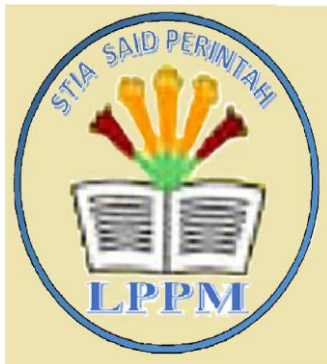

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**Poverty Traps of Coastal Women;
A Systematic Literature Review
Approach**

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Abstract

This study aims to explore the causes and potential solutions to poverty traps experienced by coastal women. Utilizing a systematic literature review method, the research identifies and synthesizes relevant findings from existing studies. The results reveal that the primary drivers of poverty among coastal women include disparities in educational attainment and limited access to economic resources. These constraints, coupled with restricted employment opportunities, contribute to economic dependency on male family members. Such dependency heightens the risk of domestic violence and reinforces the intergenerational transmission of poverty. To address this issue, the study recommends promoting women's economic empowerment through entrepreneurship training and improved access to financial capital, which may enhance income generation and reduce economic vulnerability.

Keywords; Women, Poverty, Household economy and Coastal areas.

Introduction

Poverty is typically associated with communities residing in rural and coastal areas. The rural population's economic base remains predominantly agricultural, with a significant proportion engaged in activities related to plantations and fisheries. The livelihoods of these individuals are predicated on the principle of economic safety, which is defined as the ability to meet one's daily household needs. This phenomenon contributes to the precarious nature of their subsistence, which frequently approaches the limits of subsistence. Furthermore, the majority of initiatives aimed at addressing the needs of coastal communities have been undertaken by men. However, in reality, women in coastal areas also have the potential to be an alternative source of income for their households, supported by the abundance of coastal resources (Fröcklin, et al, 2018).

In coastal communities, a disparity persists between the high regard for women's domestic roles and their subordinate social status, particularly in financial decision-making, where women are notably underrepresented. While women are primarily tasked with childcare and household duties, this limits their potential contribution to family economic advancement through empowerment. Despite the region's rich natural resources and significant potential in fisheries, coastal communities have yet to effectively manage and utilize these assets (Hussin & Khoso, 2017; Uduji & Okolo-Obasi, 2020). Consequently, poverty remains prevalent among these populations, especially women, even amid abundant local resources (Said & Lozano, 2021).

Further, the spatial distribution of the land and maritime areas within Maluku Islands is characterized by a significant disparity in size, with the maritime area encompassing 92.4% of the total area, equivalent to 658,294.69 km². In contrast, the land area constitutes a mere 7.6% of the total area, amounting to 54,184.96 km². This data indicates that Maluku Islands possess considerable fisheries potential. This assertion is further substantiated by the exercise of authority over three designated Fisheries Management Areas (Wilayah Pengelolaan Perikanan, WPP): WPP 714, WPP 715, and WPP 718. These WPPs are distributed across the Seram Sea, Banda Sea, and Arafura Sea, exhibiting considerable potential for small pelagic fish and demersal fish, as illustrated in Table 1 below:

Fisheries Management Area

Fisheries Management Area (WPP)	Potensi Perikanan		
	Small Pelagics (Ton)	Large Pelagic (Ton)	Demersals (Ton)
WPP 714 (Tolo Bay and Banda Sea)	222.881	370.653	292.000
WPP 715 (Tomini Bay Waters, Maluku Sea, Halmahera Sea, Seram Sea, Berau Bay)	443.944	74.908	80.226
WPP 718 (Aru Sea, Arafuru Sea and Eastern Timor Sea)	669.579	655.096	701.378
Total	1.136.404	1.100.657	1.073.604

Data source; Decree of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, Number 19 of 2025.

The potential of capture fisheries in the three WPPs as a whole is dominated by small pelagic fish, amounting to 669,579 tons in WPP 718, followed by large pelagic fish at 655,096 tons and demersal fish at 701,378 tons. This data suggests that WPP 718 possesses considerable potential for utilization and further development, with the aim of enhancing income opportunities for fishermen and promoting regional prosperity. However, the reality is not as optimistic. To date, fishermen in Maluku have not achieved a decent standard of living despite the vast marine resources in their region. A review of data from Statistics Indonesia of Maluku Province reveals that in 2023, Maluku Province was still categorized as the fourth poorest province in Indonesia.

Ambon City, being a municipality situated on a diminutive island surrounded by numerous bays and coastlines, fosters the growth and development of activities in the fisheries sector, thereby contributing to the regional economy. The fisheries sub-sector contributes an average of 15 percent to Ambon City's Regional Domestic Product (RDP) on an annual basis, exhibiting relatively stable growth of approximately 4.5% per year (Sahanaya, et al., 2023; Oppier et al., 2024).

According to data from the Ambon City Fisheries Department (Statistics Indonesia of Maluku Province, 2023), the total fisheries production in Ambon City was recorded at 29,010.53 tons, with a total value of IDR 602,855,500. However, the poverty rate in 32 coastal villages in Ambon City has exhibited a higher prevalence over the past four years, ranging from 16% to 18%. Meanwhile, according to the Community Empowerment and Family Planning Agency (Badan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat dan Keluarga Berencana,

BPMKB) of Ambon City, the poverty rate across all 50 villages/neighborhoods ranges between 14.9% to 17% (BPMKB Kota Ambon, 2020).

In an ideal scenario, initiatives aimed at fostering the growth and development of the fisheries and marine sector would be bolstered by the capacity to optimize the utilization and management of available resources. This, in turn, would contribute to the enhancement of the welfare of the community, with a particular emphasis on the economic well-being of fishermen as active producers within the socio-economic landscape. The variability in fish production, followed by a downward trend, suggests that fish resources in the waters surrounding Ambon Island have been overexploited. Overfishing conditions have been demonstrated to engender a variety of consequences in fishing efforts, including an increase in distances traveled and rising costs.

Consequently, this condition also impacts the efforts of women who rely on fishing as their primary livelihood to meet their daily needs. The dependency of coastal women is notably high, particularly during periods of reduced fishing activity (attributable to seasonal influences) and the absence of diversified non-fishing activities. The high level of dependence on capital owners is also undeniable, given the general condition of fishing communities that require assistance to meet their basic needs. Concurrent with this phenomenon, communities encounter significant challenges in escaping the poverty trap. In response to this condition, it is imperative that studies related to coastal women be conducted comprehensively and contextually in order to capture the reality of the poverty trap of coastal women using a systematic literature review (SLR) approach. The SLR method is a structured process that involves identifying, evaluating, and synthesizing findings from various relevant literature sources (Snyder, 2019). Accordingly, this present study aims to contribute to a more profound understanding of the phenomenon of poverty and its impact on coastal women inhabiting island communities.

Theoretical Framework

Poverty in coastal communities

Poverty is a multifaceted issue that affects various dimensions of life, stemming from individuals' and communities' inability to fulfill their basic needs. Traditionally, poverty has been approached primarily through an economic lens, focusing on income levels. However,

as a complex and multidimensional phenomenon, poverty requires a more holistic response that engages multiple stakeholders. This condition is particularly evident in rural and coastal areas, where livelihoods are highly dependent on natural resources.

In coastal communities where most people work as fishermen, fish farmers, or aquaculture workers livelihoods are not only seasonal but also environmentally dependent and market-driven. According to Prasetyo et al., (2023), fishermen often exploit marine resources unsustainably, leading to ecological degradation. While these communities are heavily reliant on fishing, developing alternative skills could foster the emergence of new employment opportunities. There is considerable potential in sectors such as tourism, culinary arts, handicrafts, and creative industries, including souvenirs and beachwear fashion, which can be cultivated to diversify income sources.

Addressing coastal poverty requires innovative governance models. Evans et al., (2023) argue that traditional models of marine governance characterized by industrial fishing, large-scale aquaculture, land reclamation, mining, and fossil fuel extraction—pose significant risks to both communities and marine ecosystems. Alternatively, sustainable management of small scale fisheries, seaweed farming, coastal aquaculture, and ecotourism presents greater opportunities for community benefit. Nevertheless, these sectors remain vulnerable to the adverse effects of other, more dominant industries.

Coastal Women's Poverty Trap and Strategies

The poverty trap experienced by women in coastal areas presents significant social and economic challenges, leading to sustained marginalization and limited empowerment. A key factor contributing to this condition is restricted access to education and skills development. Indrawarsih & Ratri, (2023) highlight that the lack of capacity and knowledge among fisherwomen hinders their ability to pursue alternative livelihoods beyond traditional roles, such as fish processing, thereby reinforcing the cycle of poverty.

One primary strategy to address this issue is through women's economic empowerment. Micro-entrepreneurship programs have proven effective in enhancing household income and promoting women's financial autonomy. According to Andriani & Sunijati, (2023), training programs and improved access to microfinance services positively influence women's economic independence by equipping them with skills in financial management and marketing. In parallel, expanding access to education plays a crucial role.

As (Putrawan, 2023) notes, gender-focused education initiatives significantly contribute to poverty reduction. Educational programs centered on practical skills and financial literacy enable women to manage resources effectively and participate actively in economic activities.

Community involvement is also essential to foster a supportive environment for women's advancement. Local initiatives that incorporate indigenous knowledge and encourage collaboration among stakeholders lead to more targeted and sustainable empowerment policies. Strengthening social networks is a critical component in this process. Indrawarsih & Ratri, (2023) emphasize that peer support and community engagement enhance women's self-confidence and help to overcome societal stigma, ultimately fostering their economic resilience and success.

Method

This study employed a qualitative method, with a SLR approach. This approach involves a structured series of steps to identify, evaluate, and synthesize findings from various relevant literature sources. The process begins with the establishment of inclusion and exclusion criteria, which are employed to select the studies to be analyzed (Snyder, 2019). The inclusion criteria encompass: (1) studies addressing the issue of poverty among women in rural and coastal areas empirically; and (2) studies published from 1990 to 2024. These inclusion criteria were determined to establish a more comprehensive framework for analyzing and discussing the poverty experienced by women. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria encompass news reports, articles, and secondary sources.

A comprehensive literature review was conducted using major academic databases, including Google Scholar, Neliti, Garuda, and Science Direct. In addition, relevant reports and publications from related agencies were consulted, such as Statistics Indonesia. In addition, keywords such as "poverty trap", "women", "rural and coastal areas", and other relevant keyword combinations were utilized in the designated database.

Article Review Process



The search results were then subjected to a rigorous screening process, during which they were evaluated based on the established inclusion and exclusion criteria. The titles and abstracts of each search result were examined to ensure their relevance to the research topic. Subsequently, a comprehensive analysis was conducted on the downloaded articles and reports. A comprehensive search of relevant articles was also conducted to identify additional literature sources that might have been overlooked in the initial search.

Further, a data analysis was conducted by comparing and contrasting findings from various literature sources. The content analysis method was used to identify themes, patterns, and trends emerging from the reviewed literature. The key findings were grouped and synthesized to provide a comprehensive picture of the relationship between poverty and women in coastal areas. This process involved the coding and categorization of the data, as well as the identification of factors that moderate or mediate the relationship between the two variables. To provide a more nuanced understanding of the phenomenon, case studies from various countries or regions were also examined, offering a contextual analysis of the poverty traps faced by coastal women in real-life scenarios.

Discussion of Research Results

Rural women in the archipelago often bear the negative impacts of development, as seen in increased working hours, lower income compared to men, and a growing burden of household responsibilities. In Asia and the South Pacific, women are frequently underpaid despite working longer in food production (Rodgers & Tanjeem, 2021), and their health is adversely affected by long work hours and limited access to healthcare, nutrition, and social services, resulting in higher mortality rates. Economically, women face significant resource disparities and limited involvement in rural organizations. In the agricultural sector, particularly in developing countries, women are largely excluded from decision-making roles, lack awareness of land use planning, and participate minimally in efforts to reduce post-harvest losses.

Women's Livelihood Dynamics in Rural and Coastal Areas

Women, as a vulnerable group, face unique challenges that resulted in them being more trapped in poverty than men, especially in rural and coastal areas. Rural poverty is frequently associated with limited access to educational and employment opportunities. A considerable number of these women lack the access to formal education, which is essential for acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary to compete in the job market (Sinaga et al., 2023). Consequently, they often exhibit lower levels of income. For instance, a study revealed that women with limited educational attainment have reduced income levels, consequently leading to a higher poverty rate of 84% among this demographic (Azizah et al., 2022). In island communities, these challenges are compounded by the scarcity of infrastructure and economic opportunities. A consequence of this phenomenon is the restriction of public access and the probability of lower participation in numerous economic sectors with higher profit potential (Eliza, 2021).

Moreover, cultural and social factors have been demonstrated to play a significant role in the preservation of women's poverty status. In many communities, social norms that restrict women's participation in the workforce are in place. These norms often dictate that women should prioritize domestic responsibilities, such as childcare and household maintenance. This social structure often hinder women's ability to seek employment outside the home (Sodah, 2023). Widowed women and women as heads of households frequently encounter heightened challenges, largely due to social stigma and the difficulty of securing adequate employment (Elanda & Alie, 2023). These constraints imposed on women's access to resources, including land, capital, and agricultural technology, serve as significant obstacles to their entrepreneurial endeavors and the attainment of higher incomes (Gai et al., 2023).

From an economic perspective, the primary factors contributing to poverty among women are unemployment and unequal economic growth. Research findings indicated that in regions experiencing high levels of unemployment, women encounter greater challenges in securing decent employment (Arifuddin et al., 2023). This phenomenon is particularly salient in island contexts, where women often find themselves compelled to engage in precarious and undercompensated labor due to their reliance on the informal sector (Taufiq,

2018). Furthermore, inadequate distribution of economic growth can lead to the exacerbation of gender disparities in terms of access to economic opportunities.

Women's Livelihood Dynamics in Rural and Coastal Areas

Author & Year of Publication	Source		Analysis Method	Finding
	Publication	Data		
Fadhal Muhammad (2024)	Jurnal Perspektif. Vol. 22, No. 1.	Statistics Indonesia (2018-2022)	Multiple linear regression modeling	Gender inequality, as measured by the Gender Inequality Index (GII) and the Gender Empowerment Index (GEI), has played a substantial role in perpetuating women's poverty in Indonesia. This phenomenon has manifested as impediments that have hindered women's ability to escape the poverty trap over the past five years.
Alexandra Stephens (1991)	Asia-Pacific journal of rural development. Vol. 1, No. 1.		Systematic literature review	Rural women in Asia and the South Pacific have faced several challenges that contribute to their inability to escape the poverty trap. These challenges include limited recognition as farmers, lack of access to education and economic resources, and increased responsibilities.
John Ambler, Lauren Pandolfelli, Anna Kramer, Ruth Meinzen-Dick (2007)	IFPRI, Washington, DC, US.	Data on poverty in US	Gender and child-based poverty analysis	Gender-based vulnerabilities, including limited access to education, decision-making authority, and financial resources, in conjunction with social norms that encourage early marriage and childbearing, contribute to the exacerbation of poverty among women. This phenomenon, as elucidated, engenders a pernicious poverty trap from which it is challenging for women to escape.
Himani Kaushik (2024)	International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research. Vol. 6, No. 2.	Household economy	Demographic, social, and political index-based women poverty	The exacerbating poverty experienced by women in the archipelago is exacerbated by the proliferation of female-headed households, the pervasiveness of intrahousehold inequality, and the deleterious consequences of neoliberal economic policies. Collectively, these factors

				perpetuate the entrenchment of women in the poverty trap.
Abdullah Özdemir and Hatice Erol (2023)	Business, Economics and Management Research Journal. Vol. 6, No. 3.	Prevalence of global gender inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, and South Asian countries.	Gender inequality analysis	The primary factors contributing to the prevalence of poverty among women are rooted in gender inequality, limited access to education, and societal attitudes that limit employment opportunities, perpetuating low-wage jobs and unpaid labor. This dynamic fosters the poverty cycle from which women often find it challenging to escape.
Indraswari (2009)	Jurnal Analisis Sosial. Vol. 14, No. 2.	Quantitative and qualitative data at the macro level and qualitative data at the micro level in the form of case studies of poor women	Statistics Indonesia	Gender inequality and discrimination against women in Indonesia have played a pivotal role in perpetuating female poverty, thereby impeding their ability to escape from the poverty trap. Addressing this issue through the implementation of gender-sensitive policies and the categorization of data is imperative for the effective alleviation of poverty.
Oludele Akinloye Akinboade, Pinky Lalthapersad Pillay (2004)	Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe. Vol. 44, No. 3.	Data on women's poverty in South Africa	Quantitative analysis	Income inequality, limited educational access, and limited decision-making autonomy have been proven to be pivotal contributors to the economic marginalization of women in South Africa. The analysis further delineates the intergenerational impact of these socio-economic constraints, highlighting the prevalence of poverty among female-headed households, with 60% of these households experiencing poverty. This perpetuates a cycle of deprivation and economic instability, impeding the potential for upward mobility and social mobility for future generations.
Jumerti Daud, Dwia Aries Tina Pulubuhu,	Jurnal Estimasi. Vol. 5, No. 1.	National Socioeconomic Survey 2022 by	Binary logistic regression analysis	The primary issue of poverty experienced by women in Maluku Province is rooted in constrained access to resources, educational

Hasniati Hasniati (2024)		Statistics Indonesia		opportunities, and employment prospects, particularly in rural regions. This predicament results in economic losses and elevated poverty rates among female-headed households, as evidenced by recent data.
Priya Chattier (2016)	The Contemporary Pacific (University of Hawai'i Press) - Vol. 28, Iss: 1.	Data on individual poor women and local poverty	Qualitative approach	Gender roles, inadequate distribution of resources within households, and insufficient recognition of individual needs have exacerbated the poverty among women in Fiji. This combination of factors create a poverty trap that limited women's opportunities for education, employment, and overall well-being.
Gianni Betti, Lucia Mangiavacchi, Luca Piccoli (2020)	Review of Economics of the Household. Vol. 18, No. 1.	Data on individual poor women and women consumption expenditure in Albania	Fuzzy approach	Traditional gender norms and disproportionate allocation of household resources within Albania have played a significant role in perpetuating the poverty experienced by women. This phenomenon is further compounded by the gender imbalance that has arisen as a consequence of historical migratory patterns, thereby engendering a cyclical poverty trap for women.

In the context of discourse on poverty, it is imperative to underscore the significance of social assistance programs that prioritize the empowerment of women. A research by Lestari et al (2022) indicated that budgetary allocations for social assistance can reduce poverty if they are meticulously planned and targeted. These programs frequently offer assistance to women who are heads of households, providing them with opportunities to enhance their skills and increase their income. However, the absence of effective strategies has resulted in many of these programs failing to achieve their intended impact, perpetuating the cycle of poverty for numerous women (Luthvia et al., 2023).

In addressing the issue of poverty among women in rural and coastal areas, a comprehensive and sustainable approach is essential. This approach should encompass enhanced access to education, skills development, and robust economic support. The

development of supportive infrastructure and the provision of adequate public services are also important steps to address the challenges faced by women in both areas (Ardini, 2022). These initiatives must be executed by engaging a range of stakeholders, including governmental entities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local communities. This multifaceted approach is crucial to ensure that the voices of women are heard and that they receive the requisite support to overcome poverty.

Poverty Traps of Coastal Women and Effective Handling Strategies

The issue of women's poverty in coastal areas is a complex and multidimensional phenomenon influenced by various factors, including gender inequality in education, access to resources, and gender-based violence. The impact of these factors is twofold: it places women in a vulnerable position and hinders efforts to alleviate poverty. Furthermore, the issue of poverty has predominantly emphasized the limited financial resources available to individuals. Indeed, the concept of poverty can be approached from a variety of perspectives, extending beyond mere economic considerations. A study by Hendri, et al (2019) posited that the phenomenon of poverty can be understood in the context of the availability of natural resources owned by individuals or communities. In the context of economic development and social welfare, a person or community that lack natural resources is often considered to be in a state of poverty.

Concurrently, within the context of poverty experienced by women, it underscores the amount of income received by women from the work they perform. These factors impede the attainment of a comprehensive understanding and analysis of the dynamics of poverty experienced by women. In certain communities, women are confined to domestic work, such as cooking, cleaning, and personal care. This routine has become a part of their daily lives. However, at a certain level, women play an important role in the sustainability of their household's livelihood, especially in rural and coastal areas.

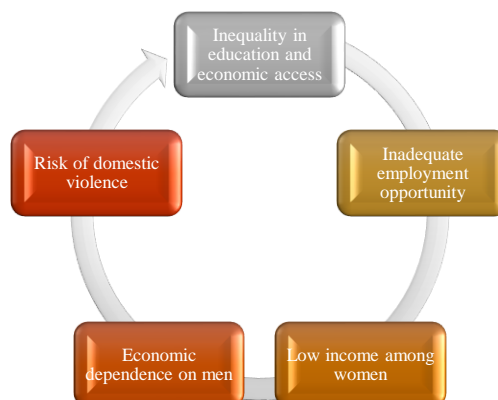
The factors contributing to the economic disadvantage of women are complex. For instance, in coastal areas, one of the primary factors contributing to women's poverty is the disparity in educational opportunities. The findings of Direja & Paramitasari (2022) indicated a negative correlation between the average years of schooling of women and the level of poverty experienced. Nevertheless, as the average years of schooling of women increase, the level of poverty experienced by them decreases. However, in many coastal areas, access

to higher education remains constrained, and the prevailing societal assumption that women do not require higher education impedes their advancement (Rahmayani, 2021). Gender-based discrimination in education has been shown to have a detrimental effect on women's ability to access better employment opportunities, thereby perpetuating a cycle of poverty (Sukmana et al., 2024).

Moreover, women in coastal communities frequently encounter domination in occupations related to natural resource management, such as fisheries, which are typically more lucrative for men (Puteri, et al., 2020). Despite their active involvement in the production and processing of fishery products, women's participation in economic decision-making is frequently overlooked (Astuti & Casmana, 2022). The confluence of a dearth of educational attainment, compounded by patriarchal cultural practices, serves to amplify the underlying factors contributing to the poverty experienced by women (Sulaeman et al., 2022).

In addition, gender-based violence exacerbates the plight of women in coastal areas, further exacerbating their already dire socioeconomic circumstances. A multitude of studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between economic disadvantage and elevated levels of violence against women (Sulaeman et al., 2022). The phenomenon of economic powerlessness frequently results in women's inability to escape from abusive and hazardous circumstances. Consequently, a comprehensive understanding of the interplay between violence and poverty is imperative for the development of effective solutions (Alie & Elanda, 2021). In this regard, this study proposes that the prevalence of poverty experienced by coastal women is rooted in the existing disparities in educational opportunities and economic access, which subsequently constrain the range of employment options available to women. The following Figure 1 illustrates the sequence of events that result in the poverty traps of coastal women:

Poverty Traps of Coastal Women



Additionally, the existence of women in poverty necessitates a collaborative approach involving various stakeholders, extending beyond the scope of government intervention through macroeconomic policies. This collaborative effort involves the consideration of multiple factors that contribute to poverty, ensuring a comprehensive and multifaceted strategy to address this issue. To address this challenge, a multifaceted approach is recommended, encompassing strategies such as the promotion of women's economic empowerment, the improvement of access to education and literacy, the provision of healthcare services, and the fortification of social and communal networks. The following section will elaborate on these strategies in greater detail:

a) Promotion of Women's Economic Empowerment

The economic empowerment of women in coastal areas can be achieved through the provision of access to capital, micro-entrepreneurship training, and skills development. A previous research indicated that training programs in seafood processing and handicraft production can serve as a catalyst for women in coastal communities, providing them with alternative sources of income and opportunities to expand their businesses and increase their household income (Fröcklin, et al, 2018).

b) Improvement of Access to Education and Literacy

The importance of adequate education in empowering women and reducing poverty cannot be overstated. In order to enhance access to education, it is essential to prioritize the elimination of cultural impediments that impede women's educational attainment. Literacy programs, particularly those targeting adult women, have been shown to enhance their skills, thereby facilitating their more effective participation in the

economy (Hastuti & Sutrisnowati, 2023). Community-based approaches that engage local communities in supporting women's education can also enhance awareness of the significance of education for future generations, particularly among women (Hahury et al., 2022).

c) Provision of Healthcare Services

Poor health conditions have been demonstrated to exacerbate poverty situations. Therefore, it is necessary to improve women's access to health services, including reproductive health and mental health. Accessible and affordable health programs have been shown to assist women in overcoming various health problems that can impede their ability to actively participate in economic and social activities. Public health training and counseling on the importance of health can contribute to reducing poverty rates among women (Hahury et al., 2022).

d) Fortification of Social and Communal Networks

The possession of robust social networks has been demonstrated to facilitate the provision of essential moral and economic support to coastal women. The utilization of community models, such as "arisan" (regular social gathering) groups or cooperatives, has been identified as a strategy to empower women by fostering a supportive environment conducive to the exchange of resources, knowledge, and experiences among women. These activities have been shown to have a dual impact: they strengthen the relationships among women and increase their confidence in making daily life decisions (Matthews et al., 2012). Additionally, local government and NGO advocacy for policies that support women can improve their bargaining position within the community (Aditya, et al, 2023).

e) Adaptation to Climate Change

Climate change poses a significant challenge to coastal women, frequently resulting in the destruction of the natural resources upon which they rely for their livelihoods. Implementing sustainable climate change adaptation strategies and fostering effective communication within women's communities can help them cope with these changes (Cao & Zheng, 2016). For instance, training programs that prepare women to adapt to increased environmental risks can mitigate their vulnerability to

poverty. Recognizing women's roles in natural resource management is essential for strengthening communities' resilience to the impacts of climate change (Sarjana et al., 2024).

Conclusion

To address the poverty trap experienced by coastal women, it is essential to combine education policies with economic empowerment through micro-entrepreneurship and investments in social services that address gender-based violence. Applying a gender-based approach that takes into account the local context aims to eliminate the root causes of women's poverty and provide better opportunities for their active participation in community development. Researches have highlighted one solution: women's economic empowerment through micro-entrepreneurship and education. This approach has been shown to reduce poverty levels. With access to microfinance institutions and skills training, coastal women can develop their own businesses, increasing household income. The involvement of specialized institutions serving women in micro-enterprises is also considered important. A comprehensive and inclusive approach is needed in this empowerment effort so that all women, especially those living in coastal areas, can benefit.

Recommendations

To address the poverty trap faced by women in coastal areas, it is essential to prioritize sustainable and inclusive economic empowerment. A key recommendation is the implementation of integrated micro-entrepreneurship programs that provide women with skills training and access to business capital, including microfinance tailored specifically for fisherwomen. This support can enable the creation or expansion of small businesses, thereby increasing household income. Governments and NGOs should collaborate to enhance the reach and quality of such programs, ensuring they are accessible to all segments of society. Additionally, promoting gender education and community awareness is crucial to strengthening women's social and economic positions. Educational initiatives that highlight the value of women's education can shift societal perceptions and encourage greater female participation in both education and the labor market. By combining economic empowerment with education, women in coastal areas can be better equipped to break free from poverty and play a more active role in community development.

Research Limitations

This study is limited by the complex and interrelated nature of women's poverty traps in coastal areas, which involve factors such as local culture, educational access, and fluctuating economic conditions. Existing research tends to focus on isolated aspects such as economic empowerment or education without offering a comprehensive understanding of how these elements interact to address issues like gender-based violence and educational advancement. Furthermore, the diversity of coastal regions poses challenges to generalizing findings, as each area possesses distinct characteristics that necessitate context-specific approaches. The scarcity of comprehensive data also hampers the development of effective, sustainable strategies to alleviate women's poverty across different coastal settings

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