



## The Role of Female Farm Workers in the Economic Resilience of Families in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman District

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### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This research aims to explore the contribution of female agricultural workers in strengthening family economic resilience from a sharia economic perspective.

**Design/Method/Approach:** This research is field research with a qualitative descriptive approach. The informants in this research were 10 female farm workers in the Koto Balingka District. Data collection techniques include observation, interviews, and documentation, and data analysis techniques used are data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion.

**Findings:** The research results highlight the significant role of female agricultural workers in three main aspects of agricultural activities, namely planting, weeding, and harvesting. Among the three forms of agricultural labor, women tend to dominate the role of weeding and harvesting in the agricultural sector. Not only are there differences in the division of labor, but in terms of wages, there are also differences where women's wages are IDR 80,000 per day, while men's wages are IDR 100,000. Factors that encourage women to work as agricultural laborers include difficult economic conditions, low levels of education, and limited employment opportunities. Their participation has a very important impact on the economic security of the family because their contribution helps improve the economic stability of the household. However, we need to recognize that there are negative impacts, such as changes in traditional roles within the family. The role of female agricultural workers in increasing family economic resilience can also be understood from a sharia economic perspective. By paying attention to indicators of family economic resilience, their role can be considered to have made a significant contribution

**Originality/Values:** This research analyzes the economic contribution of female agricultural workers to the family's income and economic resilience from a sharia economic perspective. This research aims to evaluate the role of gender in agricultural activities and assess the economic welfare of the families of female agricultural workers within the framework of sharia economics.

## INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector in Indonesia is one of the main sectors of economic activity. Because the agricultural sector is not only the backbone of the economy but also an important pillar in creating jobs. Behind the glittering economy, agriculture is not just a business map but a magnificent stage where land is not just a place to grow crops, but an arena where foreign exchange appears as the main star through exports and industrial raw materials become colorful elements. As a tireless hero. This sector also participates in the fight against poverty<sup>1</sup>. Agriculture in Indonesia is not just about creating life, but rather a magnificent stage where every individual can experience extraordinary nuances. Employment is not only an entry point for men but also a call for the tireless enthusiasm of women.

Women's involvement in the realm of work has made a major contribution to family welfare, especially in the economic sector<sup>2</sup>. Women's participation in the world of work in Indonesia and some countries continues to soar, driven by factors such as wider educational opportunities, the success of family planning programs, the presence of childcare centers, and the rapid development of technology that allows women to take care of family problems and issues. Work at once. Increasing women's involvement not only impacts the structure of the labor market but also stimulates the well-being of individual women and their families. The role of women in the world of work not only contributes to family income but also provides positive encouragement for all family members<sup>3</sup>.

During changing times, the needs in the family are increasing, the prices of necessities are getting higher, plus the needs of children when entering the world of education are a test for the head of the family to increase their income so that they can meet the family's needs. Situations like this force women to assume a dual role from their role as wives who should concentrate on their duties as household managers, now also shouldering the burden of being responsible farm workers in terms of meeting the family's needs<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Cut Intan and Richa Meliza, "The Lives of Female Farm Workers in Helping the Household Economy," *Journal, Aceh Anthropological* 5, no. 1 (2021): 83–90.

<sup>2</sup> Muhammad Ikhsan and Waza Karia Akbar, "The Impact of the Dual Role of Female Farm Workers on Domestic Life" 05, no. 04 (2023): 13356–61.

<sup>3</sup> Rezki Andayani, "Development Policy and Management Review (DPMR) The Role of Female Farmworkers in the Family Economy: Case Study of Majannang Village. The Role of Female Farmhand in The Family Income: A Case Study of Majannang Village Between Men and Women. *Gender Adal*" 2, no. 1 (2022): 66–84.

<sup>4</sup> Ikhsan and Akbar, "The Impact of the Dual Role of Female Farm Workers on Domestic Life."

Since ancient times, women have often been involved in domestic activities such as household tasks. They are often associated with domestic work<sup>5</sup>. Meanwhile, men are often associated with the public environment and work outside the home<sup>6</sup>. In the social structure, women find it difficult to match the position of men. Women who want to take part in the world of work find it difficult to escape from their responsibilities in the family environment. In this case, women do not have the power to avoid this dual role because their duties as household members are a general cultural perception<sup>7</sup>. Normatively, it is often said that men must work to earn a living for their families<sup>8</sup>. While women have a working area in taking care of the household, it can be interpreted by some people that a woman/wife/mother has three functions, namely cooking, giving birth, and decorating<sup>9</sup>. However, the reality is that apart from completing household work, women/wives also play an active role in earning a living<sup>10</sup>.

The increasing numbers of female workers, especially women who are already married, assume two roles at once, namely the domestic role covering work matters within a family and the public role, namely taking care of work outside the home by producing something of economic value. This dual position of working women is difficult because when working women prioritize family over work, their performance will decrease and conversely, if a woman prioritizes work over family, she will make many sacrifices for her family. This dilemmatic situation is experienced by a working woman at some point in her life. However, many working women are unable to carry out these dual responsibilities proportionally and there is often an imbalance between work within the family and outside the home<sup>11</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> Eka Putri Hardiyanti, Firman, and Rusdinal, "The Dual Role of Women in Supporting the Household Economy to Meet Family Needs on the Musi River, South Sumatra," *Tambusai Education Journal* 3, no. 6 (2019): 1549–55.

<sup>6</sup> Muhammad Hasan Sebyar, "The Role of Women in Improving Family Welfare from Maqashid Syariah Perspective," *Islamic Law* 21, no. 2 (2021): 186–204.

<sup>7</sup> Syafrul Antoni et al., "The Role of Career Women in Increasing Family Economic Income in Kerinci Regency," *LABATILA: Journal of Islamic Economics* 5, no. 02 (2022): 129–47.

<sup>8</sup> Sebyar, "The Role of Women in Improving Family Welfare from Maqashid Syariah Perspective."

<sup>9</sup> Mince Yare, "The Dual Role of Women Traders in Improving Family Welfare in Karang Mulia Village, Samofa District, Biak Regency Numfor the Dual Role of Women Traders in Improving Family Welfare in Karang Mulia Village, Samofa District, Biak Regency Numfor," *Copi Susu* 3, no. 2 (2021): 1–12.

<sup>10</sup> (Tri Kuntari Devira, nd)

<sup>11</sup> Rizka Nasution, "The Role of Career Women in Improving the Family Economy Seen from Islamic Economics (Case Study at the Environmental Service of North Sumatra Province)," *Sibatik Journal* 1, no. 4 (2022): 393–402.

Based on 2018 BPS data, the number of female farmers is around 8 million, meaning that 24% of the 25.4 million farmers in Indonesia are female farmers. Agriculture is still the sector most in demand by women, regardless of social status, education, and ability. The involvement of women in the agricultural sector has a positive impact on developing the agricultural economy and can increase family income<sup>12</sup>. This shows that wives do not only depend on their husbands' income. For the welfare of the family, now women also take part in earning money by working as agricultural laborers. There is not just one type of agricultural laborer job but many of them, agricultural laborers for paddy fields, paddy fields, chilies, peanuts, corn, and so on. Even though working as a farm laborer takes a lot of energy, regardless of whether the weather is hot or rainy, they are still willing to work to help increase the family's income.

One of the factors that trigger women to join as agricultural workers is that they are faced with mounting economic pressure in their households. Especially when the husband's income is insufficient or the husband does not work, the husband is sick and the standard of living needs increase<sup>13</sup>. Order not to depend on her husband, to avoid boredom or to fill her free time as well as to gain status and develop herself are also factors for women who are married to work.<sup>14</sup> Besides that, research<sup>15</sup> about gender conflict in the labor market for women farmers, a phenomenological study of women farmers in making work decisions. Mentioning that the driving factor for women to work is because their husband's income is low, the number of family responsibilities that must be supported is increasing. The reason for choosing to become a farm laborer is due to low education and experience as a farm laborer since childhood<sup>16</sup>.

Besides that<sup>17</sup>. In his research, he also stated that the reason why women work is because the family's economic conditions are low. Apart from economic factors, socio-cultural conditions can also influence women's decisions to work<sup>18</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> Ari Widiawati, "Motivating Women to Work as Farm Workers (Study of Farm Workers in Large Chili and Tomato Plant Entrepreneurs in Yasomulyo Village, Banyuwangi Regency," *SOCIOLOGY X* (2022): 278–85.

<sup>13</sup> Riva Dila Yarsiah and Alia Azmi, "The Double Burden of Female Farm Workers in Jorong Limpato Nagari Kajai, Talamau District, West Pasaman Regency," *Journal of Civic Education* 3, no. 3 (2020): 250–56, <https://doi.org/10.24036/jce.v3i3.367>.

<sup>14</sup> Fathul Aminudin Aziz Akhris, "The Influence of Women in Family Economic Security. Case Study of Women Weaving Pandan Mat Crafts in Pesahangan Village, Cimanggu, Cilacap," 2016, 1–23.

<sup>15</sup> Kristina & Immamudin

<sup>16</sup> Kristina and Immamudin.

<sup>17</sup> Yogi et al,

<sup>18</sup> Yogi et al.

Women's participation in family economic security is not only an integral element but also brings a sense of vitality to the economic sector. Women not only play the role of family guide, child educator, and husband's companion, but they also contribute to the family income. Currently, women's involvement is not only about seeking equal rights, but rather emphasizing their role which has important meaning in developing Indonesian society. In general, the reasons why women work are to help the family financially, economic uncertainty, rising prices of necessities, and instability in family income. This is a condition where women who previously only worked in the domestic sector (taking care of the household), then participate in the public sector by contributing to supporting the family's economy.<sup>19</sup> Considering the many discussions about family economic resilience, the author only limits the discussion to the concept of family economic resilience from a *Sharia* economic perspective.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research is a field research approach Qualitative descriptive, allows us to understand and describe phenomena that occur in the field. The focus is on the actual situation faced when the research was conducted<sup>20</sup>. Through this qualitative approach, we can describe in detail the challenges and dynamics experienced by women farmers and their impact on the family's economic resilience. Data collection methods used include observation, interviews, and documentation. Observations were carried out to understand the attitudes of female farmers in the context of family economic security, while interviews focused on the direct experiences and views of female agricultural workers in the Koto Balingka sub-district. In analyzing data, this approach uses reduction techniques, data presentation, and conclusions. With this approach, we can produce an in-depth understanding of the role of female agricultural workers in achieving family economic security, especially from a *Shariah* economic perspective. With this approach, it is hoped that this research will be able to provide a deeper understanding and solution to the economic challenges faced by farming families in the Koto Balingka sub-district, West Pasaman Regency.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Forms of Work of Female Farm Workers in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency**

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<sup>19</sup> Fathul Aminudin Aziz Akhris, "The Influence of Women in Family Economic Security. Case Study of Women Weaving Pandan Mat Crafts in Pesahangan Village, Cimanggu, Cilacap."

<sup>20</sup> Sugiono, Educational Research Methods, Quantitative, Qualitative Approaches (Alfabeta, nd).

A worker is someone who works to earn wages/salary<sup>21</sup>. Farming is the activity of cultivating agricultural products or raising livestock products to earn a living from the activities carried out<sup>22</sup>. Meanwhile, what is meant by an agricultural laborer is someone who carries out work/activities in rice fields or agricultural fields without bearing the risk of the harvest and aims to earn wages.<sup>23</sup> Farmers often need help managing their land. They employ farm laborers to help complete the various jobs that need to be done on their land. Farm laborers are individuals who work on someone else's land to earn wages. They fall into various categories, including daily agricultural laborers who usually have daily work contracts and receive pay based on the number of days worked<sup>24</sup>. It should be noted that work as agricultural laborers is not only limited to men but also involves the contribution of women. This shows that gender equality has a significant role in the agricultural sector.

Men and women in farming families in Koto Balingka District both work in the productive realm. However, in Koto Balingka District the involvement of male farm workers is greater than that of female farm workers. However, the involvement of female agricultural workers cannot be ignored. The role of female agricultural workers in Koto Balingka District has contributed to meeting the economic needs of their families. For donating your thoughts, time, and energy. In carrying out his role as a farm worker. There are several forms of agricultural labor work carried out by women, namely:

1. Planter. During the planting season, women are often involved in planting rice, chilies, corn, and vegetables. If the plants have grown then the next job is weeding.
2. Weeding (grass cleaning). During the weeding period, their work is weeding grass and weeds that interfere with plant growth, fertilizing, and spraying pests.
3. Harvest. During the harvest period, the activities of agricultural laborers, for example in harvesting rice, include grazing or cutting the rice, crushing or threshing the rice by the stalks, and transporting the harvest to the place desired by the owner. Farm laborers' working hours are from 8 am to 4 pm. Meanwhile, the standard wage/salary they get from their work is IDR 80,000

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<sup>21</sup> Oktri Kartika Dewi and Puji Lestari, "The Dual Role of Women Farm Workers in Bojong Village, Mungkid District, Magelang Regency," *E-Societas* 6, no. 5 (2017): 22–25.

<sup>22</sup> Intan and Meliza, "The Lives of Female Farm Workers in Helping the Household Economy."

<sup>23</sup> Dewi and Lestari, "The Dual Role of Women Farm Workers in Bojong Village, Mungkid District, Magelang Regency."

<sup>24</sup> Dewi and Lestari.

per day. However, their wages can be received right on the weekend. However, if there are farm workers who need a daily salary, the land owner will provide wages according to the farm worker's wishes. However, usually wages/salaries are given on weekends.

Among the three forms of agricultural labor, women tend to dominate the role of weeding and harvesting in the agricultural sector. At the weeding stage, women are often involved in cleaning weeds around the plants. Meanwhile, in the harvesting process, women are often involved in harvesting agricultural products. Although planting is also an important part of the agricultural cycle, women are more likely to be involved in the weeding and harvesting stages because these tasks are often more suited to their abilities and skills. This reflects the traditional division of labor in many agrarian societies, where women are often responsible for activities that require painstaking work. Not only are there differences in the division of labor, but in terms of wages, there are differences where women's wages are IDR 80,000 per day, while men's wages are IDR 100,000 per day.

### **Factors that cause women to work as farm workers in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency**

Women have often been looked down upon and not given the same access as men, especially when entering the public world. A strong patriarchal culture is a major barrier for women. However, the feminist spirit has opened the door for women to play an active role in the public sphere. However, in practice, women's rights are often violated, especially in the workplace, where many women experience exploitation and violations of regulations set by the government. As a result, many working women experience oppression and unpleasant treatment, even resulting in termination of employment (PHK) or resignation. Therefore, other efforts are needed to create economically independent women<sup>25</sup>.

Women's participation in public spaces has a significant positive impact on the economy. Ihromi highlighted that women's roles include socialization, reproduction, and production functions, while according to Rahma Sugiharti's opinion presented in the work of Suyanto and Hendrarso in 2006, women's production roles are recognized as an economic resource that is no less important than men. Even though they are often limited to reproductive functions, women have greater potential than just being sexual symbols in the

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<sup>25</sup> Azizah Alie and Yelly Elanda, "Women and Family Economic Security (Study in Kue Rungkut Village, Surabaya)," *Journal of Urban Sociology* 2, no. 2 (2020): 31, <https://doi.org/10.30742/jus.v2i2.995>.

family. They can make a significant contribution to the economic stability of their families<sup>26</sup>.

The contribution of female agricultural workers is very large in strengthening the family economy. Women who work as agricultural laborers can increase their family's economic security. The large number of women who work as agricultural laborers is caused by several factors, one of which is the husband's low income. In conducting research, to find out the factors behind women working as farm workers, the author conducted direct interviews with female farm workers in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency. The factors behind women working as agricultural laborers in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency are:

#### 1. Economic Situation

Economics plays a role in freeing humans from the grip of poverty. With a sufficient economy, a person will be able to live a decent and peaceful life<sup>27</sup>. Likewise, a low economy will have an impact on the family's economic resilience and also family welfare. Economic factors are one of the factors that can influence a married woman's decision to work. Until now, women who work have only been seen as a source of additional income for the family. However, this does not always happen, women who work can also maintain their family's economy. The reasons why female agricultural workers work as agricultural laborers are the husband's low income, the husband does not work, and the husband is sick.

#### 2. Low Level of Education

Education level can influence a person's employment level. Therefore, education is very important for everyone, but in reality, there are still many people who do not go to school, not because they don't want to, but because they don't have the money to continue their education. So inevitably those with low levels of education choose to work as agricultural laborers because working as agricultural laborers does not require special skills. Based on the author's interview with one of the female farm workers.

In interviews that the author has conducted with people who work as female agricultural workers. The underlying factor behind them working as farm laborers is the lack of job opportunities due to limited education. This factor encourages them to work as agricultural laborers.

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<sup>26</sup> Alie and Elanda.

<sup>27</sup> Narilah A. Tuara, "The Role of Women in Improving the Family Economy (Case Study of Women in Sulamadaha Village, West Ternate District, Ternate City)," *Journal of the American Chemical Society* 123, no. 10 (2022): 2176–81.



### 3. Limited Job Opportunities

Getting a job is everyone's dream. But not everyone is lucky enough to get a decent job. Nowadays, many people complain about the difficulty of getting a job. Especially for those who have a low educational background, especially in rural areas. Limited employment opportunities encourage them to work as farmers, which is one of the main employment opportunities.

From several explanations in the author's analysis, if we look at the factors that cause women to work as agricultural laborers, it is that women work as agricultural laborers, sometimes not because they want to, but because of economic pressure. Now many women who live in rural areas decide to work as agricultural laborers. This is caused by factors. *First*, the low economy. The family's economic limitations have required them to take part in activities to earn a living for their family. *Secondly*, the low level of education. Their low level of education and skills encourage them to work as agricultural laborers because working as agricultural laborers does not require a diploma or special skills. *Third*, Limited job opportunities. Limited employment opportunities are one of the factors that encourage women in the Koto Balingka District to work as agricultural laborers. These three factors are the background for women in the Koto Balingka District working as agricultural laborers.

#### **The Impact of Female Farm Workers on Family Economic Security in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency**

In the dynamics of family economic security, the strategic role of women or wives cannot be underestimated. With all the potential they have, as partners in the family journey, women's role has important leverage for the good and welfare of the household. Improving the quality of family life requires women's active contribution to maintaining the family's economic resilience. This challenge encourages women to take part in efforts to increase family income through various means, as expressed by.<sup>28</sup>

With women starting to work as agricultural laborers, there was a shift in roles in reproductive tasks. The task of caring for children, which should be the main responsibility of women, is often entrusted to other family members such as grandmothers or sisters. However, the presence of women in the world of work brings additional income that can help meet the family's economic needs. In addition, this also makes it possible to increase access to education for their

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<sup>28</sup> Beti Mulu Leni Saleh, "The Role of Women Farmers Making Thatched Roofs in Increasing Family Income in an Islamic Economic Perspective (Case Study in Konawe Regency)," *Islamic Economics and Business Studies* 2 (2017).

children. The following will explain the impact of female agricultural workers before and after becoming agricultural workers:

Table 1

| The Impact of Female Farm Workers on Family Economic Security |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| The Impact of Female Farm Workers on Family Economic Security | Before working as a farm laborer               | After working as a farm laborer  |
| Homeownership   | Semi-permanent house                           | Permanent home   |
| Family income   | Low, due to economic uncertainty               | Increased income through working as a farm laborer                               |
| Children's education  | Limited by economic limitations                | Increase access to education for children, and improve the quality of education. |
| Family Health   | Just have free health care from the government | Have had a paid health card, due to better income.                               |

Based on the description above, the author's analysis shows that the presence of women in the world of work makes the best contribution to their families. They can improve the economy of the family, and the daily needs of the family can be met. However, the entry of women into the world of work certainly does not always have a positive impact, but the negative impact of women working as agricultural laborers is changes in the dynamics of relationships within the household. There is a shift in traditional roles in the family, where men, who are usually the main breadwinner, become less dominant in that role. This can affect the power dynamics in the household and cause feelings of lack of self-confidence or loss of identity as the main breadwinner, increasing stress and family instability.

Women who work as agricultural laborers experience double pressure because they have to divide their time between work outside the home and household responsibilities. The negative impact is that social relations within the family weaken because the woman has to work to meet her family's needs. This weakening of social relations is characterized by a lack of love and attention towards children, which greatly influences their way of thinking. This also has an impact on the husband-wife relationship, because each party is busy and lacks time together. Apart from that, the lack of harmony in sexual relations also

occurs due to frequent rejection from the wife, who feels tired after working all day and taking care of the household.

### **The Role of Female Farm Workers in Family Economic Security from a Sharia Economic Perspective in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency**

Economic security is related to the ability of a community or family to use available resources to meet their basic needs. Family economic resilience is a dynamic condition of the family regarding perseverance and strength in dealing with various challenges, threats, obstacles, and disturbances on the part of external and internal continuity, directly or indirectly, the family's economic continuity.<sup>29</sup>

A family's material capability can be interpreted as their economic empowerment in facing financial challenges, based on available resources. A family's economic resilience is realized when they can fulfill several important indicators, such as housing, income, child education support, and financial security.

Based on indicators of family economic resilience, it can be concluded that women who work as agricultural laborers can improve their family's economy. Apart from that, their contribution helps ease the husband's burden because the husband's income is insufficient. The income earned by women as agricultural laborers can be considered high in improving family welfare. Thus, it can be concluded that female agricultural workers can fulfill the four indicators of family economic resilience. This is supported by the results of the author's interviews with informants who show that the economy of female farm workers in Koto Balingka District has experienced significant development, as can be seen from the increase in house construction. Previously, their houses were generally semi-permanent and uninhabitable.

In Koto Balingka District, the majority of the population has completed basic education. However, after they started working as farm laborers, their economy developed rapidly. Evidence of this is the significant change in housing infrastructure, with many homes now permanent and habitable, even quite large. Not only that, education has also increased, especially for female farmers. Now, many of them continue their education to secondary level and even college. In addition, female agricultural workers are also starting to have savings, indicating significant economic and financial progress.

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<sup>29</sup> M Figo Abdi Ragyl et al, "Efforts for Family Economic Resilience During the Pandemic and Post-Covid-19 in Sukatani Village, Wanasalam District" 2, no. 2 (2022): 269–76.

The development of the times which has brought an increase in population has also resulted in an increase in the variety and number of human needs, both primary and secondary. To meet these needs, it is important to follow the sequence of household needs, but not all needs can be met.

In life, every need to be met requires sacrifice. Humans are ordered to work to fulfill these needs. Currently, the role and participation of all groups are very important to ensure the smooth fulfillment of needs, including women. Women's economic role in the family is now very vital; some even become the main support of the family<sup>30</sup>. However, in society, views are divided into two; some believe that women should only be at home to serve their husbands and play a role in the household, while other views emphasize the importance of women's freedom. This dispute arises because the concept of women's rights as a whole has not been fully fulfilled<sup>31</sup>.

### **Family Economic Security Seen from Sharia Economics**

To achieve family prosperity according to Islamic economic principles, meeting family needs is important. Syahtan (1998) states that the economic goal of Muslim families is to create a living environment full of peace and security, as well as ensure the fulfillment of material and spiritual needs. Chapra clearly illustrates the close connection between Islamic principles and the interests of the Ummah. As part of Islamic teachings, Islamic economics has goals that are inseparable from the main purpose of Islam itself. The main purpose of Islamic economics is to create happiness in this world and the hereafter (*falah*), as well as to create a noble and honorable life (*al-hayat al-tayyibah*)<sup>32</sup>.

Imam Al-Ghazali's view of economic activity emphasizes that it is part of the social responsibility established by Allah SWT. If this obligation is ignored, the consequences will damage world life and endanger the survival of humanity. Al-Ghazali also formulated three reasons why individuals should be involved in economic activities: first, to fulfill their own living needs; second, to create prosperity for themselves and their families; and third, to provide assistance to others in need<sup>33</sup>.

From these three formulations, it can be seen that a person's welfare depends on the adequacy of their needs. Welfare, according to Al-Ghazali, is

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<sup>30</sup> Tri Handayani, Drs Nurwahidin, and M Ag, "The Contribution of Men and Women in the Family Economy from an Islamic Perspective" 9, no. 01 (2023): 1071–79.

<sup>31</sup> Tanto Fatkhurrozi Mohamad Toha, Khoiron Hasan, "The Role of Career Women in Islamic Economics," *Sharia and Islamic Law* 1, no. 3 (2016): 50–63.

<sup>32</sup> Muhammad Umer Chapra, *The Future of Economics: An Islamic Review* (GEMA INSANI, 2001).

<sup>33</sup> Abu Hamid Ghazali, *Al-Mustashtashfa Min Ilmi Ushul*, 1991.

known as "*maslahah*" where material needs are one of the indicators. This shows that human happiness cannot be separated from financial factors, which are the main source of fulfilling basic needs such as clothing, food, and shelter.<sup>34</sup>

The following are several levels of the problem of female agricultural workers that have been fulfilled, namely as follows:

Table 2  
Levels of Problems of Female Farm Workers

| No | Explanation   |
|----|---|
| 1  | <i>Maslahah Dharriyat</i> , or primary needs, are basic needs and consist of religion, soul, reason, heredity, and property.  |
| 2  | <i>Maslahah Hajjiyyah</i> , or secondary needs, refers to aspects that lead to pleasure and comfort in life. According to an informant, achieving sufficient income allows a person to obtain the goods they want without becoming consumptive. |
| 3  | <i>Maslahah Tahsiniyat</i> (tertiary) includes aesthetic needs that provide decoration and luxury, exceed basic needs and essential needs, and provide pleasure in life.  |

Based on these three levels of *maslahah*, the informant was only able to fulfill the levels of *maslahah-dharuriyah* (essential interest) and *hajjiyyah* (complementary interest). Meanwhile, the problem of *tahsiniyat* has not been fulfilled. The Al-Quran has perfectly explained welfare, namely the welfare of individuals who have strong monotheism, and fulfill their basic needs without overdoing it, thereby creating a safe, comfortable, and peaceful atmosphere to achieve happiness in this world and the hereafter (*falah*).

## CONCLUSION

There are three forms of work for female agricultural laborers in Koto Balingka District, West Pasaman Regency, namely planting, weeding, and harvesting. However, among the three forms of agricultural labor, women tend to dominate the role of weeding and harvesting in the agricultural sector. Apart from differences in the distribution of monkeys, there are also differences in terms of wages, where the wages for female workers are IDR 80,000, while the wages for male workers are IDR 100,000. Factors that cause women to become agricultural laborers include economic aspects, low levels of education, and

<sup>34</sup> Adiwarman Azwar Karim, *History of Islamic Economic Thought* (Jakarta: Grafindo Persada, 2008).

limited employment opportunities. Consequently, women's participation in agricultural labor has a significant impact on family economic security. They not only meet daily needs but also improve the family's quality of life. However, it should be noted that this may also change traditional roles within the family, with men becoming less dominant in the role of breadwinner. The sharia economic perspective emphasizes that family economic resilience has been achieved with women's participation in agricultural labor, according to existing indicators.■

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