



Strategy For Youth Interest Enhancement as Effort of Agriculture Revitalizational in Klaten Regency

Sri Eka Wulandari^{1✉}, Suchatiningsih Dian Wisika Prajanti²

Economics Development Department, Economics Faculty, Universitas Negeri Semarang

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Abstract

The aims of this study were to examine the condition and obstacles and to arrange priority of strategy for youth interest enhancement as effort of agriculture revitalization in Klaten Regency. Method used in this study was qualitative descriptive method with Analysis Hierarchy Process (AHP). The number of interviewees in this research was 11 key person. From the result of this study showed that institutional criteria was the most priority aspect, followed by human resources criteria, and the last was government policy criteria. Alternative program which has been prioritized is formation of youth farmers' groups, socialization facilities and human resources of agricultural instructors which are not being converted and transferred, and self-help and private instructor should be optimized. Based on those priorities, it is suggested that the local government of Klaten District through Department of Agriculture can optimize and control the implementation of those programs. Besides, it is needed the participation of various parties such as academia, farmer institution, farmer entrepreneur, youth and related government institution in order to increase youth interest as effort of agriculture revitalization in Klaten Regency can run well and continuously.

INTRODUCING

Agricultural sector is strategic sector that plays an important role and becomes the driving force of Indonesian economy (Miftakhuriza, 2011). Natural wealth and abundant biodiversity become strong potency for agriculture development in Indonesia. These sectors give contributions such as direct role in providing food availability, play a role in GDP (Gross Domestic Product) formation, giving many job vacancy, play a role in generating foreign exchange and / or foreign exchange savings, and functioning in controlling inflation (Steffani, 2012).

Food is basic human need as well as the essence of human life, therefore the right for food becomes very important part of human rights (Juarini, 2015). The need for foods will continue to increase along with the development of population and as an increase of human living standards. One of the main food granaries in

Indonesia is the Province of Central Java where all this time the share of agricultural sector towards the total output is the largest one (Azida, 2017). Agricultural sector became second dominant sector which has given contributions to Central Java economy as much as 15.53% from the total GDP of Central Java. The agricultural sector is sector with the highest number of labor multipliers in Central Java (Mahmudah, 2016).

Central Java as one of the provinces which support food, where rice productivity is preferred to continue to be improved. One of districts which become central rice production in Central Java is Klaten District, known as food buffer districts (Firman, et al., 2013). According to (Prabowo, 2012) Klaten Regency is one of the most famous rice granaries in Indonesia. This is also proved by the main job in Klaten Regency in 2015 which shows that agricultural sector occupies second position after trade as the main job of Klaten Regency.

Table 1. Population Age 15 Years and Over Who Worked According to Gender and Main Job in Klaten Regency 2015

Business Field	Male		Female		Male + Female	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture	85,984	24,90	50,911	19,65	134,895	22,62
Trade	64,187	19,03	94,488	36,46	158,675	26,60
Processing Industry	60,022	17,80	69,177	26,70	129,199	21,66
Community Services	37,571	11,14	38,063	14,69	75,634	12,68
Others	91,525	27,14	6,490	2,50	98,015	16,43
Total	337,289	100,00	259,129	100,00	596,418	100,00

Source: Sakernas 2015

As we know in terms of food, rice is basic necessity of Indonesian society. Like the term which said "if you do not eat rice, means that you have not ate". This term already attached to Indonesian people. So to maintain the availability of food, especially rice, it is necessary for Indonesia to improve farmers' productivity in order to realize security and sovereignty of food. To realize those things (Sumastuti, 2010) explains that good synergy between natural, physical and human resource factors are needed, including land ownership structure, availability of production facilities, human resources and

institutions. However, one of the problems of agricultural development in Indonesia is Human Resource (HR) issues such as the lack of ability of farmers, breeders, and planters to utilize advanced technology; limited instructors, and the lowest interest of younger generation to engage in agriculture (Arvianti, et al., 2015).

Research conducted by People's Coalition for Food Sovereignty (KRKP) 2015 entitled "Farmer Regeneration" explained that 70% of young people were not interested in agriculture, especially in rice farming. Agricultural sector is currently viewed as less promising sector

compared to other sectors (Maftah & Prajanti, 2016). Those phenomenon is also experienced by Klaten regency which is regeneration crisis in agricultural sector. Klaten Regency has experienced decline in the number of agricultural households which is the largest on in Central Java, i.e. 94,908 households that is described in Agricultural Census in 2013.

Table 2. The Number of Agricultural Business Households in Central Java

No	Regency/City	Agricultural Households		Growth
		2003	2013	
1	Cilacap	337.205	253.449	-83.756
2	Banyumas	270.632	202.578	-68.054
3	Purbalingga	161.578	125.314	-36.264
4	Banjarnegara	180.550	156.652	-23.898
5	Kebumen	254.552	215.624	-38.928
6	Purworejo	170.780	143.750	-27.030
7	Wonosobo	151.763	142.593	-9.170
8	Magelang	230.515	191.211	-39.304
9	Boyolali	207.497	170.529	-36.968
10	Klaten	220.525	125.617	-94.908
11	Sukoharjo	121.214	68.170	-53.044
12	Wonogiri	233.496	202.143	-31.353
13	Karanganyar	152.168	104.739	-47.429
14	Sragen	193.095	142.187	-50.908
15	Grobogan	316.691	264.144	-52.547
16	Blora	196.192	170.299	-25.893
17	Rembang	126.432	108.399	-18.033
18	Pati	266.991	189.987	-77.004
19	Kudus	106.874	51.359	-55.515
20	Jepara	198.132	113.050	-85.082
21	Demak	199.825	131.474	-68.351
22	Semarang	167.354	130.385	-36.969
23	Temanggung	135.777	123.246	-12.531
24	Kendal	164.010	109.637	-54.373
25	Batang	121.153	92.179	-28.974
26	Pekalongan	131.847	77.230	-54.617
27	Pemalang	203.480	134.231	-69.249
28	Tegal	179.536	105.854	-73.682
29	Brebes	283.531	214.227	-67.304
30	Kota Magelang	2.465	1.114	-1.351
31	Kota Surakarta	2.660	1.104	-1.556
32	Kota Salatiga	13.592	5.977	-7.615
33	Kota Semarang	44.616	17.638	-26.978
34	Kota Pekalongan	8.111	1.834	-6.277
35	Kota Tegal	15.962	2.695	-13.267

Source: Farmer Census of Central Java 2013

Regeneration study report by People's Coalition for Food Sovereignty (KRKP) 2015 explained that farmers' age will affect their performance in farming, both in physical and

their ability to think. The younger farmers with strong physical condition is considered able to work more optimally than old farmers. Based on Law No.40 Year 2009, the classification of 16-30 years old is said to be the productive age of youth so that they has big potency to develop their farming business. Meanwhile, the age which is more than 65 years is categorized as non-productive age.

The lack of farmer regeneration in Klaten Regency was proved by 2013 agricultural census. The researcher classified the age range of youth

in the range of 16-30 years. Young farmers with age range of 16-30 years only as much as 6,210 households or contributed around 4.94 percent from the total agricultural businesses household. While in the age group 35 to 64 years was 88,977 households or about 70.84 percent of the total agricultural business household. Farmers with the age more than 65 years were still quite a lot which was 30,428 households or about 24.22 percent of agricultural business household. There was large difference between young and old workers.

Table 3. The Number of Agricultural Business Households According to Age Group and Main Farmer Gender

No	Age Group of Main Farmer	Male		Female		Total	
		Absolut	%	Absolut	%	Absolut	%
1	<15	2	100,00	0	0,00	2	100,00
2	15-24	158	91,33	15	8,67	173	100,00
3	25-34	5.874	97,30	163	2,7	6.037	100,00
4	35-44	20.996	95,82	916	4,18	21.912	100,00
5	45-54	31.763	92,65	2.519	7,35	34.282	100,00
6	55-64	28.973	88,38	3.810	11,62	32.783	100,00
7	≥65	24.923	81,91	5.505	18,09	30.428	100,00
Total		112.689	89,71	12.928	10,92	125.617	100,00

Source: Agricultural Census of Klaten Regency 2013

Prabowo (2012) states that Provincial government of Central Java predicts that Klaten Regency has big potency to be agropolitan area which is sustainable agriculture-based region so that the agricultural sector can continue to be the leading sector in Klaten Regency. The plan of development priority program of Central Java Province in 2017 also explains that Klaten Regency became one of the target of Agribusiness Sub Terminal (STA) development. Agribusiness development is an appropriate step as an effort to further develop agricultural sector because it can increase harvest by adding value to agricultural

products (Fafurida, 2012). In fact, those agricultural potency are not yet able to attract youth interest of Klaten Regency to contribute in agricultural sector. The institution of agriculture instructor of Klaten Regency itself has not been able to influence youth to know more about agriculture sector. In addition, the number of agricultural instructor in Klaten Regency is still small. According to Permentan No. 72 / permentan / OT / 140/10/2011 with 1832 total number of farmer institutions owned by Klaten Regency, the number of instructors currently does not meet the required needs.

Table 4. Agricultural Instructor of Klaten Regency 2017

No	Instructor	Total	Farmer Institution	The needs of Instructor
1	PNS	72	1832	298
2	CPNS	35		
3	THL-BP	88		
Total		195		

Source: KJF Data of Agriculture Department in Klaten Regency 2017

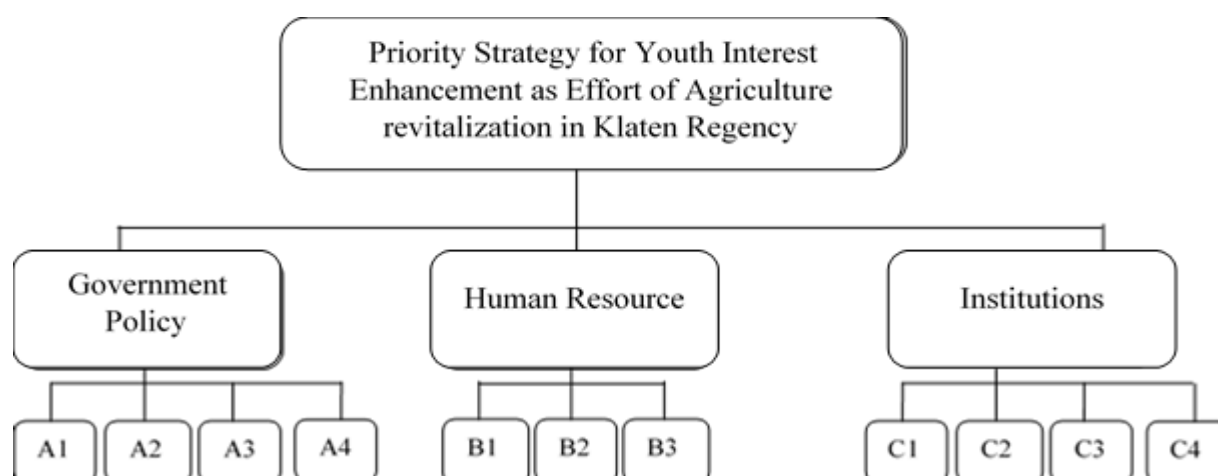
As leading sector in Klaten Regency, youth interest problem in agricultural sector needs to be given strategic handling for agriculture development in Klaten Regency. In addition, as farmers regeneration that are expected to inherit the skill of Klaten Regency farmers in managing their rice so that it can create sustainability as food buffer of Central Java Province in particular and food self-sufficiency in Indonesia, in general.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted in Klaten Regency, Central Java with consideration that Klaten Regency has potency in agricultural sector and as food buffer of Central Java. However, Klaten Regency has experienced decline in agricultural labors which is the biggest one in Central Java. The potency of Klaten Regency has not been able to attract youth in agricultural sector. The type of this research was descriptive qualitative research. The data used in this research were primary and secondary data.

Descriptive analysis method in this research was intended to explore information about the condition and obstacles of youth interest enhancement in agriculture sector of Klaten Regency. While the concept of Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) According to Saaty in (Prajanti, 2013) to determine the priority of elements in decision problem is by making pairwise comparisons that is each element is compared in pairs against specified criterion. The scale defines and explains values 1 till 9 which have been set as considerations in comparing pairs of similar elements in each hierarchical level against criterion which is in above the level. The paired appeal scales used in AHP compilation to determine alternative priority strategies for youth interest enhancement in agricultural sector.

The variable used in this study was Analysis Hierarchy Process (AHP) variable i.e. criterion from government policy aspect, human resources, and institutional including there were alternative programs for youth interest enhancement in agriculture sector.

**Figure 1. AHP Hierarchy Framework**

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Klaten Regency is one area which has potency in agricultural sector. Its fertile soil makes all sub-districts in Klaten Regency able to produce agriculture, especially in rice crop farming. So that the majority of Klaten Regency population are farmers and farm laborers with the total farmers which entered in SIMPI data (Indonesian Food Management Information System) in early 2018 as many as 83,627 people. Rice harvest is mostly sold by the community. However, there are some regions / sub-districts whose crops are consumed by themselves and the rests are sold. For example, in Bayat sub-district where in this area the majority of their harvest are brought home / consumed by themselves because Bayat is forest-dependent area that only harvest usually once a year.

Here are some obstacles in effort to enhance youth interest in agricultural sector of Klaten Regency:

Low Farmer Welfare Guarantee

The existence of life assurance will certainly provide comfort sense to be in place or sector. Similarly in agricultural sector which until now Klaten farmers have not fully feel welfare of their work. Of course people will think long to enter this sector. Especially with youth thinking who currently even feel the modernization of other sectors that give better guarantee to his life.

Youth perception about agriculture

Youth perception is how they view or their assessment towards agricultural sector. Aspects of youth Klaten assessment such as income, employment place, employment status, and education. Youth perception of income factor that is income from agriculture not every month and do not guarantee their monthly requirement fulfillment. Employment place factor is where the work is done, in this case youth perceived that farming has done in in dirty and hot fields. Employment status of agriculture is considered less prestigious in this modern era as it is now equipped with more sophisticated technology

and farming tools than the traditional way yet they still feel prestige or embarrassment.

Parents do not introduce agricultural sector

As youth related to the future and their work is still dominated by parents wish. Similarly, youth in Klaten District. Of course parents expect that their children get better job than them, and instead as a child will certainly give the best for his parents. Agricultural sector itself is still considered less promising to be a job for their children. So, many parents do not introduce this sector to their children.

Lack of youth insight about agriculture

As mentioned before in point 2 which concerns on youth perception about agriculture is that the youth think that agricultural sector only works in dirty and hot fields and gives uncertain income. The same thing happens in youth in Klaten District who have not known more about agricultural sector. This low level of knowledge also affects youth to choose work as well as to study in agriculture sector.

Government policies still are not pro with farmers

Government as stakeholder still has not provided policy which is in favor with farmers. Backed up as agrarian country with natural wealth but the policy which has been made has not improved agricultural sector. For example, during the big harvest season this year but in fact the government implements rice import policy.

AHP Analysis

Based on the results of AHP analysis, the priority strategy for youth interest enhancement as perpetrators of agricultural sector in Klaten Regency obtained that institutional criteria is the most important criteria or priority. After institutional criteria then the second priority human resources (HR) criteria, followed by the third or last priority government policy criteria. Here is the output of AHP calculation from each priority criterion using expert choice 9.0 software

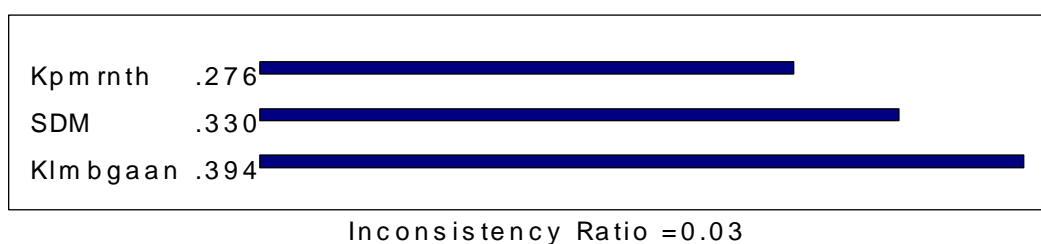


Figure 2. Output of AHP Criteria for Youth Interest Enhancement as Effort of Agricultural Revitalization in Klaten Regency
Source: Primary data, processed 2018

Institutional Criteria

The most prioritized criteria for youth interest enhancement in agricultural sector of Klaten Regency is institutional criteria. Based on the results of AHP data indicate that the most prioritized alternative is the formation of youth farmer groups (weight value 0.286). Two alternatives that occupy second priority positions, namely instructor's infrastructure and

Human Resources of Agricultural instructor are not converted and transferred; as well as self-help and private instructors should be optimized (weighted 0.248). The third priority is each instructor should reorganize at least 5 young farmers who are guided intensively in Agricultural Counseling Center (weight value 0.219).

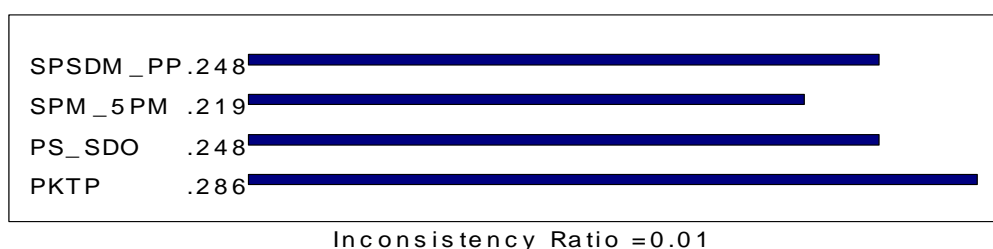


Figure 3. AHP Output of Institutional Criteria
Source: Primary data, processed 2018

Human Resource Criteria (HR)

The criteria which become second criteria in the effort to enhance youth interest in agricultural sector in Klaten Regency is human resources (SDM). Based on the results of the data show that the most prioritized alternative as effort of youth interest enhancement in agricultural sector of Klaten Regency through human resource criteria such as education and

training which is focused on increasing farmers' competence in procedures of technological innovation and research, cultivation, post-harvest, processing, and marketing (Weight value 0.736). Then the second and third alternative priorities are to develop agriculture-based vocational education (weight score 0.137), as well as giving scholarships for agricultural vocational schools (weighted 0.127).



Figure 4. AHP Output of Human Resource Criteria
Source: Primary Data, processed 2018

Government Policy Criteria

The criteria that become the third priority or the last as an effort of youth interest enhancement in the agricultural sector in Klaten Regency is government policies. Based on the results of AHP data indicate that the most prioritized alternative through government policy criteria is marketing assurance of agricultural products for farming (weight value

0.407). The second alternative priority is to encourage and facilitate the establishment of Farmer-Owned Enterprises (Weight value 0.273). The third and fourth priority are agricultural infrastructure development (weight value 0.239) and guaranteed issuance of land rights certificate on Sustainable Food Agriculture (Weight value 0.081).

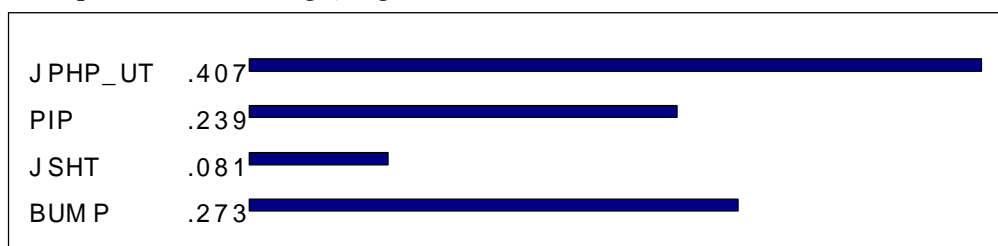


Figure 5. AHP Output of Government Policy Criteria

Source: Primary Data, processed 2018

The Sequences of Alternative Strategy for Youth Interest Enhancement as Effort of Agricultural Revitalization in Klaten Regency.

Based on the results of AHP analysis as a whole, the three priority alternatives from the institutional aspect namely the formation of youth farmer groups becomes the most priority compared with other alternatives in an effort to enhance youth interest in agricultural sector of Klaten regency. Followed on the second priority is infrastructure of Instructor and Human Resources Agricultural Instructor which is not

converted and transferred. Then self-help and private instructor must be optimized. The fourth priority of human resource (HR) aspects is education and training which is focused on increasing farmers' competence in technological innovation and research, cultivation, post-harvest, processing and marketing. The following is a complete sequence of priority strategies to enhance youth interest as effort of agriculture revitalization in Klaten Regency as a whole based on AHP calculation can be seen in the table and the output below.

Table 5. The Sequences of Alternative Strategies for Youth Interest Enhancement as Effort of Agriculture Revitalization in Klaten Regency.

No	Alternative/Program	Wight Value	Description
1	Formation of Farmer groups for youth	0,157	Institution
2	Infrastructure and facilities of Instructor and human resources of agricultural instructors are not converted and transferred	0,136	Institution
3	Self-help and private instructor should be optimized	0,136	Institution
4	Education and training is focused on improving farmers' competence in technological innovation and research procedures, cultivation, post-harvest, processing, and marketing	0,132	HR

5	Each instructor should reorganize at least 5 young farmers who were intensively guided at the Agricultural Counseling Center actively	0,120	Institution
6	Guarantee of marketing agricultural products for farming	0,110	Government Policy
7	Encourage and facilitate the establishment of Farmers Owned Enterprise to develop business partnerships and increase added value of Agricultural Commodities.	0,074	Government Policy
8	Development of agricultural infrastructure	0,55	Government Policy
9	Developing agricultural based vocational education	0,25	HR
10	Giving scholarships for students of agricultural vocational school	0,23	HR
11	Guarantee the issuance of land rights certificates in Sustainable Food Farming Land.	0,22	Government Policy

Source: Primary data, processed 2018

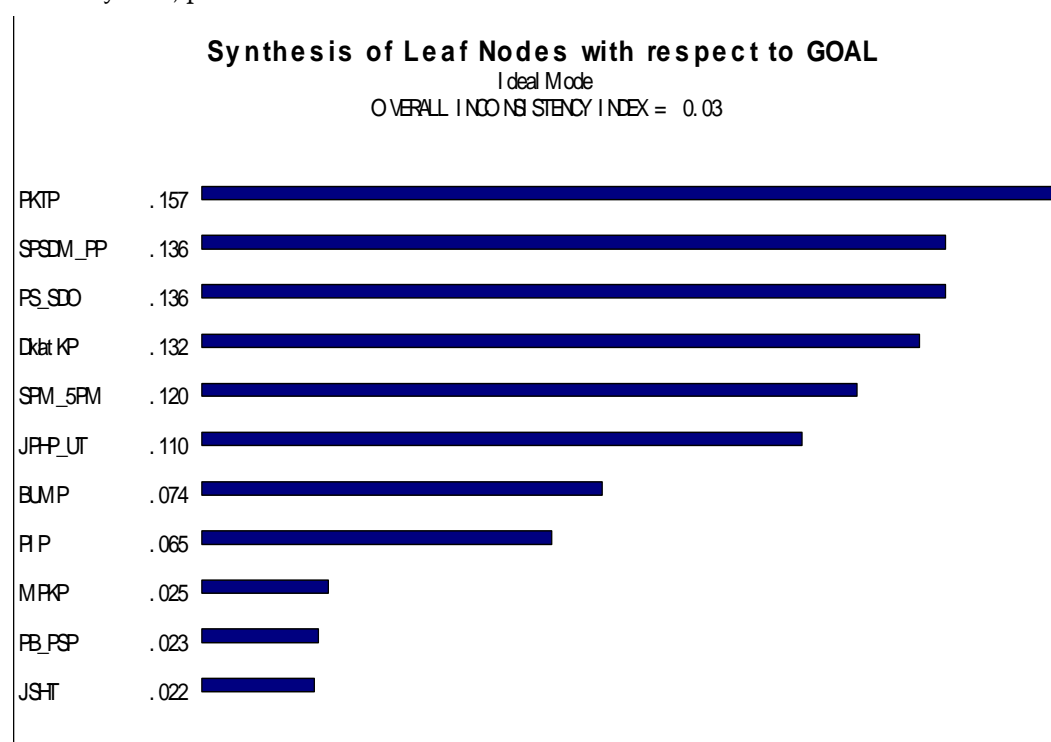


Figure 6. Output Sequence of Strategies for Youth Interest Enhancement as Effort of Agricultural Revitalization in Klaten Regency

Source: Primary data, processed 2018

This strategy of youth interest enhancement is not only concentrated on on-farm but also off-farm which includes cultivation process up to farm product marketing. It is expected that this strategy can work well, which in turn can attract youth to plunge into agriculture world as well as increase work force of farmers. Currently youth farmers in Klaten district began to be recorded in order to make youth farmer groups. The existence of this group

is expected to create new innovations and ideas for the development of Klaten. In addition, it is also a pioneer for other young people by showing the success gained from agricultural sector.

CONCLUSION

Agricultural sector in Klaten Regency still become livelihood and majority income of the society even though the number of its workforce is decreasing. SIMPI data (Indonesian Food Management Information System) in the early 2018 shows the population of Klaten regency who work as farmers and farm laborers as many as 83,627 people. Some of the obstacles are: low farmer welfare, low youth perception on agriculture, parents do not introduce agricultural sector, lack of youth knowledge about agriculture, and government policies that are still not in favor with farmers.

Institutional criteria is the most prioritized aspects in enhancing youth interest as effort of agricultural revitalization in Klaten Regency, then the second priority is human resources criteria (HR), and the last is government policy criteria. Alternatives program which have been prioritized namely formation of youth farmers' groups; infrastructure and facilities of instructor and HR of Agricultural instructor are not converted and transferred; self-help and private instructor should be optimized.

Some solutions to overcome those problems such as; providing more incentives to improve farmers welfare and harvest guarantee, providing counseling to parents about agriculture in a broad way, early recognition of agriculture, providing socialization and training, and better evaluate or revise agricultural policies. Participation is needed from all parties ranging from academics, institutional farmers, peasant entrepreneurs, and youth as well as relevant government agencies so that efforts to enhance youth interest in agricultural sector of Klaten Regency can run well and continuously.

The Government of Klaten District should pay more attention to the aspects that have been studied. Institutional aspect, the opening of farmer training institutions in order to further

optimize the function of agricultural instructor to become youth farmer training center. Human resource aspect, youth is to be given education about agriculture and encourage the growth of entrepreneurial spirit in agriculture. The government's policy aspect is to provide more incentives to farmers, in the form of agricultural pricing policies by the government.

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