

Completion Report

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We analyzed the impact of the Japan internship program for young farmers towards the sustainability of Indonesian agricultural entrepreneurs. These impacts were analyzed in some aspects, including increasing economy scale (income), farmer institution, decision to change the type of business, and business performance. The combination of survey methods both online and offline was used in data collection with a total of 123 respondents spread from the provinces of West Java, Central Java and East Java. The results of the study generally showed that the Japan internship program had a positive impact on the development of Indonesian agricultural entrepreneurs.

1) It is proven that this program had an impact on increasing alumni's income after they returned to Indonesia. The average level of incomes before and after participating in the internship program were of IDR 9,317.222/year and 22,998,134/year, respectively;

2) After the trainees returned to Indonesia, generally they would be directly involved in strategic farmer institution in their area such as farmer groups, Farmers Group Association (GAPOKTAN), Japanese Intern Alumni Association (IKAMAJA), Mainstay Farmer Fisherman Contact (KTNA) and Independent Rural Agricultural Training Center (P4S). The basic reason for the involvement of alumni in farmer institutions was to accommodate alumni in order to improve their bargaining position and welfare;

3) This internship program had been able to increase participant's motivation to have a better business so that it had a positive and tangible influence on interns' decisions in changing their agricultural business. The result showed that the variables that significantly influenced the decisions of Japan interns in changing their agricultural businesses were the duration of participants following the agricultural community, the level of motivation after the internship, dummy variables related to the existence of business permit, and business experience;

4) There was significant influence of both individual and psychological characteristics towards entrepreneurial competency. In addition, entrepreneurial characteristic variables had both a direct and indirect influence on performance. Entrepreneurial competence also had a positive influence on business performance. This reflects that after returning to Indonesia, respondents had personalities that shaped entrepreneurial competencies. In this case, these competencies could ultimately drive business performance. Thus, the Japan internship program had been able to shape individual and psychological characteristics that were able to improve entrepreneurial competence and business performance at the same time.

Based on the results of the study, there are recommendations that can be made in order to increase the success of the Japanese internship program, including: 1) the government must be able to build an integrated system between the programs provided by the internship program with the business conditions of the interns, the government must also involve the local governments to provide opportunities for these internship alumni to contribute to the agricultural sector in their regions; 2) this program needs to be continued to improve the abilities of interns which will have implications for increasing the scale of the business and income, both for participants who survive with their previous business or for participants who change their business.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

1. July 27-28th 2021, Conference via Zoom, International Conference on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development, “Contribution of Entrepreneurial Characteristics and Competency towards Business Performance of the Japan Internship Alumni Association”
2. July 6-7th 2021, Conference via Zoom, International Conference on Assessment and Development of Agricultural Innovation, “ Factors Affecting Farmers’ Decisions in Changing Agricultural Business (A Case Study of the Japan Internship Alumni Association Members of East Java)”

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

1. International Journal of Social Science and Economic Research, Volume: 06, Issue: 03, March 2021, “A Case Study on the Impact of Internship Program towards Farmers Income (the Members of the Japan Internship Alumni Association of East Java)”
2. Jurnal Mimbar Agribisnis, Volume: 07, Number: 02, July 2021, “the Role of Japan Internship Program for Young Farmers in Regenerating Indonesian Farmers”
3. Jurnal Mimbar Agribisnis, Volume: 07, Number: 02, July 2021, “Participation of Members of the Japan Internship Alumni Association on Farmer Institution”
4. International Journal, “the Impact of Entrepreneurial Characteristics on the Business Performance of the Japan Internship Alumni Association” (be scheduled)

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)