

論文の内容の要旨

農業・資源経済学 専攻

平成 22 年度博士課程 入学

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論文題目

A Study of the Evolutional Processes of a Group of Farmers
—A Case Study of The Mekar Jaya Farmer Group, West Java Province,
Indonesia—

(農民グループの展開過程に関する研究
—インドネシア西ジャワ・メカルジャヤ農民グループの事例—)

According to the report of Center of Agricultural Extension in 2011, in West Java, there has been a significant decrease of farmer group numbers in 10 years duration. The decrease of farmer group number was not only happened in West Java Province, but also in Central and East Java.

However, while the trend of decreasing number of farmer groups is happening in West Java Province, there is still a farmer group that could survive for more than 10 years. This group is located in Majalengka regency, West Java Province. The name is Mekar Jaya Group (MJG) that has been built since 1989 and is still active up to now. The core activity of this group is sheep keeping.

This study tried to investigate the evolutionary processes of this farmer group. It is interesting to see how the MJG could live in long time and what kind of factors that have influence on its life.

Group dynamics will be the first stage of this study. It can reflect the fluctuation of group progress, and also can reflect which dimension of psychological process that affects the ability of group to have a long life. This dominant dimension could be the strength of the group.

The group itself has assumed as collection of individuals. They make relationship among each other. This relationship makes a pattern of relationship in a long time. It is called communication network pattern among members. It has supposed as one other of influential factors and will be the second stage of this study.

Another factor is motivation of members for becoming group member. It supposed as one important factor because the fluctuation of member motivation can affect his decision, if he will stay or not in group. Therefore, the factors which have influence on motivation of member should be studied.

Each phase of the group had its own group dynamics value. The group dynamics had a higher value in phase I than in the other phases. In contrast, the group dynamics were lower in phase III than in any other phase. The conflict between the leaders and

the existence of free riders led to the lower group dynamic values.

Group structure has been the most significant dimension of group dynamics during the group's lifetime. The stable pattern of member relationships in phase I was the most significant contributor to group structure, even in phase III when the conflict had rise up. This stable pattern also helps the group to recover after the conflict.

The existence of bridges within the group's communication network was very important. The nodes with bridges constituted the cut-points. If they did not remain in the group, the network would have been broken. The cut-points were important for the conveyance of the group from phase I to phase IV. As membership increased, the centrality of the network decreased. The centrality value decreased between phase I and phase III and then rose again during phase IV when membership was reduced.

Its members' motivation decreased from Phase I to Phase III, but it increased slightly in Phase IV. This finding suggests that group motivation is a dynamic factor that influences members' decision to remain in or to leave the group. Three factors significantly influence the motivation to become group members. These include internal factors, external factors and the role of the leader.

Internal factors have the strongest influence on member motivation. There is one value that kept members active in the group: the cumulative experience in sheep

keeping which was strengthened by informal education as part of external aid, especially in Phase I. This value became the fundament of the group.

The Phase I group, which consisted of members who were in the group from Phase I to Phase IV, was the nucleus of the group. This group had an important role for supporting the group's evolutionary processes and was a source of the group's leaders.