

New perspective on subsistence ethics: criticism on the fishery development in Indonesia

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ABSTRACT:

Misconception that views socio-cultural condition of fisherman similar to the ones of farmers has triggered fatal mistakes related to the implementation of policies on the development of fisheries in a country. This paper intends to propose a brand new perspective on the subsistence ethics in which it is believed that the principles of ethic subsistence for farmers are not always applicable for fisherman. This study also attempts at expressing criticisms toward the development of fisheries in Indonesia that gives inadequate attention to the ethics of fisherman subsistence. The subsistence ethics cannot be used separately nor can it be exalted through managerial paradigms of either “circular” paradigm or “pyramid” paradigm. The history of Indonesian fishery development has been started from the era of the Dutch colonialism up to present time which is marked by two principles: (1) economy is the commander, and (2) policies are always attached to the situation of the national politics. The result of the analysis on the ethics of fisherman subsistence shows that the development of fishery has to consider the ethics of fisherman subsistence which also plays role as the social guarantee of fishery resources.

Keywords:

Subsistence ethics, fisherman, coastal fisheries, sustainable development, fishery policy, maritime.