



# THE ROLE OF FORUM BANGUN ACEH (FBA) IN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT BASED ON SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH THE INGIN MAJU COMMUNITY SELF-HELP GROUP (KSM) IN GAMPONG LUTHU DAYAH KRUENG-ACEH BESAR

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## Abstract

Community empowerment based on social inclusion through Community Self-Help Groups (KSM) is a step to empower vulnerable communities carried out openly and voluntarily for all communities without exception to ensure that people can fulfill their rights to their living needs and live independently. The purpose of this research is to determine the process of forming KSM in Luthu Dayah Krueng Village, to find out the role of the Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) in implementing inclusive community empowerment through KSM in Luthu Dayah Krueng Village, and to find out the forms of empowerment in KSM in Luthu Dayah Krueng Village. This research was conducted using qualitative methods. The data collection techniques used were observation, interviews and documentation. In this study, researchers obtained data sources from 8 respondents who were the subjects of this research, including two coordinators of the Forum Bangun Aceh, 2 Administrators of KSM Ingin Maju, 3 Members of Want to KSM Ingin Maju, and 1 Head of Luthu Dayah Krueng Village. This research shows that empowerment based on social inclusion through KSM is considered more effective in empowering a group. Empowerment based on social inclusion through KSM is open and voluntary for the entire community. The Forum Bangun Aceh has carried out its role as founder, coach, facilitator, and educator in community empowerment based on social inclusion through KSM.

**Keywords:** Participation; Social Inclusion; Community Self-Help Groups.

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## Abstrak

Pemberdayaan masyarakat berbasis inklusi sosial melalui Kelompok Swadaya Masyarakat (KSM) merupakan langkah untuk memberdayakan masyarakat rentan yang dilakukan secara terbuka dan suka rela bagi seluruh masyarakat tanpa terkecuali, dengan tujuan agar masyarakat dapat memenuhi hak atas kebutuhan hidupnya, dan dapat menjalankan kehidupannya secara mandiri. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui proses terbentuknya KSM di Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, untuk mengetahui peran Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) dalam menerapkan pemberdayaan masyarakat inklusi melalui KSM di Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, dan untuk mengetahui bentuk-bentuk pemberdayaan pada KSM di Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng. Penelitian ini dibuat dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Teknik pengumpulan data yang digunakan adalah observasi, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Dalam penelitian ini peneliti mendapatkan sumber data dari 8 responden yang menjadi subjek dalam penelitian ini diantaranya 2 koordinator Forum Bangun Aceh, 2 Pengurus KSM Ingin Maju, 3 Anggota KSM Ingin Maju, dan 1 Keuchik Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan pemberdayaan berbasis inklusi sosial melalui KSM dinilai dapat berjalan lebih efektif untuk pemberdayaan suatu kelompok. Pemberdayaan berbasis Inklusi sosial melalui KSM bersifat terbuka dan secara sukarela bagi seluruh masyarakat. Forum Bangun Aceh sudah menjalankan perannya dengan baik sebagai pendiri, pembina, fasilitator dan pendidik dalam pemberdayaan masyarakat berbasis inklusi sosial melalui KSM.

**Kata Kunci:** Partisipasi; Inklusi Sosial; Kelompok Swadaya Masyarakat.

## INTRODUCTION

Community empowerment is an economic strengthening principle that unites various values in the community to create a new empowerment system aimed at the community, inclusively, empowered, and sustainably (Chamber, 1995). Furthermore, Chamber elaborates that the concept of development through community empowerment is not merely to meet the community's basic needs but as a step to find alternatives for local economic improvement.<sup>1</sup>

Community empowerment is not a new concept in Islam. Historically, community empowerment has been practiced by the Prophet Muhammad Saw. When the Prophet urged his followers to look after each other, especially those economically disadvantaged, it demonstrated a form of community empowerment. The empowerment concepts practiced by the Prophet Muhammad Saw serve as examples for Muslims to help reduce societal poverty. Regional economic growth is the government's and its people's effort to utilize available resources and build forms of cooperation between local government and the private sector to create new jobs and develop economic activities (economic growth) in the region.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Munawar Noor. "Pemberdayaan Masyarakat" [Community Empowerment]. *CIVIS: Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan Kewarganegaraan* 1 (2). 2011.

<sup>2</sup>Rony Kurniawan. "Aplikasi Location Quotient (Lq) Sebagai Metode Penentuan Komoditas Palawija Unggulan di Kabupaten Nganjuk". *Jurnal Riset Ekonomi dan Bisnis* 1 (2) 2014: 114.

In the context of Indonesia, poverty remains a challenging issue to eradicate. Various programs aimed at reducing poverty by the government have yet to address the problem effectively. Poverty can become a trap, leading individuals to commit crimes, thus requiring continuous community empowerment efforts for weaker societal groups.

Community empowerment is an effort to achieve community growth, enhance the community's economy, and advocate for values and interests in all aspects of life. Community empowerment not only encompasses individual empowerment but also the empowerment of social institutions. This is because community empowerment can increase the capacity within society, enabling communities to become more independent.

The role of the community as the development target can weaken due to the presence of exclusion potential in social life. Tony Blair (in Lund, 2002) broadly describes social exclusion as encompassing individuals who lack the material or moral capacity to participate in social, economic, political, and cultural life.<sup>3</sup> One group lacking such capacities is people with disabilities.

Social exclusion is a process that limits individuals' or groups' ability to access resources and participate in social, political, or economic life. On the other hand, social inclusion is a condition where all individuals or groups can participate in social, political, or economic life. Social inclusion also ensures that individuals/groups receive adequate health services.

Previous studies have linked social inclusion with village development. Research by Gutama et al. (2020), titled "Social Inclusion in Village Development," concludes that social inclusion in village development focuses on two forms of movement: the community's movement as development subjects regulated by law and as subjects reducing their marginalization.<sup>4</sup> Social inclusion in village development is crucial to reducing societal exclusion, thus achieving the village development goals outlined in the Village Law for all community layers.

Efforts in socially inclusive community empowerment can be carried out by forming Community Self-Help Groups (KSM). Community Self-Help Groups (KSM) are voluntary groups formed by individuals with unifying bonds such as vision, interests, and shared needs to achieve common goals. The unifying vision in KSM is poverty alleviation and job creation in the community.<sup>5</sup>

The Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) views the social realities in the community as opportunities to assist by implementing socially inclusive community empowerment through self-help groups. Empowering communities through this concept is expected to improve the local economy. Moreover, this concept aims to include disadvantaged communities, such as people with disabilities, in empowerment initiatives.

Community Self-Help Groups can develop through existing rooted groups in the community, such as farmer groups, women's groups, and development groups. These groups are expected to enhance their potential after receiving training, counseling, and

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<sup>3</sup>Rusdi Syahra. "Eksklusi Sosial: Perspektif Baru untuk Memahami Deprivasi dan Kemiskinan". *Jurnal Masyarakat dan Budaya* 12 (3) 2010: 5.

<sup>4</sup>Prima Putra Budi Gutama dan Bambang Widiyahseno. "Inklusi Sosial dalam Pembangunan Desa". *Reformasi* 10 (1) 2020: 79.

<sup>5</sup>Sugeng Santoso. "Pemberdayaan Masyarakat untuk Kemandirian Ekonomi Melalui Kelompok Swadaya Masyarakat (KSM) (Studi Deskriptif Kualitatif Mengenai Pemberdayaan Masyarakat untuk Kemandirian Ekonomi Melalui Kelompok Swadaya Masyarakat (KSM) Tahun 2009 di RT 03/RW 36, Kelu)", 2009, hlm. 23.

financial support, making them more independent and capable of managing their finances effectively.

Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng is one village that has applied the principles of social inclusion within its Community Self-Help Groups (KSM). In these groups, all community layers, from the general populace to those with disabilities, participate. The KSM has been operating for two years, improving the community's self-sufficiency and economic welfare through home industries producing *pliek u* products.

Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng is located in Sukamakmur Subdistrict, Aceh Besar Regency, approximately 13.2 km from the subdistrict capital and 40.2 km from the regency capital. Demographically, its residents primarily engage in agriculture. Educational levels range from elementary to higher education. In 2018, the village had a population of 674 people, 317 men and 357 women, with seven individuals with disabilities.

Implementing social inclusion in community empowerment processes is crucial to minimize social exclusion, ensuring that village development goals, as stated in the Village Law, are realized for all village residents, including the general public and people with disabilities. Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng is one village in Aceh Besar Regency that has applied the concept of inclusive community empowerment through Community Self-Help Groups, attracting the author's interest in this research. It is hoped that such community empowerment concepts can be continually implemented in other villages in Aceh Besar Regency or even across other regencies in the Aceh Province.

## METHOD

This study uses qualitative methods. Qualitative research is conducted through field studies and relates to pre-existing foundational ideas<sup>6</sup>. An appropriate and systematic method is necessary to produce a scientific work. In this research, the researcher uses a descriptive method, meaning the researcher does not change, add, or manipulate the object or area of study. In this research, the researcher uses key informants and main informants. The key informants include the coordinators from Forum Bangun Aceh (Mr. Syaiful and Mrs. Syura), the village head (Keuchik) of Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng (Mr. Ghafur), and the main informants are members of the Ingin Maju Community Self-Help Group (KSM) (Mrs. Juariah, Mrs. Nur Wahidah, Mrs. Azizah, Mrs. Arnila, and Mrs. Risna), and the management of KSM Ingin Maju (Mrs. Nurmiati, and Mrs. Ervina). The research location is Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Sukamakmur Subdistrict, Aceh Besar Regency.

The consideration for choosing this location is due to the implementation of the socially inclusive community empowerment concept in the village, which is not widely applied in other villages. The data sources in this study are as follows:

- 1) Primary data: data obtained from interviews and observations, such as from the coordinators of Forum Bangun Aceh, the village head of Gampong Luthu Dayah, and the management and members of KSM Ingin Maju.
- 2) Secondary data: data obtained through literature studies, references, documents, and observations from the research location.

Data analysis in this study uses data reduction techniques, data display, conclusion drawing, and verification.

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<sup>6</sup>Nurul Zuriyah. "Metodologi Penelitian Sosial dan Pendidikan Teori Aplikasi", 2006, hlm. 95.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### A. The Formation Process of Community Self-Help Groups (KSM) in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Aceh Besar District

The Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) initiated the establishment of Community Self-Help Groups (KSM) based on social inclusion by first selecting the sub-district to be empowered. The selection criteria included location, population size, and the number of people with disabilities. This basic data was obtained from the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Social Service Department. During an interview with an FBA coordinator, Mrs. Syura, regarding the KSM formation process, she stated:

"If we look at the area, population size, and number of disabilities, Kuta Cot Glie Sub-district meets the criteria. However, considering its layout, it would be operationally challenging for us. Finally, we chose a sub-district that would be operationally feasible".<sup>7</sup>

After selecting the sub-district, the next step involved Community Organizers (CO) from FBA conducting meetings with the sub-district authorities. During these meetings, the sub-district authorities recommended villages that met FBA's criteria for implementing community empowerment programs through KSM based on social inclusion. Based on these recommendations, COs conducted mapping and identified several villages that were approachable for initial program introductions. Subsequently, COs entered the field to determine the target village for FBA's work. Mrs. Syura elaborated on the next steps in the KSM formation process:

"The formation of KSM is based on the support of village officials when offered the KSM program, which aims to empower people with disabilities and the community through KSM. We explained what KSM is, and they showed interest. Then we socialize with the entire community and decide whether to continue the program".<sup>8</sup>

In addition to the support of village officials, the number of people with disabilities is also a key factor in forming KSM. KSM aims to empower the community based on social inclusion, including people with disabilities, their caregivers, and the general community. Mrs. Syura stated:

"After the village officials agreed and supported the program, the COs conducted mapping to determine the number, types, and ages of people with disabilities to gauge the program's potential success in the village".<sup>9</sup>

Another factor is the enthusiasm of the village community. During socialization, the community showed interest in the KSM model and agreed to continue the program. Mrs. Syura added:

"Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng was successfully implementing the KSM program, and the village was developed into a disability-inclusive village, meaning all

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<sup>7</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>8</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>9</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

development processes involved or represented people with disabilities. The village officials were supportive, and the community was willing, with people with disabilities actively involved. That's why we chose Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng".<sup>10</sup>

The Community Self-Help Group (KSM) in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng was established on June 16, 2019, with 14 members, including 13 women and one person with a disability. The members and management agreed to name the group "Community Self-Help Group (KSM) Ingin Maju." Membership has grown to 21 members, including 19 women and two people with disabilities who are hearing-impaired and visually impaired.

KSM Ingin Maju's vision is "To realize a creative KSM that cares about disability issues." Its mission includes enhancing members' creativity to improve the KSM and expanding the market for KSM Ingin Maju's products beyond the local area. Mr. Syaiful from FBA explained the KSM formation process:

"The first step in forming a KSM was meeting with the village head, assessing the number of people with disabilities in the village, and the village head's response. Once these criteria were met, we sought permission to socialize the KSM program".<sup>11</sup>

The village head, Mr. Ghafur, confirmed:

"When FBA came to our village, they explained their intention to implement a community empowerment program based on social inclusion through KSM. After discussing with village officials, we agreed it was a good program as it was inclusive. I suggested FBA contact Mrs. Ervina, who is active in such initiatives, to handle and involve other women".<sup>12</sup>

After receiving permission from the village head, the socialization process began, explaining the KSM program and the concept of social inclusion. FBA invited members from other established KSMs to share their successful experiences with the Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng community. Once the community responded positively, FBA proceeded to select members and management. The foundational and mandatory savings amounts and other regulations were established, forming the KSM Ingin Maju.

The next step was socializing with KSM management and members about utilizing the savings for productive purposes. They invested in the home industry, producing packaged pliek u (fermented coconut).

The rationale behind choosing Pliek U production was its popularity among the elderly and the traditional yet less modern packaging available in the market. Mrs. Ervina explained:

"We chose Pliek U production because it's a traditional food made by the older generation. Nowadays, it's rarely made. During a training session, FBA asked how to use our KSM savings productively. We suggested pliek u production, given its rarity and potential market".<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>11</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mr. Syaiful, August 2023.

<sup>12</sup>Interview with Geuchik Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Mr. Ghafur, August 2023.

<sup>13</sup>Interview with Treasurer of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Ervina, July 2023.

Another factor was the availability of coconut trees in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, covering 45 hectares.<sup>14</sup> Mrs. Ervina shared:

"We joined the KSM because of FBA's close socialization, the potential for community empowerment, economic improvement, and the opportunity to promote our village".<sup>15</sup>

Not many villages have been empowered through this social inclusion-based KSM program. In Sukamakmur Sub-district, only three villages have such programs. Despite other villages showing interest, FBA could not expand further due to the high energy and resource demands of establishing and maintaining KSMs. Mrs. Syura explained:

"Supporting established KSMs requires significant energy, including monthly meetings and bi-weekly or weekly assistance as needed. Forming a KSM is difficult and requires substantial effort, so we target only two or three villages per sub-district".<sup>16</sup>

KSM Ingin Maju's main challenges include adjusting KSM activities to members' farming schedules, as most members are farmers. Mrs. Nurmiati, the KSM chairperson, stated:

"The main challenge is coordinating KSM activities with farming schedules, but we strive to remain committed and disciplined".<sup>17</sup>

Mrs. Ervina, the treasurer, added:

"We lack some production equipment and face marketing limitations, as our products are only sold locally in Aceh Besar. We hope to expand our market".<sup>18</sup>

## **B. The Role of Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) in Community Empowerment through Community Self-Help Groups in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Aceh Besar District**

FBA plays an active role in establishing and running KSM programs in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng. FBA's roles in community empowerment through KSM include:

### 1. Founder

As the initiator, FBA played a crucial role in forming KSM Ingin Maju. Mrs. Syura explained: "Our first role in social inclusion-based community empowerment through KSM is as the founder or initiator".<sup>19</sup>

### 2. Mentor

FBA is a mentor who guides KSM Ingin Maju from formation to the present. Mr. Syaiful confirmed: "We act as founders and mentors, ensuring KSM Gampong Luthu

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<sup>14</sup>Reference to 2022 Gampong Profile obtained at the Keuchik Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng Office, on August 4, 2023.

<sup>15</sup>Interview with Treasurer of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Ervina, July 2023.

<sup>16</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>17</sup>Interview with Chairperson of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Nurmiati, August 2023.

<sup>18</sup>Interview with Treasurer of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Ervina, August 2023.

<sup>19</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

Dayah Krueng operates systematically and follows SOPs".<sup>20</sup> Mentorship involves monthly meetings and group sessions to resolve conflicts or issues within KSM.

### 3. Facilitator

FBA supports community development by motivating KSM members, including those with disabilities, to take action and assist throughout the development process by providing necessary resources. Mrs. Syura stated: "We facilitate any KSM needs within our capacity and connect them with other authorities if we cannot provide".<sup>21</sup>

### 4. Educator

FBA provides non-formal education to KSM members through counseling, training, and advocacy. Mr. Syaiful explained: "Besides being founders, mentors, and facilitators, FBA also educates by providing training on business management, group management, conflict management, and understanding disability issues".<sup>22</sup>

## C. Forms of Empowerment in Community Self-Help Groups in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Aceh Besar District

FBA applies a development approach to the inclusive community empowerment process through the KSM Ingin Maju. This approach involves explaining why FBA does not provide direct financial aid to the community. Based on an interview with an FBA coordinator, Mrs. Syura, regarding why FBA does not provide financial aid, she said:

"Because FBA itself has experienced since 2011 traveling around Aceh. We provided money and facilitated it according to the needs of the village community. But when the program ended and FBA left, the group disbanded".<sup>23</sup>

Furthermore, Mrs. Syura added:

"We share FBA's bitter experiences with the community, explaining why we don't bring money today. Some might wonder whether this will succeed, but it has proven successful. Although only a few villages have been successfully empowered with this concept, we prefer it over many unclear ones".<sup>24</sup>

The empowerment program using the Development Approach involves establishing Community Self-Help Groups (KSM) in the village. FBA chose this concept for community empowerment programs, applying community-based research (CBR). This development and empowerment concept is effective as it involves the entire community. An interview with Mr. Syaiful, an FBA coordinator, confirmed this:

"If we do individual empowerment, the process is long. In the empowerment process, groups serve as development pioneers, providing shared understanding. Groups will become new pioneers in village development, especially in disability empowerment. Individual empowerment takes more time and funds, so FBA opts for group empowerment".<sup>25</sup>

<sup>20</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mr. Syaiful, August 2023.

<sup>21</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>22</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mr. Syaiful, August 2023.

<sup>23</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>24</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mrs. Syura, July 2023.

<sup>25</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mr. Syaiful, August 2023.

The forms of empowerment by FBA in KSM Ingin Maju include economic, social, and educational empowerment. Economic empowerment involves training KSM members in producing *pliek u*, the main product of KSM Ingin Maju, and its derivatives like coconut oil, simplah oil, and incense oil. Besides training, FBA also helps with product packaging to make KSM Ingin Maju's products more attractive and efficient for marketing. In marketing, FBA also assists by selling KSM Ingin Maju products at the FBA Office.

The benefits felt by KSM Ingin Maju members from this community empowerment program include having a system of principal and mandatory savings for each member. The money is used as capital for KSM businesses, such as producing *P* and various oils derived from *pliek u*. The income from product sales is collected and then equally distributed among all KSM members, including disabled members.

Based on an interview with Mrs. Nur Wahidah, a mentor for disabled members, she said:

"With the savings and proceeds from selling *pliek u*, we can buy fertilizer, which we can use for farming or gardening. So our fertilizer issues are helped by this KSM".<sup>26</sup>

This was reinforced by an interview with Mrs. Juariah, a KSM Ingin Maju member, who said:

"The benefits we've felt since joining KSM include a savings and loan system for KSM members. Although the loan system only applies in urgent or emergencies, like when a member has a mishap, it is quite helpful".<sup>27</sup>

Another KSM Ingin Maju member, Mrs. Azizah, said:

"The results I've gotten since joining this KSM include being able to buy fertilizer for farming or gardening and, from the sales proceeds, buying and distributing household items like plates and glasses for all KSM members".<sup>28</sup>

Social empowerment by FBA in KSM Ingin Maju involves raising awareness among KSM members about disability issues in community life, providing education on inclusive disability community empowerment, and inviting and involving people with disabilities in KSM Ingin Maju. The presence of KSM Ingin Maju has brought the members closer together, fostering unity and communication. Mrs. Arnila, a KSM Ingin Maju member, confirmed this:

"Before this KSM existed, the women in the village weren't very close. But after the KSM was established, the women, especially KSM members, often gathered and communicated with each other, worked on *pliek u*, and had regular meetings with FBA. This has made us more united".<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>26</sup>Interview with Supporter of Disabled Members, Mrs. Nur Wahidah, August 2023.

<sup>27</sup>Interview with Member of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Juariah, August 2023.

<sup>28</sup>Interview with Member of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Azizah, August 2023.

<sup>29</sup>Interview with Member of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Arnila, August 2023.

Not only ordinary members but also disabled members of KSM Ingin Maju have felt the benefits of the social aspects since its establishment. An interview with Ms. Risna, a disabled KSM member, confirmed this:

"Previously, I lacked the confidence to participate in village activities. Now I am involved in regular meetings with FBA, pliek u production, and sharing the sales proceeds".<sup>30</sup>

The village head, Mr. Ghafur, shared his views on the social benefits since KSM Ingin Maju's establishment:

"In the four years it has existed, I've seen a difference in the unity among the village women, especially KSM members. Those not yet involved may not know or care much about KSM, but over time, the number of KSM members has grown, showing its positive impact on the community".<sup>31</sup>

Besides economic and social empowerment, FBA provides educational empowerment to KSM Ingin Maju. Mr. Syaiful, an FBA coordinator, explained:

"We also strive to enhance the knowledge of KSM members and leaders, including disabled members, by providing understanding, education, and training in business management, group management, conflict management, and disability issues. So, capacity building is also given to all KSM members and leaders".<sup>32</sup>

This was reinforced by Mrs. Ervina, the treasurer of KSM Ingin Maju, who said:

"The training we've received from FBA includes organizational management, basic bookkeeping, digital marketing, and several other training sessions".<sup>33</sup>

An interview with the village head of Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Mr. Ghafur, revealed:

"Besides training KSM members, FBA also trains village heads, like the recent training on understanding disability issues and inclusive villages for village heads in the Aceh Besar working area".<sup>34</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research conducted by the author in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Sukamakmur Sub-district, Aceh Besar District, regarding the Role of Forum Bangun Aceh (FBA) in Community Empowerment Based on Social Inclusion through the Ingin Maju Community Self-Help Group (KSM), the author can conclude that the empowerment approach known as The Development Approach is considered more effective for group empowerment.

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<sup>30</sup>Interview with Disabled Member of KSM Ingin Maju, Kak Risna, August 2023.

<sup>31</sup>Interview with Geuchik Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Mr. Ghafur, August 2023.

<sup>32</sup>Interview with FBA Coordinator, Mr. Syaiful, August 2023.

<sup>33</sup>Interview with Treasurer of KSM Ingin Maju, Mrs. Ervina, August 2023.

<sup>34</sup>Interview with Geuchik Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng, Mr. Ghafur, August 2023.

This is because using the development approach can enhance the community's independence, skills, and self-reliance. Unlike other empowerment methods, FBA employs an empowerment concept without providing capital or equipment support for group development. Most resources for starting and developing group businesses come from the members themselves. However, FBA is a facilitator and mentors KSM members to become more empowered and improve their understanding of social inclusion in village development.

The empowerment concept employed by FBA is a group-based social inclusion empowerment in the community, aiming to involve all community layers, including people with disabilities. KSM Ingin Maju in Gampong Luthu Dayah Krueng is a testament to the successful social inclusion-based empowerment by FBA, where KSM members have become more critical and concerned about disability issues and actively involve disabled members in their activities.

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