ABSTRACT

Participation is an important factor on community development process, and applied through some government programs or projects. However, from those programs, the main objective of community empowerment is not achieved, mainly the sustainability of the self-help farmers. What is really the constraint behind the unsuccessful of those programs? The answer is no or very little participation from the client of the programs. This research is trying to find type of variables contribute to the willingness of sheep farmers to participate in Livestock Agribusiness Development Programs (PPA) of Ministry of Agriculture which approach by direct credit finance (BPLM) to the farmers. The research covered 100 sheep farmers in 4 livestock farmer groups at 4 sub-districts of Bogor district, West Java Province, namely Cigudeg, Megamendung, Caringin and Cariu sub-districts. The research results show that some variables are significantly correlated to the willingness of the farmers to participate on the PPA project. Those variables are (1) the accessibility of finance, (2) perception of the program and (3) the availability of training activities. Although this program is giving the finance in a credit scheme, not grant, but the farmers accept the credit because there is no interest rate at all, or even there is, the rate is very low. The learning process of the farmers is going on. The farmers learn how to access to the bank and how to do better management of their livestock to be able to return the loan as stated in the contract. Perception mainly correlated to participation in the programs are: (1) easy way of returning the loan, (2) low interest rate and (3) easy procedure to access the credit.

Key words: Participation, credit, agribusiness