must also be understood within the wider vulnerability of coastal communities to livelihood disruption, inadequate formal protection, environmental pressure, and unequal access to development opportunities (Pratiwi et al., 2026; Surtiari et al., 2024; Boateng et al., 2025).

The occupational conditions presented in Figure 1 provide the empirical background for implementing women's empowerment programmes in Segarajaya Village. These programmes involve women who previously concentrated primarily on domestic responsibilities and had limited access to independent sources of income. Empowerment is implemented through the Seraci Batik business group and productive activities associated with the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area, including batik production, souvenir making, seafood processing, culinary businesses, and tourism-related microenterprises. Such activities are intended to improve practical skills, expand entrepreneurship opportunities, strengthen women's control over income, and reduce household dependence on seasonal fishing. Evidence from rural enterprise, fisheries-value-chain training, agricultural cooperatives, and multidimensional empowerment programmes similarly indicates that training, collective organisation, productive participation, and

resource access can strengthen women's economic agency and household welfare (Orkoh et al., 2025; Osei-Acheampong et al., 2025; Lountain et al., 2025).

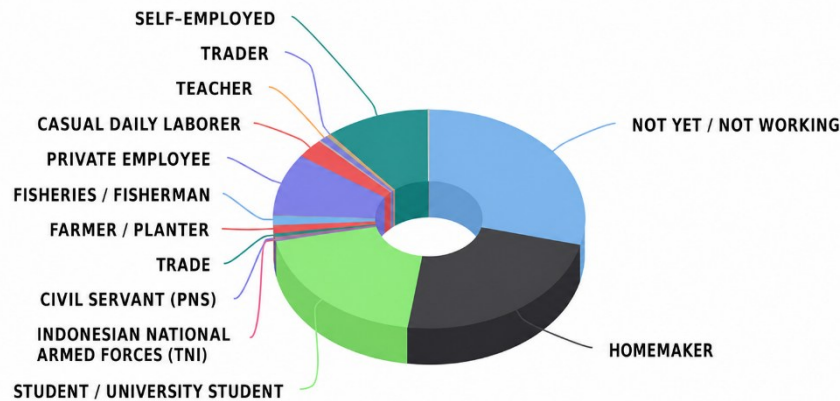


Figure 1. Population Conditions by Occupation in 2026
Source: Segarajaya Village Monograph Data (2026)

The implementation of coastal women's empowerment cannot rely exclusively on the capacity of participants or a single government institution because poverty is shaped by interconnected economic, institutional, educational, and market-related constraints. In Segarajaya Village, the empowerment process involves collaboration among the village government, the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises, PT PJB Muara Tawar, and local women's groups. These actors perform different roles through skills training, business-licensing assistance, product promotion, exhibition participation, mentoring, market development, and access to corporate social responsibility funding. From a collaborative-governance perspective, such arrangements can combine public authority, private resources, local knowledge, and community participation. Their effectiveness, however, depends on balanced responsibility, mutual trust, sustained communication, coordinated monitoring, and the meaningful involvement of community members throughout programme planning, implementation, and evaluation (Afandi et al., 2023; Pattaray et al., 2025; Adebayo et al., 2023).

Previous studies have established that women's empowerment can improve household income, occupational skills, entrepreneurial participation, and community welfare. Research concerning women entrepreneurs has emphasised the significance of government support, access to finance, business networks, and institutional environments, while studies of coastal livelihoods have demonstrated that women's involvement in fisheries processing, aquaculture, tourism, and locally based enterprises can diversify income and enhance community resilience. Other scholarship has examined community-based tourism and collective enterprise as instruments for improving women's economic participation. Nevertheless, these studies commonly analyse empowerment outcomes, livelihood activities, or institutional support separately. Comparatively limited attention has been devoted to how coastal women's empowerment, cross-sector collaboration, poverty reduction, and multiple Sustainable Development Goals interact within a single village-level programme in Indonesia.

This article addresses that gap by examining women's empowerment as both an economic intervention and a collaborative local-development process. Its originality lies in connecting the practical empowerment of coastal women in Segarajaya Village with

four interrelated Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 1 on eliminating poverty, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, and SDG 17 on partnerships for achieving development objectives. Rather than assessing programme success solely through income improvement, the analysis considers women's capacity development, access to productive opportunities, entrepreneurial participation, institutional roles, collaboration patterns, and the sustainability of programme assistance. This approach is significant because sustainable coastal development requires gender recognition, community participation, social capital, shared responsibility, and governance arrangements capable of transforming local resources into equitable economic benefits (Prayitno et al., 2025)

Accordingly, this study aims to analyse coastal women's empowerment as a strategy for poverty reduction in Segarajaya Village, identify the forms and contributions of cross-sector collaboration supporting the empowerment process, and explain its relevance to the achievement of SDGs 1, 5, 8, and 17. The study focuses on empowerment activities developed through the Seraci Batik group and the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area, including the roles performed by governmental institutions, the private sector, and women's community groups. Scientifically, the article contributes to the literature on women's empowerment, collaborative governance, coastal-community development, and SDG localisation by demonstrating how these dimensions operate together at the village level. Practically, the findings are expected to support the development of more balanced, continuous, participatory, and context-sensitive empowerment policies capable of improving women's economic independence while strengthening sustainable local development in coastal communities.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a qualitative research method with a case study design to obtain an in-depth and contextually grounded understanding of coastal women's empowerment as an SDG-based poverty reduction strategy in Segarajaya Village, Bekasi Regency. The case study design was selected because it enables researchers to investigate a specific social phenomenon comprehensively within its real-life setting, particularly the processes, actors, institutional relationships, and local conditions influencing the implementation of women's empowerment programmes (Moleong, 2009).

Segarajaya Village was selected as the research location because it represents a coastal community characterised by socioeconomic vulnerability, limited employment opportunities for women, dependence on fisheries-based livelihoods, and the implementation of collaborative empowerment initiatives. The study specifically examined women's empowerment activities developed through the Seraci Batik business group and the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area. These initiatives were analysed as practical efforts to strengthen women's skills, economic independence, access to productive activities, and contribution to household welfare while supporting poverty reduction and the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Primary data were collected through in-depth interviews and direct observations involving stakeholders who participated in the planning and implementation of coastal women's empowerment. The informants included officials from the Segarajaya Village Government and the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises as representatives of the government sector, members of Segarajaya coastal women's groups as the beneficiaries and principal actors of empowerment, and

representatives of PT PJB Muara Tawar as a private-sector collaborator providing support through its corporate social responsibility programme.

Secondary data were obtained through a literature review of policy documents, village monographs, books, journal articles, programme documentation, and other materials relevant to women's empowerment, coastal poverty, collaborative governance, and the Sustainable Development Goals. The collected data were organised, classified, and interpreted according to themes concerning empowerment practices, stakeholder roles, cross-sector collaboration, programme outcomes, implementation constraints, and relevance to SDGs 1, 5, 8, and 17. Data credibility was strengthened through triangulation involving significant others by comparing information obtained from interviews, observations, documentary evidence, and relevant literature. This validation process focused on confirming the consistency of the principal themes and interpretations emerging from the research findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Women's Empowerment as a Poverty Reduction Strategy

Etymologically, empowerment originates from the word *power*, which refers to an individual's ability or capacity to perform an action. According to the *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia* or the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language, power refers to an individual's ability to undertake something and to possess the capacity to act. In essence, empowerment is a process that enables individuals to perform particular activities by using their abilities (Indarwati, 2017).

Harry Hikmat defines empowerment as a decision-making process undertaken by people who subsequently and consistently implement the decisions they have made (Hikmat, 2010). Meanwhile, empowerment in a community context refers to the capacity of individuals, combined with the capacities of other individuals in society, to build the collective power of the community concerned (Anwar, 2007). Women's empowerment is a process of awareness building and capacity building that promotes broader participation, control, decision-making, and transformative action directed toward achieving greater equality between women and men (Ma'arif, 2003).

Women's empowerment constitutes an important strategy for strengthening women's roles by developing their potential so that they can become more independent and productive. In her study entitled *Women's Role in Economic Development*, Ester Boserup argued that women must be involved in development so that their participation is not restricted to the domestic sector but also extends to the public sector (Boserup, 1970). Women's empowerment therefore emphasises an approach that does not position women merely as objects of development initiatives but instead recognises them as active subjects. Through women's empowerment, poverty reduction is expected to become more achievable.

The factors influencing poverty or underdevelopment include economic, social, and cultural conditions (Psacharopoulos & Nguyen, 1997). Poverty may also be caused by problems relating to individuals, culture, social institutions, and society (Holtman, 1978). Individual problems are frequently associated with biological conditions or genetic factors, suggesting that poverty may be inherited through genetic circumstances. However, the assumption that individual factors constitute the principal cause of poverty can be challenged through culture. The culture developing within a community and becoming a source of social motivation may determine whether the community remains poor and underdeveloped or develops into a more advanced society (McClelland, 1971).

Individuals or families may remain below the poverty line because their culture discourages them from leaving the conditions of poverty. Instead, they establish perspectives and living habits that enable them to adapt to those conditions (Lewis, 1950). One effort to minimise poverty is the establishment of modern institutions, including educational institutions that provide knowledge and contribute to breaking the cycle of poverty, banking institutions that provide capital, health institutions, and other relevant organisations. Poverty reduction strategies consist of short-term and long-term approaches (Karlsson, as cited in Ala, 1981):

- a. A short-term strategy involving the transfer of adequate resources to poor communities.
- b. A long-term strategy involving the development of local self-reliance.

The short-term strategy improves conditions of poverty by creating employment opportunities, increasing community income, and improving income distribution. Meanwhile, the long-term strategy focuses on improving and fulfilling the dignity of individuals and communities so that they can achieve a respectable social life. Poverty reduction strategies include short-term measures intended to improve poverty conditions by creating employment opportunities, increasing community income, and improving its distribution. Long-term measures are directed toward improving and fulfilling the dignity of individuals and society.

Coastal areas are known to possess abundant natural resources. The optimal and sustainable management of coastal and marine biological resources can only be achieved when coastal management is implemented in an integrated and clearly directed manner. One of the principal requirements for coastal management is the existence of a shared vision, objectives, targets, and clear limitations governing the use of coastal areas. Integrated coastal planning and management involve the comprehensive assessment of coastal and marine natural resources and services, the formulation of plans, objectives, and targets, and the planning and management of all utilisation activities to achieve optimal and sustainable development (Arviyanti et al., 2014).

2. Cross-Sector Collaboration as an Effort to Reduce Poverty Among Coastal Women

Cross-sector collaboration constitutes an important approach to reducing poverty among coastal communities, particularly women who belong to economically and socially vulnerable groups. The complexity of poverty in coastal areas cannot be addressed by the government alone but requires the involvement of various actors, including communities, the private sector, local organisations, academics, and nongovernmental organisations. Within the context of sustainable development, cross-sector collaboration represents a relevant strategy for strengthening the economic capacity of coastal women through participatory and community-based empowerment approaches.

Coastal women generally face various limitations, including low educational attainment, restricted access to business capital, limited skills, and economic dependence on traditional fisheries, which are strongly influenced by weather and seasonal conditions. These circumstances result in relatively high levels of economic vulnerability among coastal women. Therefore, coastal women's empowerment constitutes an important component of poverty reduction strategies based on the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 on No Poverty, SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 17 on Partnerships for the Goals. From the perspective of collaborative governance, poverty reduction is

implemented through the active involvement of various stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of community empowerment programmes. Collaborative governance is a collective decision-making process involving governmental and nongovernmental actors to achieve shared public objectives (Ansell & Gash, 2017). This approach emphasises the importance of the involvement of each sector in the implementation of collaboration.

Cross-sector collaboration in coastal women's empowerment has been implemented through the development of the Seraci Batik enterprise and the management of the Jembatan Cinta tourism sector, which has become one of the tourism icons of Bekasi Regency. This cross-sector collaboration involves several stakeholders, including the Segarajaya Village Government, PT PJB Muara Tawar, the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises, and the Segarajaya Village Women's Group.

The establishment of the Seraci Batik Group was initiated in response to the conditions identified in Segarajaya Village, where many residents worked as marine fishermen and farmers whose income depended on harvests and fish catches, while most of their wives worked as homemakers and depended economically on their husbands' income. The social and economic conditions of the Segarajaya Village community were also categorised as disadvantaged and vulnerable to poverty. Minister of Villages Decree No. 126 of 2017 concerning the Designation of Priority Villages for Village Development, Disadvantaged-Region Development, and Transmigration identified Segarajaya Village as one of the disadvantaged villages.

These circumstances provided the background for implementing women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village through Seraci Batik activities and the optimisation of Jembatan Cinta tourism by involving women's groups as actors in local micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises. The presence of the Seraci Batik Group and Jembatan Cinta in Segarajaya Village constitutes a form of empowerment and an effort to develop the village's local potential while simultaneously training community creativity, particularly among women. The collaborative process in women's empowerment is intended to enable women to become more independent and creative and to improve their quality of life. Through this process, efforts to develop women's independence and welfare can be realised.

Women's empowerment can be implemented optimally when it involves the roles of relevant actors and the active participation of the community, particularly women, throughout every stage of empowerment. These two elements have important functions: actors serve as programme facilitators and drivers, while women, as the target group, constitute the principal element determining the success of empowerment activities. Empowerment also requires stakeholder involvement because stakeholders are individuals or groups capable of influencing the achievement of empowerment activities (Freeman, 1984, p. 25).

The roles of actors are important to the implementation and success of women's empowerment in coastal areas, particularly in Segarajaya Village. Cross-sector cooperation in women's empowerment is believed to serve as an accelerator for achieving empowerment objectives, particularly poverty reduction in coastal areas. The actors involved include the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises and the Segarajaya Village Government as representatives of the government sector; PT PJB Muara Tawar as a private-sector actor providing capital assistance through its corporate social responsibility programme; and women's groups as the empowered

partners. Within the collaborative process, each actor performs a different role intended to accelerate the achievement of women's empowerment objectives. This condition was explained by "M," a member of the women's group producing Seraci Batik in Segarajaya Village:

"Regarding collaboration, we have participated in batik-making training. First, the village government was involved in managing the legal status of Seraci Batik. Whenever there was an event in the village, we were included so that we could promote Seraci Batik products. Then, in 2016, we began receiving assistance from PT PJB, and until now we have remained one of the products supported through its corporate social responsibility programme. We have also received invitations from the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises to participate in exhibitions. Sometimes, they also order Seraci Batik to be used as official uniforms or souvenirs."

The interview quotation demonstrates that each stakeholder made a different contribution to the women's empowerment process through the Seraci Batik women artisans' group. The government facilitated batik-making training as a form of support for women's empowerment. The management of business legality by the Segarajaya Village Government also constituted a concrete and important measure to ensure that the creative enterprise possessed valid legal status.

Furthermore, promotional activities through exhibitions at various events constituted a practical effort to support the marketing of products produced by the women's empowerment group. Access to capital provided by PT PJB Muara Tawar through its corporate social responsibility programme also became an important foundation for the sustainability of women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village. In this collaborative practice, the cross-sector collaboration established among stakeholders was directed toward the common objective of improving women's welfare as part of poverty reduction efforts.

In addition to establishing the Seraci Batik Group, women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village was implemented through activities in the Jembatan Cinta Tarumanegara area. One approach to reducing poverty in coastal areas involves developing the potential possessed by the village. One such potential is the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area, which was inaugurated in 2015 and has become one of the tourism destinations in Bekasi Regency.

The development of this ecotourism area has been undertaken through several measures, including optimising synergy among stakeholders to accelerate the development of the tourism sector and increase the economic independence of communities surrounding the Jembatan Cinta tourism area. Women's empowerment activities in the Jembatan Cinta area of Segarajaya Village have been implemented through various programmes, including skills training and creative-economy business development based on local potential. Women's groups in coastal areas have received training in producing locally distinctive handicrafts, processing marine products, and preparing coastal culinary products to increase the purchasing interest of tourists visiting Jembatan Cinta.

The village government and other relevant parties have also provided support through business mentoring, product-promotion facilitation, and the involvement of women in local tourism activities in the Jembatan Cinta Tarumanegara area. The presence of the tourism area has created new economic opportunities for coastal women,

including selling food, marketing handicrafts, and developing tourism-based micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises. Women's empowerment has consequently increased household income and strengthened the local economy of coastal communities.

The implementation of women's empowerment through cross-sector collaboration in the coastal areas of Bekasi Regency has nevertheless encountered several obstacles. One factor preventing optimal implementation is that the collaborative process has been dominated by the private sector. In the collaboration supporting women's empowerment through the Seraci Batik artisans' group, each stakeholder should perform its empowerment role collectively.

However, the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises and the Segarajaya Village Government have not continuously monitored and evaluated activities such as batik-making training and exhibitions to determine whether the programmes have been implemented effectively or have encountered particular obstacles. Follow-up activities have only been routinely undertaken by PT PJB Muara Tawar through monthly evaluations and monitoring conducted in person or through digital media according to the forms provided by the company for the collaborative programme. Another obstacle is that the collaboration tends to lack flexibility and remains restricted by the respective duties and authorities of each institution.

3. Women's Empowerment and the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Women's empowerment and the Sustainable Development Goals are inseparably related. In addition to constituting one of the SDG objectives, women's empowerment represents a concrete measure for accelerating the achievement of sustainable development. The findings of this study demonstrate a relationship between women's empowerment for poverty reduction in coastal areas and several Sustainable Development Goals. The first relevant objective is SDG 1 on poverty reduction. The second is SDG 5 on gender equality, particularly the target of providing women with equal access to economic resources. The third is SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, while the fourth is SDG 17 on partnerships for achieving the goals.

Women's empowerment in coastal areas performs an important role in poverty reduction in accordance with SDG 1, particularly its first target, which seeks to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 among people currently living on less than USD 1.25 per day. One effort to reduce poverty in accordance with this SDG target involves implementing women's empowerment programmes. Women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village was initiated because of the social conditions of the community, particularly coastal women who possessed limited access to economic and financial resources. These women had previously depended on income generated from fish catches, which was affected by unfavourable weather conditions. This situation encouraged several parties to develop collaborative poverty reduction efforts, including women's empowerment programmes. One actor involved in coastal women's empowerment described the condition of women in Segarajaya Village before the establishment of the Seraci Batik business group and women's empowerment activities in the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area. This explanation was provided by a Segarajaya Village official who was one of the initiators of women's empowerment in the village:

"The initial condition during the collaborative stage was influenced by the circumstances of coastal communities, which had limited education and unstable income. Many women here were also unemployed. The village

government subsequently developed a programme to improve the community's economic and social human resources, and women's empowerment activities were initiated from that point" (interview with DM, September 2024).

The effects of women's empowerment in coastal areas have been strongly experienced by the participating women's groups. In addition to improving their skills in producing batik, souvenirs, and culinary products, the principal outcome experienced by the participants has been greater economic independence. Women participating in the Seraci Batik enterprise receive income from the batik products they successfully produce and market. Meanwhile, women involved in business activities within the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area receive additional income from products marketed within the tourism destination.

Women's empowerment constitutes one form of implementing SDG 5, which seeks to achieve gender equality. Several targets have been established to realise gender equality, including eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls. Other targets include eliminating violence against women and children and abolishing harmful practices against women, such as early marriage and female circumcision. Furthermore, the gender-equality goal seeks to provide women with equal access, including equal access to education and economic opportunities.

The coastal women's empowerment programme implemented for poverty reduction represents one form of achieving SDG 5, particularly its target of providing women with equal access to education through various forms of skills training and equal access to economic opportunities to strengthen women's independence. The multisectoral women's empowerment programme in Segarajaya Village has provided women with opportunities to become productive and economically independent.

Coastal women's empowerment programmes are also associated with SDG 8, which concerns decent work and economic growth. The third target of this goal seeks to promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity, innovation, the formalisation and growth of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, and access to financial services. Women's empowerment programmes developed through Seraci Batik and Jembatan Cinta ecotourism have provided women with access to decent employment and contributed to economic growth within coastal areas.

Furthermore, women's empowerment programmes in coastal areas have established cross-sector collaboration that contributes to poverty reduction in coastal communities. This condition corresponds with SDG 17 on partnerships for achieving the goals, particularly the target of encouraging and promoting effective public, public-private, and civil-society partnerships based on experience and partnership strategies. The women's empowerment programme has created a collaborative space involving the Segarajaya Village Government and the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises as representatives of the government sector, PT PJB Muara Tawar as the representative of the private sector, and coastal women's groups.

CONCLUSION

Coastal women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village constitutes a strategic approach to poverty reduction and sustainable local development. The programme emerged from the socioeconomic vulnerability of coastal households, particularly women who experienced limited access to education, employment, capital, and productive

resources while depending heavily on unstable fisheries-based income. Through the Seraci Batik enterprise and productive activities in the Jembatan Cinta ecotourism area, women gained opportunities to improve their skills, participate in local economic activities, develop creative products, and generate independent income. These initiatives demonstrate that women's empowerment can reduce household economic dependence, strengthen women's productive capacity, and create broader opportunities for improving community welfare.

The implementation of the programme was supported by cross-sector collaboration involving the Segarajaya Village Government, the Bekasi Regency Office of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises, PT PJB Muara Tawar, and local women's groups. Each stakeholder performed different functions, including training provision, business-licensing assistance, product promotion, exhibition facilitation, mentoring, and access to capital through corporate social responsibility programmes. However, the collaboration has not operated optimally because stakeholder participation remains unbalanced, monitoring and evaluation by government institutions are limited, and institutional cooperation tends to be constrained by rigid duties and authorities. Sustainable empowerment therefore requires stronger coordination, balanced responsibility, continuous evaluation, and meaningful participation by women throughout programme planning, implementation, and development.

The findings further indicate that coastal women's empowerment in Segarajaya Village is directly relevant to several Sustainable Development Goals. It supports SDG 1 by creating income opportunities and reducing women's economic vulnerability, SDG 5 by expanding equal access to skills development and economic participation, SDG 8 by encouraging decent work, entrepreneurship, and local economic growth, and SDG 17 by establishing partnerships among government, private-sector institutions, and community groups. Consequently, women's empowerment should not be regarded merely as a temporary poverty alleviation programme but as an integrated and long-term development strategy. Strengthening collaborative governance, market access, business sustainability, institutional support, and women's decision-making capacity is essential to ensure that empowerment produces equitable and sustainable benefits for coastal communities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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