



Activities on the Formation and Meetings of Blue Swimming Crab Fisher Community

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The formation and regular meetings of blue swimming crab fishermen groups in several coastal regions of Indonesia are part of APRI's concrete efforts to strengthen the foundation of sustainable crab fisheries. The activities were carried out in Lampung, Cirebon, Rembang, Pamekasan, Gresik, and Muna Barat, all of which are recognized as key production centers for blue swimming crab. Through direct engagement with fishermen, these activities served as a platform to unify visions and enhance the capacity of fishermen groups in managing their fisheries in a more organized and structured manner.

In practice, APRI, through its field support teams, regularly facilitates meetings with fishermen groups in each region. These meetings go beyond discussing technical aspects of crab fishing; they also encourage fishermen to better understand the importance of governance, catch data recording, and the application of environmentally friendly fishing practices. In this way, fishermen are motivated to actively participate in the development of a fair and sustainable crab fishery.

Several fishermen groups that have been established have shown positive progress, such as KUB Berkah Capit Biru in Pamekasan, KUB Samudera Jaya 5 in Rembang, and KUB Putra Remaja in Rembang. The presence of these groups demonstrates that organizing fishermen can strengthen solidarity and

enhance their position in facing challenges at sea. Moreover, these groups have become strategic partners for APRI in channeling various capacity-building programs and technical assistance.

In addition to strengthening existing groups, APRI's field support also plays an active role in facilitating the formation of new groups. Some of these include KUB Putra Remaja in Rembang, KUB Mekar Jaya Laut in Cirebon, KUB Sumber Berkah in Cirebon, as well as several other groups across APRI's working areas. The establishment of these new groups indicates that continuous assistance helps foster fishermen's awareness of the importance of organizing, making it easier for them to collaborate, access support programs, and develop crab fisheries in a more structured way.

During each meeting, fishermen are given the opportunity to share their aspirations, challenges, and needs in managing their fishing activities. Open discussions have helped produce solutions that are better aligned with local conditions. With effective communication between fishermen, their groups, and APRI, each region has begun to develop clearer working patterns to safeguard crab resources while also improving fishermen's livelihoods.

Overall, the formation and regular meetings of blue swimming crab fishermen groups reflect APRI's commitment to continuously engage with coastal communities. These activities go beyond technical assistance, representing a process of strengthening fishermen's institutions so that they can become more independent and take the lead in safeguarding crab sustainability. Through the synergy between APRI and fishermen groups in various regions, it is expected that Indonesia's crab fishery can continue to grow and deliver long-term benefits for future generations.