

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE STRATEGY AFTER FLASH FLOODS IN LUBUK SIDUP VILLAGE, SEKERAK DISTRICT, ACEH TAMIANG REGENCY

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Abstract: *Flash floods are among the most frequent natural disasters affecting rural communities in Indonesia, particularly in Aceh Tamiang Regency. Beyond causing physical damage, these disasters significantly disrupt local economic activities and reduce household income. This study aims to analyze community economic recovery strategies and resilience following the flash flood disaster in Lubuk Sidup Village, Sekerak District. This qualitative research employed observation, interviews, and documentation techniques involving village officials, community leaders, farmers, traders, and affected residents. The findings reveal that economic recovery was achieved through collaboration between the government, local communities, and social institutions. The primary recovery strategies included restoring agricultural activities, diversifying livelihoods, providing business capital assistance, strengthening mutual cooperation, and improving community disaster preparedness. Community resilience was demonstrated through adaptive capacities, social solidarity, and institutional support that enabled residents to restore their livelihoods gradually. The study concludes that community resilience is influenced not only by economic resources but also by social capital, participatory governance, and local wisdom in disaster management.*

Kata Kunci:

Pemulihan Ekonomi, Resiliensi Masyarakat, Banjir Bandang, Mitigasi Bencana, Aceh Tamiang

Abstrak: Banjir bandang merupakan salah satu bencana alam yang sering terjadi di Indonesia dan memberikan dampak besar terhadap kehidupan sosial maupun ekonomi masyarakat. Desa Lubuk Sidup, Kecamatan Sekerak, Kabupaten Aceh Tamiang merupakan salah satu wilayah yang terdampak banjir bandang sehingga mengakibatkan kerusakan lahan pertanian, hilangnya mata pencaharian masyarakat, serta menurunnya aktivitas ekonomi lokal. Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis strategi pemulihan ekonomi serta bentuk resiliensi masyarakat pascabanjir bandang. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif melalui observasi, wawancara mendalam, dan dokumentasi terhadap pemerintah desa, tokoh masyarakat, petani, pelaku UMKM, dan masyarakat terdampak. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pemulihan ekonomi dilakukan melalui rehabilitasi lahan pertanian, diversifikasi usaha, bantuan modal usaha, pemberdayaan masyarakat, serta penguatan kelembagaan desa. Resiliensi masyarakat terlihat

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dari kemampuan beradaptasi, semangat gotong royong, serta dukungan berbagai pihak dalam mempercepat proses pemulihan ekonomi. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa keberhasilan pemulihan ekonomi sangat dipengaruhi oleh kolaborasi pemerintah, masyarakat, serta pemanfaatan modal sosial yang dimiliki desa.

INTRODUCTION

Flash flood disasters are one of the hydrometeorological threats that have a huge impact on people's lives, especially in rural areas where most of the population depends on the agricultural and plantation sectors for their livelihoods. High rainfall intensity, land use changes, and damage to upstream river areas are the main factors that increase the risk of flash floods in various regions of Indonesia ([Aldrich, 2017](#)). The impact caused is not only in the form of damage to infrastructure, but also disrupts economic activities, lowers household income, damages agricultural land, hinders the distribution of production products, and causes an increase in poverty rates in the affected communities. Therefore, post-disaster economic recovery efforts are an important part of the rehabilitation process of the community so that socio-economic life can return to normal ([Kementerian Desa dan Transmigrasi Republik Indonesia, 2021](#)).

Aceh Tamiang Regency is one of the areas in Aceh Province that has a fairly high level of vulnerability to flood disasters. The geographical conditions in the watershed and the high rainfall cause several sub-districts to experience flooding almost every year ([Programme, 2022](#)). One of the areas that was seriously affected was Lubuk Sidup Village in Sekerak District. The flash floods that occurred resulted in damage to residents' houses, agricultural land, plantations, village roads, and other public facilities. Most of the people who work as oil palm farmers, rice farmers, and planters experienced a decrease in income due to crop failure and damage to production facilities. This condition has a direct impact on the welfare of the community because their main source of income has been stopped for a long time ([Bencana, 2021](#)).

Post-disaster community economic recovery is not only related to the provision of material assistance, but also includes the process of rebuilding the community's economic capacity to be able to adapt to new conditions. In the context of sustainable development, economic recovery must be carried out through an approach that actively involves the community so that the programs implemented are in accordance with local needs. Local governments, village governments, social institutions, community organizations, and the

private sector have an important role in building collaboration to accelerate the process of community economic rehabilitation ([Indonesia, 2022](#)).

The concept of community resilience is one of the approaches that is widely used in disaster studies. Resilience is not only understood as the ability to survive disasters, but also the ability to rise, adapt, and develop new strategies in facing various economic and social challenges ([Azizah, Nur, 2025](#)). Communities that have a high level of resilience tend to be able to innovate businesses, strengthen social solidarity, utilize local resources, and build a cooperative network that supports the recovery process. Thus, community resilience development is one of the indicators of the success of post-disaster rehabilitation ([Rahman et al., 2022](#)).

Several previous studies have shown that the success of post-disaster economic recovery is greatly influenced by the social capital of the community. Research conducted by Aldrich found that communities that have strong social networks tend to recover faster than those that rely solely on government assistance ([Aldrich, 2017](#)). Meanwhile, Rahman et al.'s research explains that community-based economic empowerment is able to increase people's adaptation capacity to disaster risks in rural areas ([Rahman, 2022](#)). Other research by Widayanti shows that livelihood diversification is an effective strategy in reducing the economic vulnerability of post-disaster communities ([Widayanti, 2023](#)).

However, most of the previous research focused more on aspects of disaster mitigation and humanitarian assistance, while studies on economic recovery strategies based on community resilience at the village level are still relatively limited, especially in Aceh Tamiang Regency. In addition, previous research has not comprehensively explained how communities develop economic adaptation strategies through the use of social capital, mutual cooperation, and village institutions after experiencing flash floods. These gaps are an important basis for this study to provide a deeper picture of the community's economic recovery process from a local perspective.

This study aims to analyze the economic recovery strategies carried out by the people of Lubuk Sidup Village after flash floods, identify forms of community resilience in facing the impact of disasters, and explain the factors that support the success of the economic recovery process. The results of the research are expected to be recommendations for local governments, village governments, and various stakeholders in designing more effective, participatory, and sustainable economic rehabilitation policies. In addition, this research is expected to be able to enrich the study of social capital-based community resilience as a strategic approach in disaster risk management in rural areas.

METHODS

1. Types and Approaches to Research

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with the aim of obtaining an in-depth picture of the economic recovery strategy and community resilience after flash floods in Lubuk Sidup Village, Sekerak District, Aceh Tamiang Regency (Moleong, 2021). This approach was chosen because it is able to explore community experiences, perceptions, and adaptation strategies that cannot be explained only through quantitative data. The research was carried out in June 2026 in Lubuk Sidup Village as one of the areas affected by flash floods and experiencing disruptions to the community's economic activities. Primary data was obtained through field observations, in-depth interviews, and documentation, while secondary data was obtained from village government documents, BPBD reports, and various relevant scientific literature. Data analysis was carried out using the Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña interactive model which included data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing to produce valid and accountable findings (Miles et al., 2020).

1. Location and Research Subject

The research was conducted in Lubuk Sidup Village, Sekerak District, Aceh Tamiang Regency. The research informants were selected using *the purposive sampling technique*, which is based on the consideration that the informants have knowledge and experience about the condition of the community after the flash flood.

Table 1. Research Informant

No	They report	Quantity (People)
1	Kepala Desa	1
2	Sekretaris Desa	1
3	Ketua Kelompok Tani	2
4	Pelaku UMKM	3
5	Masyarakat terdampak	8
6	Tokoh Masyarakat	2
Quantity		17

2. Data Collection Techniques

Data collection techniques are carried out through direct observation of the socio-economic conditions of the community, semi-structured interviews with the

main informants, and documentation in the form of photos of activities, village government archives, and disaster reports. The three techniques are used simultaneously to obtain comprehensive data on the community's economic recovery process (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

3. Data Analysis Techniques

Data analysis uses the Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña model which consists of data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawn. Data validity is strengthened through source triangulation techniques, triangulation techniques, and member checks to several informants so that the data obtained is in accordance with field conditions (Miles et al., 2020).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Lubuk Sidup Village is one of the villages in Sekerak District, Aceh Tamiang Regency, Aceh Province. Most of the area is in the form of agricultural land, plantations, and settlements with the main livelihood of the community as farmers, planters, breeders, and micro business actors. The geographical location of the village around the watershed makes it vulnerable to flash floods, especially during the rainy season. The disaster results in damage to agricultural land, infrastructure, and community economic activities. Nevertheless, the community has strong social capital through a culture of mutual cooperation that supports the economic recovery process and increases post-disaster resilience.

The flash flood that hit Lubuk Sidup Village had a huge impact on people's lives. In addition to damaging people's homes and public facilities, the flood also destroyed agricultural land, oil palm plantations, small trading businesses, and community production facilities. Based on the results of field observations, most people lost their main source of income for several months after the flood occurred. This condition caused a decrease in people's purchasing power and increased dependence on government assistance and social institutions (Rahman et al., 2022).

The Head of Lubuk Sidup Village explained that economic damage was the main problem after the flood was successfully handled.

"After the floods receded, the biggest challenge was no longer to clean up the mud, but how to get people back to work. Many plantations were damaged and small businesses stopped operating, so the village government prioritized the economic recovery of the community." (Interview, June 19, 2026)

The village government then prepared various economic recovery programs through coordination with the district government, BPBD, the Agriculture Office, and community groups. The program is focused on agricultural land rehabilitation, plant seed assistance, irrigation improvement, and the provision of business capital assistance for MSME actors. The Chairman of the Farmer Group named Mr. AR explained that seed assistance and irrigation canal repair are the first steps that are very helpful for farmers.

"Our rice fields were covered with mud and many crops died. After receiving the help of seeds and agricultural tools, we started replanting even though the results were not optimal." (Interview with AR, June 20, 2026)

In addition to the agricultural sector, small business actors also receive assistance in the form of business capital and business management training (Mardhiah et al., 2023). The assistance allows the community to reopen businesses that had been stopped due to flooding.

An MSME actor named Mrs. NH said:

"The business capital we received was not large, but it was enough to buy raw materials so that the food business was running again. Now customers are starting to come again." (Interview with Mrs. NH, June 20, 2026)

The results of the study also show that people do not only depend on government assistance. Some people diversify their livelihoods by opening new businesses such as trading agricultural products, freshwater fish farming, poultry farming, and home-based culinary businesses. This diversification is an adaptation strategy to reduce dependence on one type of work that is vulnerable to disasters.

Another aspect that is the strength of the community is the high culture of mutual cooperation. The community voluntarily cleans houses, repairs village roads, rebuilds small bridges, and helps residents who have suffered the most severe damage. Interview with Mr. AH, a community leader explained:

"If we wait for all the assistance to be completed, it may take a long time. Therefore, the community works together to clean the garden, repair the house, and help neighbors who are more in need." (Interview with Mr. AH, June 22, 2026)

The culture of mutual cooperation accelerates the process of recovering people's economic activities because various jobs can be done together without having to spend large costs.

In addition to social capital, the village government also forms a disaster preparedness group that is tasked with providing education to the community about flood preparedness.

This group routinely conducts socialization about evacuation routes, storage of important documents, and strategies for saving economic assets when floods occur again.

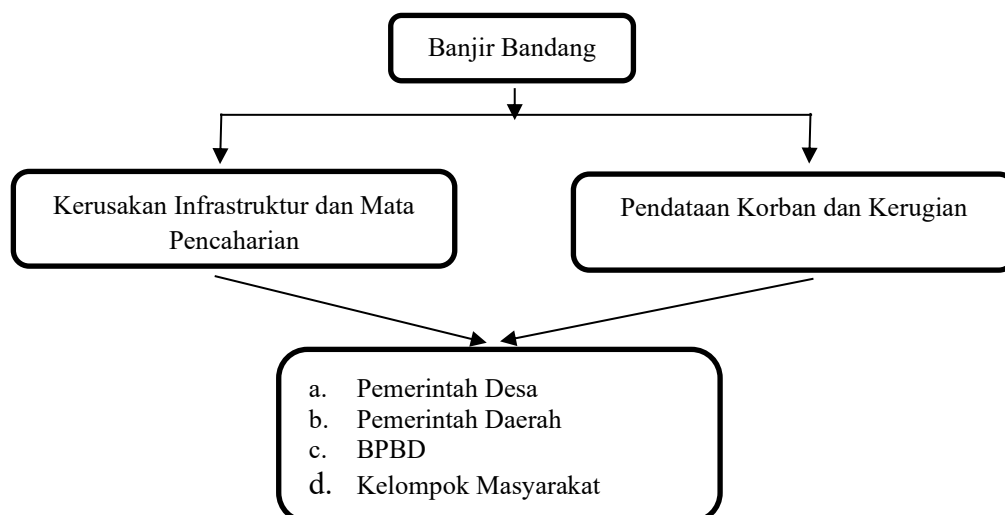
The results of observations show that the community now has a higher awareness of the importance of disaster mitigation than before the flash flood occurred. This awareness can be seen from the community's efforts to raise the floor of the house, make simple drainage channels, plant vegetation around the riverbank, and prepare emergency savings in anticipation if a disaster occurs again.

Table 2. Economic Conditions of the Community Before and After the Recovery Program

Indicator	Before Recovery	After Recovery
Aktivitas pertanian	Terhenti	Berjalan kembali
Usaha mikro	Banyak tutup	Sebagian besar aktif
Pendapatan masyarakat	Menurun drastis	Berangsur meningkat
Gotong royong	Sedang	Sangat tinggi
Kesiapsiagaan bencana	Rendah	Meningkat

Table 2 above explains that the community's economic recovery takes place gradually. In the first six months, the focus is directed to meeting basic needs and rehabilitating production facilities. Entering the following year, the community begins to expand its business, increase agricultural production, and build cooperation in the marketing of crops through farmer groups. This process shows that economic recovery does not only depend on external assistance, but also on the ability of the community to adapt and make optimal use of local resources.

Chart 1. Post-Flash Flood Economic Recovery Strategy





The chart shows that the success of economic recovery in Lubuk Sidup Village is the result of synergy between the government, the community, and various stakeholders. An integrated recovery program is able to increase the community's adaptation capacity while strengthening the village's economic resilience to future disaster threats.

Based on the results of the study, the researcher analyzed that the success of the economic recovery of the people of Lubuk Sidup Village is not only influenced by the amount of assistance provided by the government, but also by the capacity of the community to build resilience through the use of social capital. The high spirit of mutual cooperation, trust between residents, and active participation in each rehabilitation program are the main factors that accelerate the recovery of economic activities. The diversification of livelihoods carried out by the community shows the ability to adapt to changes in post-disaster conditions so that dependence on one economic sector (Azizah, Nur, 2025) can be reduced. In addition, collaboration between village governments, farmer groups, MSME actors, and related institutions creates a more effective and sustainable recovery mechanism. The researcher also considers that the establishment of disaster preparedness groups is a strategic step in increasing community preparedness for future flood risks. Thus, community resilience is not only reflected in the ability to rise after a disaster, but also in the ability to carry out economic and social

transformation that is more adaptive, independent, and oriented towards reducing disaster risk in a sustainable manner.

The results of the study show that the economic recovery strategy of the community after the flash flood in Lubuk Sidup Village is implemented through a collaborative approach involving the village government, local governments, farmer groups, micro business actors, and affected communities. The approach is not only oriented towards providing emergency assistance, but is also directed at efforts to restore the community's economic capacity through agricultural land rehabilitation, the provision of business capital assistance, livelihood diversification, and strengthening community institutions. These findings show that the sustainable economic recovery process requires the synergy of various parties so that the community is not only able to survive after the disaster, but also has the ability to develop again.

The findings of this study are in line with the concept *of community resilience* which states that resilience is the ability of individuals and communities to adapt, recover, and develop after experiencing disruption due to disasters. In this study, community resilience is reflected in the ability of communities to re-manage agricultural land, open new businesses, and take advantage of social networks that have been formed before disasters occur. Social capital in the form of mutual cooperation, trust, and solidarity are factors that accelerate the economic recovery process. This condition shows that the success of rehabilitation does not only depend on financial assistance, but also on the strength of social relationships owned by the community (Yin, 2018).

This research is in line with the results of the study which states that social capital is one of the main factors in accelerating the recovery of the community after disasters. Aldrich explained that people who have a high level of trust and cooperation tend to rebuild economic activities faster than people who only rely on government assistance. A similar phenomenon was also found in Lubuk Sidup Village, where people independently worked together to clean agricultural land, repair public facilities, and help residents who suffered the most severe damage. These activities show that social solidarity is an important capital in accelerating the process of village economic rehabilitation.

The results of this study are also in line with the research (Rahman, 2022) which explains that community empowerment through strengthening economic capacity is able to increase the ability to adapt to disaster risks. In the study, it was explained that

entrepreneurship training, business capital assistance, and community group assistance are able to accelerate the economic recovery of rural communities. The findings in Lubuk Sidup Village show a similar condition, namely the existence of business capital assistance for MSME actors that allows the community to return to running small businesses after experiencing losses due to floods. The program has a positive impact on gradually increasing community income.

In addition, this research also supports the results of the research ([Widayanti, 2023](#)) who found that livelihood diversification is an effective adaptation strategy in reducing the economic vulnerability of post-disaster communities. In Lubuk Sidup Village, some communities no longer only depend on the agricultural sector, but have begun to develop trade, livestock, fish farming, and home-based food businesses as alternative sources of income. This diversification shows that the community has the ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions while reducing the risk of losing income if similar disasters occur again.

On the other hand, this research has novelty compared to previous studies because it not only examines the aspect of government assistance, but also highlights the role of village institutions in building community resilience. The Lubuk Sidup Village Government not only functions as a distribution of aid, but also as a facilitator who coordinates various economic recovery programs through collaboration with farmer groups, MSME actors, social institutions, and local governments. This participatory approach is able to increase community involvement in each stage of recovery so that the programs carried out are more in line with the needs of the local community.

Based on the overall findings, it can be understood that the economic recovery of the community after the flash flood is a process that takes place gradually and requires the support of various parties. Community resilience is not only determined by the amount of economic resources owned, but also influenced by social capital, village government leadership, community participation, and the ability to adapt to changes in post-disaster conditions. Therefore, strengthening village institutions, empowering community economies, and building disaster mitigation capacity needs to continue to be carried out as a long-term strategy to create a more resilient community to future disaster risks. Thus, the results of this study contribute to the development of studies on economic recovery strategies based on community resilience as well as practical recommendations for the government in formulating more effective, inclusive, and sustainable post-disaster economic rehabilitation policies.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that the economic recovery strategy of the community after the flash flood in Lubuk Sidup Village, Sekerak District, Aceh Tamiang Regency is carried out through synergy between the government, the community, and various stakeholders. Recovery efforts are carried out through the rehabilitation of agricultural land, the provision of business capital assistance, the diversification of livelihoods, and the strengthening of institutions and the culture of mutual cooperation. Community resilience is reflected in the ability to adapt to post-disaster conditions, utilize social capital, and gradually rebuild economic activities. The success of the recovery process is not only determined by material assistance, but also by active community participation and inter-agency coordination in supporting economic rehabilitation. Therefore, strengthening community capacity, improving disaster preparedness, and economic empowerment based on local potential needs to continue to be developed as a long-term strategy to create a more resilient, independent, and sustainable society in facing disaster risks in the future.

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