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Environmental Friendship Levels of Bajo Fishers to Build a Blue Economy in Achieving the 2030 SDGs

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Abstract

Marine ecosystems, essential for human survival, are under threat from overfishing and environmental degradation. Indonesia's fishing industry is a significant contributor to the national economy. To address these challenges, the Coral Triangle region, including Indonesia, is striving for marine conservation through Marine Protected Areas. Striking a balance between environmental sustainability and economic growth is vital, and this is being achieved through Blue Economy policies and the adoption of eco-friendly fishing technology. The Bajo tribe, renowned for their maritime culture, plays a crucial role in managing marine resources. This study focuses on evaluating the effectiveness of fishing gear used by the Bajo community in Wakatobi, Indonesia, with a specific emphasis on achieving Sustainable Development Goals. The research employed quantitative and qualitative methods, gathering primary data through interviews, observations, and focus groups, as well as secondary data from government sources. A SWOT analysis was utilized to assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats within the Blue Economy sector. The results revealed that the Bajo community's involvement in resource management is demonstrated by their careful use of eco-friendly fishing gear, which effectively protects the sea and enhances the welfare of Bajo fishermen. Additionally, their partnership with the Forestry Police aids in marine monitoring and fishing operations, contributing to the sustainability of Wakatobi National Park. The Bajo Mola community, deeply reliant on the sea, holds a unique position among sea nomadic tribes, and their maritime culture is intertwined with marine resources. The development of a Blue Economy policy is crucial for both environmental preservation and economic sustainability, with a focus on maximizing strengths and opportunities identified through the SWOT analysis. This approach aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 14, which emphasizes the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

Keywords: Eco-Friendly Fishing Gear (EFFG); Blue Economy; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

1. Introduction

Marine resources are critical ecosystems for supporting human life on Earth (Ioc-Unesco & FAO, 2011; Rockström *et al.,* 2009). Marine ecosystems provide environmental services to society, particularly in the fisheries industry. Several fishing communities have developed as a result of the extensive use of the ocean. Many coastal communities rely on fishing and harvesting for food supply, especially villagers in archipelagic countries who consume much more fish than the overall population (Cisneros-Montemayor *et al.,* 2016; FAO, 2016). Overfishing has resulted in lost earnings for fishing countries of over $50 billion per year, and approximately 85% of

the world's fisheries are completely fished and reduced (FAO, 2016). In addition, the high level of activity in the fishing industry has put pressure on the ocean, particularly in the areas of fishing, overexploitation of marine resources, pollution, endangered species, habitat loss, and climate change (OECD, 2017; UNDESA *et al.,* 2014).

The fishing industry is essential for ensuring global food security. In Indonesia, the fishing industry has made substantial contributions to the national economy. With an export value of $3,274,855 in 2019, Indonesia placed second among ASEAN nations in fish trade (Indonesia, 2019). Geographic factors have a significant impact on Indonesia's revenues. Indonesia's position as one of six countries in the world's coral triangle area, which includes Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and Timor Leste, is a strategic position that will allow it to grow fishery products in the future. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are being created at the national and local levels to protect the coral triangle area. More than 1,900 MPAs covering about 200.881 km² or (1.6%) of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) areas have been constructed. Since the 1970s, these six countries have been bound by village customary law and national legislative frameworks mandating the protection of large areas as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) (White *et al.,* 2014).

The fishing industry has many positive effects, but it also has negative effects. It is important to prioritize environmental sustainability while also considering the economic sustainability of fishing communities. Among the possible actions is the development of a Blue Economy policy. The exploitation of marine resources must consider the impact of sustainability issues by constructing Blue Economy regulations to mitigate the negative impacts caused (Sumarmi, 2020). The concept of wise use of natural resources was created to achieve a balance between environmental preservation and community welfare. This concept can be implemented in the fishing community by using eco-friendly fishing gear. According to (Palalloi & Anwar, 2018), the usage of fishing technology is a crucial necessity. Diverse

variants of fishing technology are generated in various parts of the world, such as the availability of fishing technology with sensors such as artificial light and fishing fleets that facilitate fishing activities. This technology demonstrates that fishermen have always known that certain fish species readily respond to artificial light (Lytle, 2018).

Fishing technology varies from the most basic to the most advanced. Generally, small-scale fisheries often use simple fishing techniques. Although information about small-scale fisheries is typically limited and scattered, this can be caused by a lack of attention and contributions that are frequently considered insignificant (Chuenpagdee *et al.,* 2019). Support for eco-friendly fishing gear is seen to be effective for marine conservation. Fishing is a vital part of the daily lives of all community members, especially Bajo fishermen. The Bajo tribe is renowned for its strong maritime culture, which gives them a distinct identity. A study indicates that the Bajo tribe has an effective system for controlling fishing areas (Djalante *et al.,* 2018; Puluhulawa, 2015). In addition, the Bajo tribe recognizes the concept of marine resource management by regulating fishing periods and using traditional boats known as "*Leppa* or *Sopek*" (Artanto, 2017). Several research findings have demonstrated that the Bajo people are aware of the need to preserve marine resources as part of their cultural system. Unfortunately, there is relatively little information about the fishing technology of the Bajo tribe, even though fishing is an essential component of human life. Cases of illegal and destructive fishing indicate that the fishing community is still not fully aware of the need to always use ecologically friendly fishing gear (Dirhamsyah, 2016; Khasanah *et al.,* 2020; Lewin *et al.,* 2019).

The Bajo people are an ethnic group residing along the coastal areas and small islands in Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. They are renowned as skilled seafarers and fishermen. Bajo traditions and culture have evolved over centuries and have deep roots in maritime life. The history of the Bajo encompasses a long history as expert sailors who explored the

waters and traded with communities across the Indonesian archipelago. They were once known as notorious pirates called "lanun" in the past, but over time, they transformed into a community of fishermen leading a simple life. Bajo cultural practices include traditional fishing techniques using nets and other fishing gear. They also have beliefs and spiritual traditions related to the sea and the forest. One significant ritual is "*ma'randang*," which is a ceremony of worshiping ancestral spirits and seeking protection before heading out to sea. Living on boats or floating houses is another hallmark of Bajo culture. They often migrate from one place to another in search of marine resources, maintaining close family ties and preserving their unique traditions. Despite living in the modern era, Bajo culture and traditions are diligently upheld by their communities, although they also face challenges such as dwindling marine resources and environmental changes.

This research aimed to investigate the effectiveness of fishing gear in the Bajo Mola fishing community, both economically and in preserving the Wakatobi National Park area. This research is critical since Bajo Mola fishermen take up a significant percentage of the fishing community. The total number of Bajo Mola fishermen is 3,358 people, which accounts for 41.72 percent of the total population of 8,010 in the Wakatobi National Park area (Marlina *et al.,* 2021). The ultimate objective of this study is to examine efforts to establish a Blue Economy and accomplish Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The levels of environmental stewardship, *blue economy*, and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) hold significant importance at both the national and global levels. Environmental stewardship is crucial for preserving our planet by mitigating the impact of climate change and maintaining the sustainability of the natural environment. The blue economy, focused on the sustainable management of marine and coastal resources, is vital because these resources underpin the economies of many nations and ensuring their well-being is essential for coastal communities.

Furthermore, the pursuit of SDGs encompasses critical objectives such as ending poverty, addressing hunger, and ensuring quality education. Enhancing environmental stewardship and developing the blue economy can contribute to achieving these SDGs by creating job opportunities, improving access to natural resources, and reducing economic disparities. The impact of these three aspects extends beyond national borders, necessitating international cooperation to address global challenges like climate change, hunger, and inequality (Parry *et al.,* 2019; Rinaldi *et al.,* 2020; Febriarta *et al.,* 2022). Therefore, environmental stewardship, the blue economy, and the attainment of SDGs are integral components of the global agenda to create a more sustainable, equitable, and secure world for all.

2. Methodology

2.1 Population and sample

The research examined Bajo Mola fishermen on Wangi-Wangi Island, Wakatobi Province. The administrative districts of the Bajo Mola community in Wakatobi Regency are the Nelayan Bakti Village, South Mola Village, Mola Samaturu Village, North Mola Village and Mola Bahari Village. The five villages, sometimes referred to as Mola Village or Bajo Village, are five communities in the South Wangi-Wangi Kacan area. Mola Village is a coastal area with an area of 8.3 km², and its borders are as follows: (1) to the north, it borders the ocean, (2) to the east, Mandati III Village, (3) to the south, the ocean, and (4) to the west, the Otowwe Island Strait. This population is focused on the Bajo Mola community, whose members are primarily fishermen, merchants, and Bajo business owners in the fishing industry. Physically, Bajo Mola Village is a village formed above the sea. Bajo Mola Village has a topography that is evenly distributed throughout the area and is approximately 1-2 meters above sea level and generally flat (between 0% and 5%). The research location is shown in the following Figure 1.
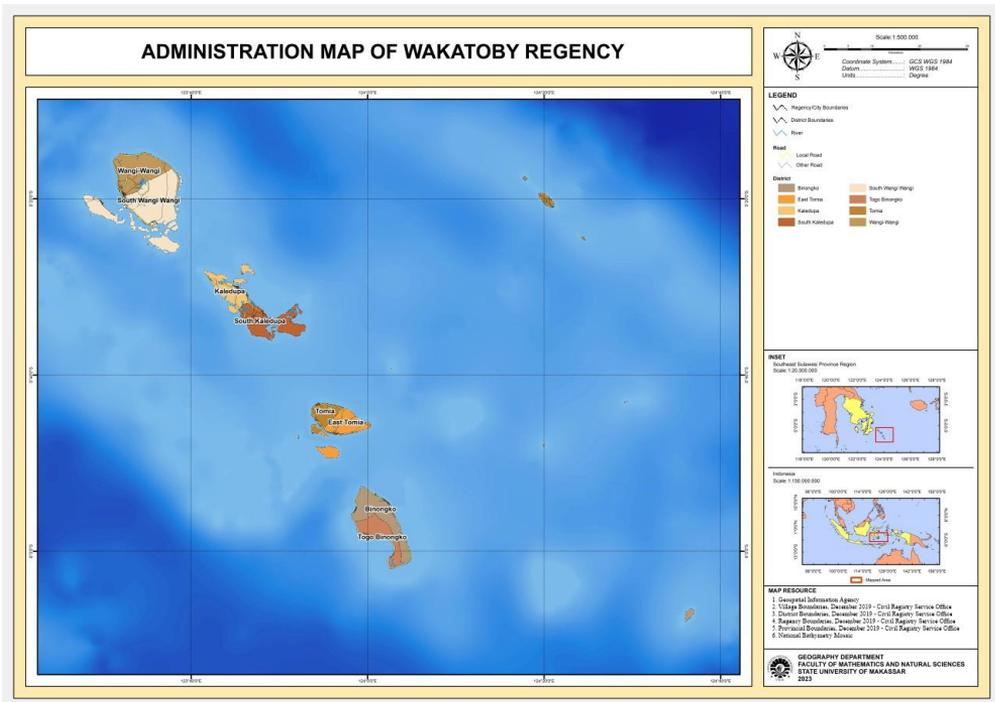
Figure 1. Research Location (Bajo Resident Area)

Figure 1 above is a research location map that encompasses coastal and aquatic areas inhabited by Bajo fisher communities. The map includes important locations such as harbors, fishing grounds, and other relevant areas for efforts to build a sustainable blue economy. Furthermore, the map also indicates conservation zones or marine protected areas as part of the goal to achieve the 2030 SDGs related to the environment.

2.2 Data collection

This study used quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques. Research data consists of primary data and secondary data. The primary data was collected through observation, in-depth interviews, documentation, and focus group discussions (FGD) with village and sub-district governments. Interviews were conducted with fishermen, communities, sellers, and business owners to assess the effectiveness of catching fish based on 9 criteria of FAO (Food Agriculture Organization). Secondary data is obtained from government agencies, institutions, and the community.

2.3 Data analysis

This research used SWOT analysis to examine the objective of developing a Blue Economy as an alternative policy. The Analysis Hierarchy Process (AHP) is used to achieve an alternative Blue Economy policy, which the Wakatobi Regency Government has implemented. According to the research and development plan for blue economy policies, there are three categories of strategies that can be formed to achieve a Blue Economy, namely increasing fishery products, community empowerment, and optimizing Wakatobi National Park management policies using the Blue Economy. The strategy groups have different objectives, including 1) increasing fishery production so that resources can be better used and maximized, 2) empowering the Bajo Mola community so that their abilities can develop further, and 3) increasing the value of additional synergies between the cultivation of grouper fish and other integrated tourism businesses in Wakatobi National Park to improve the economy and community welfare.

Researchers used the SWOT method to analyze data. The SWOT analysis method consists of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. According to (Yoeti, 1996), the definition of SWOT is explained as follows:

a. Strengths refer to the ability you have to construct a blue economic program.

b. Weaknesses include all factors that are negative to the blue economy management sector.

c. Opportunities, namely all opportunities that exist as government policies, applicable regulations, or national or global economic situations are believed to give opportunities for the future growth and development of the fishing industry.

d. Threats refer to things that present a risk to the growth of blue economic policies in the Wakatobi Regency.

The SWOT analysis applied in this research is:

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Increasing environmental, social, economic, and cultural conditions in communities of Bajo Mola

The Bajo community is a coastal tribe whose entire life is dependent on the water. The Bajo are the only tribe that primarily lives and works in the ocean. In comparison to the other five sea nomads in Indonesia, this gives the Bajo Tribe a distinct identity. The other five tribes, including the Bugis, Buton, Mandar, and Madurese, are active in the sea but live on land. The term sea nomad or sea gypsy is associated with the ethnic identity of the Bajo community. According to (Gamsir, 2014), the Bajo tribe is defined as simple people who live in the marine environment. They are also known as sea gypsies, essentially people who live with a livelihood that is directly tied to the ocean and have the knowledge and skills to catch fish in the ocean.

The Bajo tribe is recognized as a group that depends entirely on the sea for its life. The Bajo are skilled sailors who live and die at sea and their entire lives were initially spent on boats that constantly sailed the ocean (Suyuti, 2011). Tome Pires, a Portuguese official who resided in Malacca in 1515 and who lived in Southeast Sulawesi, provides an alternate version of the Bajo people's history (Suyuti, 2011)(. According to Tome Pires, the Bajo tribe originally hailed from Makassar before becoming pirates. This tribe's activities then spread to many regions of the archipelago, including North Java, Maluku, and Banda. The Bajo are communities who consider themselves to be sea people. Bajo community would rather live on the coast or even at sea than have to socialize on land. The Bajo tribe views the sea as a garden, with fish serving as the garden's harvest (Marlina & Astina, 2020). The spirit of the sea, specifically the spirit known as Mbo Madilau, is essential to the Bajo belief system. Ancestral spirits may exist in coral reefs, tidal currents, waves, and rocks, with no particular location typically linked with any one spirit (Clifton & Majors, 2012).

The Flores Sea and the Banda Sea have a substantial impact on the geographic conditions of the Bajo Mola residential area. During the western season in the Bajo Mola area, there are large waves, whereas the sea currents are rather quiet during the east season. In the Mola area, there are several significant ecosystems,

Table 1. SWOT Matrix Source: (Damanik & Weber, 2006)

Internal Audit / External Environment	Strengths	Weaknesses
Opportunities	SO	WO
Threats	ST	WT

Description:
SO: maximize strength to achieve opportunities
ST: maximize strength to anticipate threats and try to create opportunities
WO: minimize weaknesses to achieve opportunities
WT: minimize weaknesses to anticipate threats

including seagrass ecosystems and coral reefs, which are home to diverse marine life, including Baronang fish, crabs, sea cucumbers, shrimp, and other small fish. The Bajo Mola residential area encompasses around 8.3 km² and is comprised of five communities, the majority of whose members are fishermen. The Bajo population distribution on Wangi-Wangi Island is shown in the following table 2.

Figure 2 depicts the Bajo Mola settlement area in Wakatobi, which includes traditional stilt houses built above the water or along the coastline. These structures are often crafted from wood and other natural materials. The area is surrounded by water utilized by the Bajo community for various fishing activities, such as fish-catching and collecting marine resources. Traditional fishing boats may be found in the vicinity of this area. The settlement exhibits unique characteristics in terms of culture, architecture, and lifestyle, reflecting sustainability and a close bond with the marine environment.

In their daily lives, Bajo tribe spends more time congregating in front of their homes, which is a symbol of unity and family power. If there are neighbors (fishermen) who obtain excess marine goods, the surplus is typically distributed to nearby neighbors. This has established a custom that continues to this day, and as a result, the Bajo never go starving. Because, according to the Bajo tribe of Mola village,

Table 2. Total population of villages in the Bajo residential area in 2021

| No | Villages | Total of family | Total population | | Total |
			Man	Woman	population
1	South Mola	626	1041	1.052	2.098
2	North Mola	313	532	520	1.052
3	Mola Samaturu	2679	521	511	1.040
4	Mola Bahari	354	663	645	1.308
5	Mola Nelayan Bakti	644	1164	1.394	2.558
	Total	2.210	3.931	4.126	8.057

Source: Profile of 5 Bajo Mola Villages, 2021

Figure 2. Portrait of the Bajo Mola residential area in Wakatobi

the sea is their source of life and they never go starving because whatever is in the water is available to them as food, even the Bajo people choose to consume seafood without cooking or baking. Habits that continue to flourish in the Bajo culture are being transmitted to the present Bajo generation. As the ancestors of the Bajo, children are trained to live in the sea and not be afraid of seawater from an early age. Every day, many children in the village of Mola enjoy the sea by playing in the water.

The use of environmentally friendly fishing gear by Bajo communities can help reduce the negative impacts of climate change. More efficient and less environmentally harmful fishing gear can help maintain the balance of the marine ecosystem, thereby helping to reduce pressure on the marine environment. This is an important step towards maintaining the resilience of marine ecosystems and addressing climate change challenges such as rising sea temperatures, sea level rise and ocean acidification (Hite & Seitz, 2021; Simanjuntak & Paolo, 2022; Syarif *et al.,* 2023).

3.2 Developing a blue economy in Bajo Mola Wakatobi

The blue economy concept emerged as a complement to the green economy concept, in which environmental integrity is essential to achieving sustainable use of socioeconomic resources (Silver *et al.,* 2015). The Blue Economy requires innovation, extra focus on innovation can increase the budget while allowing the economy to maintain competitiveness. The blue economy, as presented at the 2012 East Asian Oceans Congress (EAS), is a sustainable ocean-based economic model that relies heavily on coastal and marine ecosystems and resources, yet uses eco-friendly and innovative infrastructure, technology, and techniques (Ebarvia, 2016; Syarif *et al.,* 2023). The term "Blue Economy (BE)" is becoming increasingly popular as a strategy to protect the world's

oceans and water resources. The BE Concept and its relationship to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) offer a method to build a locally-focused but globally relevant direction.

The negative impact is the result of inadequate planning and administration, such as tourism development planning. Mola Village is one of the villages that could be developed as a marine tourism destination. This statement is also supported by previous research (Marlina *et al.,* 2020), which stated that the potential of the fisheries sector in building a blue economy in the Bajo Mola fishing community in Wakatobi through area development is determined by using a SWOT analysis that can measure the fishing area's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The SWOT analysis is shown in the following table 3.

The following is a graph showing the results of the IFAS and EFAS analysis of the potential growth of the Bajo Mola fishing industry.

The EFAS (Opportunities – Threats) and IFAS (Strengths – Weaknesses) formulations on the X and Y axes are used to determine the location of the high-priority and urgent strategic quadrant. The EFAS (Opportunities – Threats) and IFAS (Strengths – Weaknesses) axes are stated in values according to the scoring results. Based on the analysis of the SWOT matrix, IFAS and EFAS are evaluated as stated in Table 1. It is known that the position of the X and Y values for the development of the fishing industry is 2.10 for the X value and 1.20 for the Y value. X is determined by internal factors, namely strengths (S) - weaknesses (W), while Y is determined by external factors, namely opportunities (O) - threats (T) (T). Therefore, the quadrant is positioned in Quadrant I based on the X and Y values (1.20, 2.10). This location indicated that the future development of the fishing industry is in a place that allows it to develop, which is in quadrant I. The results of the SWOT analysis as quadrant showed Figure 4.

Table 3. Matric of IFAS and EFAS of fishing industry development for Blue Economy

Internal Factors			
Strengths	Quality	Rating	Score
1. The potential for the fishing industry and marine ecotourism in Wakatobi National Park is very high	0.50	4	2.50
2. Many fishermen own fishing transportation	0.20	3	0.90
3. Highly skilled and experienced Bajo fishermen	0.40	3	1.20
4. The availability of local markets and entrepreneurs in the fishing industry strongly support the blue economy	0.30	4	1.20
5. The Bajo residential area is located in a coastal area and has a strong maritime culture	0.40	4	1.80
6. Using Eco-Friendly Fishing Gear	0.40	4	1.80
Total			9.40
Weaknesses	Quality	Rating	Score
1. The amount of capital invested in the supply of vessels and fishing gear remains low	0.30	4	1.20
2. Limited knowledge of fishermen for economic administration	0.40	4	1.60
3. Many forms of business management are still traditional	0.40	5	2.00
4. Lack of use of advanced fishing technology	0.50	5	2.50
Total			
7.30			

X = Strengths – Weaknesses = 2.10

External Factors			
Opportunities	Quality	Rating	Score
1. The rising demand for fish.	0.40	4	1.60
2. Improvement and expansion of the fishing fleet	0.40	5	2.00
3. Government support	0.30	3	0.90
4. Improving processing options for fish harvests	0.40	5	2.00
5. There are investments in the fishing industry	0.30	3	0.90
6. Open to the public because it is close to the centers of major urban areas	0.30	4	1.20
Total			8.60
Threats	Quality	Rating	Score
1. No investors yet	0.40	4	1.60
2. Foreign ships involved in illegal fishing	0.30	4	1.20
3. There are damaging fishing practices.	0.40	5	1.80
4. There are destructive fishing activities.	0.30	4	1.20
5. Lack of training for fishermen and administration of the fishing industry	0.40	4	1.60
Total			7.40

Y = Opportunities – Threats = 1.20
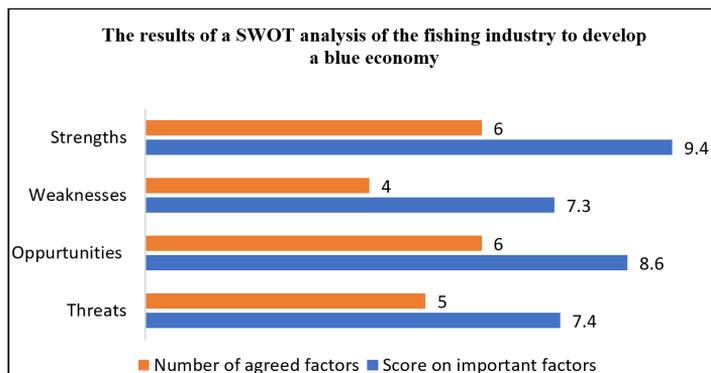(*Source*: Research Data Analysis, 2022)
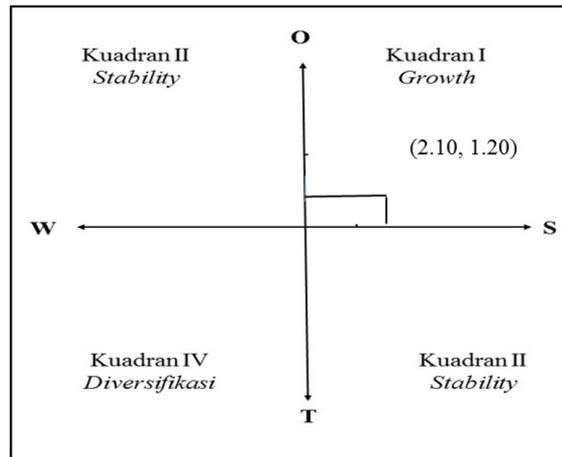

Figure 3. SWOT analysis results

Figure 4. Quadrant results based on SWOT analysis

The development of the fishing industry in the Bajo Mola fishermen community is in quadrant I or S-O (strengths and opportunities). S-O (strengths-opportunity) strategy or potential opportunities to maximize opportunities and develop current potential. The required plan is to maximize the fisheries potential of Wakatobi National Park and support the fishing industry for Bajo fishermen to increase the local economy of the surrounding community. The S-O policy aims to develop a fisheries economic policy and provide Bajo fishermen with access to financing and training. The W-O policy comprises area management through the application of norms to attract investors.

The strategy for developing the fishing industry to build a blue economy in Bajo Mola, Wakatobi Regency, as shown in the matrix above, is as follows: (1) developing catch processing and fishing business with additional fleets, (2) increasing investment to increase fishing business, (3) providing cold storage, ice factories and duplicating appropriate technology to maintain fish quality, (5) maximizing the use of existing fishery potential, (5) strengthening the conservation and aquaculture sector, (6) providing socialization of eco-friendly fishing gear, (7) developing fishing technology, and (8) providing training in sustainable fishing business management.

3.3 Interaction of the Bajo fishing industry to achieve the SDGs in 2030

The SDGs are a fundamental component of the Agenda of the United Nations in 2030. The agenda encourages sustainable development by monitoring and regulating the use of natural resources, supporting conservation initiatives, and generating employment possibilities for local communities. The SDGs are now the central focus of sustainable development (UNWTO & UNDP, 2017). The Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Agenda of the United Nations is an action plan to improve the well-being of humanity and the earth. This agenda includes 17 goals, 169 targets, and 232 indicators that address five aspects (5P): (1) People (goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5); (2) Planets (goals 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15); (3) Welfare (goal 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11); (4) Peace (goal 16); and (5) Partnership (goal 17) (UN, 2015). The interconnection of each goal requires an integrated and coordinated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Based on goal no. 14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, Conservation and Management of Maritime Resources and Marine for Sustainable Development reflects the need to maintain and preserve the marine environment for future generations (Anisimov & Gulyaeva, 2021). The fishing industry is crucial for achieving sustainable development, as SDG 14 aims directly

connected to the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources. Target no. 14 aims to eliminate pollution (targets 14.1 and 14.3), restore and improve habitat for wild youths (targets 14.2 and 14.5), and regulate fish fishing (targets 14.4 and 14.6). These objectives will require sacrifices from capture fisheries and aquaculture, but they will deliver long-term advantages. The aim of target no. 14.1 (reducing marine pollution from land-based activities) is an example of such an exchange because fishery production operations are a substantial source of marine pollution.

The SDGs and the fishing industry are interrelated. Goal no. 14 of the Sustainable Development Goals aims to preserve the ocean and optimize its use. Based on the results of the SWOT analysis, it is shown that establishing a blue economy is crucial for optimizing the Wakatobi fishing industry. It is due to Bajo Mola Wakatobi fishermen, particularly demersal and small pelagic fishers, primarily operating in local utilization zones. In terms of the availability of fishing facilities in the boat fleets, fishermen who control local utilization zones tend to have small boat fleets, ranging from boats without motors to motorized boats with very small capacities. Thus, it can be determined that the output of catches is significantly lower, especially in the context of personal fishing efforts with minimal equipment. This is one technique for restricting the use of marine resources. Utilization remains within the allowed zone. For instance, the general use zone contains an abundance of large pelagic fish, such as tuna, skipjack, and mackerel, some of which belong to a category of fish with high economic value and are export commodities. Therefore, the Bajo Wakatobi fishermen's participation is intended to maximize the zoning function of the seas based on the qualities and quantity of the resources.

4. Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, it is possible to conclude that the participation of the Bajo Mola community in managing the area is shown by the wise use of resources through the implementation of eco-friendly technology that is highly effective in protecting the sea and the livelihoods of Bajo fisherman. Participation as a partner of the Forestry Police and Fishing Office in the utilization zone is one of the factors that contribute to the sustainability of Wakatobi National Park, in addition to participation in the monitoring of individuals who commit violations. Developing a blue economy policy in the fishing community of Bajo Mola is very promising for enhancing the fishing industry. The results of the analysis indicated that achieving development goals based on goal no. 14, namely the protection of the sea and optimization of the fishing industry, is extremely beneficial for the preservation and sustainability of Wakatobi National Park and the economy of the Bajo Wakatobi community.

The research recommendations from the study's conclusions encompass critical aspects of understanding the environmental friendliness of the Bajo fishermen in the development of the blue economy and achieving SDGs 2030. Firstly, a deeper analysis of the utilization practices of marine resources and the environment by the Bajo Mola fishermen, including techniques, tools, and practices, is necessary. Additionally, it is essential to examine the involvement of the Bajo Mola community in the sustainability of the Wakatobi National Park and the impact of blue economy policies on the fishing community. The research must also acknowledge certain limitations, such as potential geographic constraints, data and resource limitations, and the importance of integrating the perspectives of the Bajo Mola community. Moreover, appropriate measurements should be considered to assess the impact of blue economy policies on the achievement of the SDGs by 2030.

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