LEADING FOOD CROPS AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AS EFFORTS TO REDUCE RURAL POVERTY

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ABSTRACT:
This research aimed to solve the problem of the low productivity and competitiveness of food crop farming due to the not yet integrated farming system and upstream and downstream production, low quality of human resources of farmers, and poor transportation infrastructure, resulting in higher poverty in rural farmers in Muna Regency. The results of the superior analysis of agricultural food crops were corn LQ 1.65, field rice LQ 1.68, peanuts LQ 3.22, cassava LQ 3.11, sweet potatoes LQ 2.16. The results of the poverty analysis using the World Bank approach. The rural poverty line is US $ 50 X IDR 14,176 = IDR 708,800 per capita per year. Urban poverty line of US $ 75 X IDR 14,176 = IDR 1,063,200 per capita per year. Based on the results of the Location Quotient (LQ) analysis and the analysis of the poverty line based on the World Bank approach, food crop agriculture has high production, and farmers have high-income so that it can alleviate the poverty of rural farmers.

INTRODUCTION

Poverty arises because of the inability of the population to carry out their lives to a level that is considered human. This cycle of poverty continues, because those with low income are unable to access education, health, and nutrition facilities properly, which causes the quality of human resources to be low and

consequently low productivity (Sanchez et al., 2020). Furthermore, it is stated that the poor people in Indonesia who live in rural areas are characterized by vulnerability, powerlessness, isolation, and inability to convey their aspirations, these conditions result in (1) the high socio-economic burden of society, (2) low quality and productivity of human resources, (3) low active community participation, (4) decreasing public order and public order, (5) decreased public trust in the bureaucracy in providing services to the community, and (6) the deterioration of the quality of future generations.

Agricultural development can be a tool for poverty alleviation because it has a long *backward linkage* and a long *forward linkage*. The backward linkage of the agricultural sector will spur rural economic growth so that it can gradually solve the problem of poverty in rural areas. Indirectly, this condition will trigger an increase in the productivity of rural communities, thereby reducing the flow of urbanization. The future linkages will spur the growth of the agricultural input supply industry and at the same time encourage the growth and development of agricultural product processing industries which will have a *multiplier effect*, which will result in equitable and sustainable economic growth. It is necessary to develop strategies and policies that place the agricultural sector as one of the leading sectors in economic development and rural poverty alleviation in Muna Regency.

METHOD

The approach in the implementation of this research is (a) a participatory approach, which is a process that emphasizes the involvement and role of related parties (government, private sector, and society); (b) a collaborative approach, which is a process of building a common viewpoint, cooperation and synergy of the roles of related parties (government, private sector, and society); (c) A sustainable approach namely, as a process directed at the continuity and sustainability of the development of leading tourism objects in the long term.

The method includes three main activities, namely (a) A survey of the location/area of food crop agriculture in Muna Regency, which aims to collect quantitative and qualitative data and information related to the focus of attention or the target of this research; (i) the social, economic and cultural conditions of the community, (ii) the existence of supporting facilities and infrastructure (iii) the conditions for the development of investment in food crop agriculture. (b) Analysis of data using models and analysis methods directed at the development of superior food crop agriculture, namely: (i) analysis of the carrying capacity of the land, (ii) analysis of superior agricultural commodities, (iii) analysis of rural poverty alleviation.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The results of the analysis of this research include identification of potential resources of farmers and farmland, the potential for the development of food crops agriculture, analysis of superior agricultural food crops, analysis of rural

poverty alleviation based on food crop agricultural resources in Muna Regency.

1. Identification of Farmers Potential Resources and Farmland

Potential Resources of farmers and farmland are the main determinants in improving the performance of rural food crop farming (Byerlee, de Janvry & Sadaulet, 2005). Improvement of farmer resources and farmland is identified subjectively from the respondent's perceptions of what they see or experience in the implementation of food crop farming activities in rural areas.

a) Farmer's education: Education is one of the elements that determine the level of knowledge, workability, and skills of everyone in carrying out and completing their work, including in efforts to increase production and quality of production, which in turn increases farmer's income. The results showed that the education level of the respondents in the study area was relatively low or as much as 83.33 percent of the education level of farmers was only able to complete education at the elementary and junior high school levels. This low level of education greatly affects the skills and insights of farmers in increasing the productivity and quality of their farming to obtain high levels of income and reducing poverty for rural farmers in Muna Regency.

b) Family dependents: The family dependents of a household greatly affect the level of welfare of the family concerned. The results showed that 75.00 percent of respondents had 1 to 4 dependents. Meanwhile, those with dependents of 5 people and over were 25.00 percent. The large number of dependents that are not qualified will have an impact on the level of poverty of a family because the resulting agricultural production will be allocated more to meet the consumption needs of family members.

c) Farmer's work ethic: The work ethic or morale of farmers in the study area is seen from the number of working hours used in carrying out their farming activities. The results showed that as many as 79.17 percent of farmers spent 6 to 8 hours working on their farm every day, while 20.83 percent spent 3 to 5 hours a day working on their farm. With a very high work ethic of farmers, it will be a strong foundation in increasing production and alleviating rural poverty in Muna Regency.

d) Feasibility of farmer land ownership: One of the variables that affect the income level of farmers is the feasibility of farming land owned by rural farmers. The results showed, as much as 41.67 percent said it was feasible from the aspect of land area and the aspect of land fertility that was measured by the amount of production. Farmers who said it was not feasible from the aspect of the land area were 37.50 percent. Meanwhile, as many as 20.83 percent said they do not know, they are farmers who have a large enough farming area but low production levels which result in low farmer income levels so that they are always poor.

e) Factors that affect production and farm income: The size and size of the product obtained by farmers will affect the level of income and welfare of farmers. The results showed the factors that greatly influenced the increase in production were transportation infrastructure as much as 22.50 percent, the work ethic of farmers as much as 23.33 percent, pest attacks as much

as 29.17 percent, farming skills as much as 16.67 percent, and the active field agricultural extension amount of 8.33 percent. Rural farmers are aware of the work ethic, pest attacks, and farmer skills of factors that greatly affect the level of production of the farm, but transportation infrastructure factors will determine marketing and selling prices and determine the level of income of rural farmers.

2. Potential of Food Crop Agriculture

Most of the people in Muna Regency work in the agricultural sector, especially food crops. The types of food crops cultivated are lowland rice, field rice, corn, cassava, sweet potatoes, peanuts, soybeans, and green beans. Based on Muna Regency in 2019 figures, the food crop commodity cultivated has the potential to be developed to increase farmers' income and alleviate poverty in rural areas in Muna Regency. The harvested area for food crops can be seen in the following table:

Table 1 Harvested Area for Maize, Soybeans, Peanuts, Green Beans, Cassava, and Sweet Potatoes in Muna Regency 2014–2019

No	Harvested Area (hectare)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1.	Rice Paddy	2.071	1.582	939	852	955	732
2.	Field Rice	1.249	1.082	587	377	742	711
3.	Corn	14.365	13.159	8.791	15.138	9.984	9.741
4.	Cassava	1.234	1.351	861	978	1.132	741
5.	Sweet potato	601	667	205	490	323	340
6.	Peanuts	3.702	3.191	1.338	902	880	1.136
7.	Soy Beans	669	643	891	513	566	37
8.	Green beans	1.402	57	94	117	28	22

Source: Muna Regency in numbers, 2019

In rural areas in Muna Regency, food crop farming as the main driver of community economic activity, productivity is largely determined by labor production factors, so that the work ethic and skills of farmers determine the level of productivity of the farmland. Table 1 above shows the harvest area for all commodities of lowland rice, field rice, corn, cassava, sweet potatoes, peanuts, soybeans and green beans in 2014-2019 has decreased. This condition is due to the conversion of agricultural land for food crops to the housing, service, and industrial sectors. Regarding the development of food crop production in Muna Regency from 2014 to 2019, it can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2 Production of Maize, Soybeans, Peanuts, Green Beans, Cassava, and Sweet Potatoes in Muna Regency 2014-2019

No	Harvested Area (hectare)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1.	Rice Paddy	7.848,0	5.316,0	2.300,0	3.075,6	3.533,5	2.106
2.	Field	3.958	2.569	1.325	1.055,6	580,8	1.174

	Rice						
3.	Corn	35.786	32.007	19.352	35.157	32.602,8	22.816
4.	Cassava	24.293	19.110	25.533	28.678	28.866	18.131
5.	Sweet potato	5.320	5.290	2.176	7.380	4.683	3.851
6.	Peanuts	3.163	2.079	970	8721	792	853
7.	Soy Beans	95	728	772	625	672,6	55
8.	Green beans	73	46	76	102,7	22,4	19

Source: Muna Regency in numbers, 2019

The results of in-depth interviews show that the ability of rural farmers in Muna Regency to achieve high levels of production and income is largely determined by the ability of the farmers concerned, especially farming skills and work ethic. If the farming land is fertile, the farmer's work ethic is high, they have been farming skills, are supported by good farm management. It ensures high levels of production, high quality of production, and farmers get high levels of income. The data in Table 2 shows that the amount of food crop farming is very according to the amount of production in 2014. This condition is due to the decrease in harvested area in all districts in Muna Regency.

Table 3 Harvested Area, Total Production, and Average Production of Food Crops in Muna Regency 2019

No.	Farming commodities	Harvested Area (hectare)	Number of production (Ton)	Production capacity/hectare (Ton)
1.	Paddy rice	732	2.106	2,88
2.	Field rice	711	1.174	1,65
3.	Corn	9.741	22.816	2,34
4.	Cassava	741	18.131	24,47
5.	Sweet potato	340	3.851	11,33
6.	Peanuts	1.136	853	0,75
7.	Soybeans	37	55	1,49
8.	Green beans	22	19	0,86

Source: Muna Regency in numbers, 2019

Table 4 shows the productivity of lowland rice farming 2.88 tons per hectare, field rice commodity 1.65 tons per hectare, corn commodity 2.34 tons per hectare, soybean commodity 1.49 tons per hectare, commodity cassava 24.47 tonnes per hectare, commodity sweet potato 11.33 tonnes per hectare. Based on the potential for food crop production, the commodities of lowland rice, maize, soybeans, cassava, and sweet potatoes have the potential to increase farmers' income, as well as have the opportunity to alleviate farmer poverty in rural Muna Regency.

3. Analysis of Superior Commodities for Food Crop Agriculture

Main commodities of agricultural food crops in Muna Regency are analyzed through two approaches, namely Farm Farming Margin Analysis (*MUT*) and Location Cuotien Analysis (*LQ*) as follows:

a) Farming Margin Analysis (MUT)

The results of research on food crop farming activities, obtained the results of the analysis of the farming business margin as presented in Table 4.

Table 4 shows the results of the analysis of the margin analysis for food crops of maize, upland rice, lowland rice, soybeans, cassava, and sweet potato which have relatively high farming margins. The results of interviews with farmers showed that the mainstay commodities were maize, upland rice, and peanuts, while lowland rice and soybeans were less attractive to local farmers because farmers lacked skills in developing lowland rice and soybeans. Cassava and sweet potato commodities have high production, but the market share for cassava and sweet potato commodities is very limited and the selling price is low.

Table 4 .Margin Analysis of Food Crops Farming (Land area 1 Ha)

No	Mainstay Farming Commodity	Land area	Average/Year			
			Production (ton)	Gross income (IDR)	Production and marketing costs (IDR)	Farm Business Margin (IDR)
1.	Paddy rice	1 Ha	2,88	28.800.000	7.200.000	21.600.000
2.	Field rice	1 Ha	1,65	20.625.000	4.125.000	16.500.000
3.	Corn	1 Ha	2,34	16.380.000	4.095.000	12.285.000
4.	Cassava	1 Ha	24,47	36.705.000	12.846.750	23.858.250
5.	Sweet potato	1 Ha	11,32	33.960.000	11.886.000	22.074.000
6.	Peanuts	1 Ha	0,75	9.000.000	2.700.000	6.300.000
7	Soy Beans	1 Ha	1,49	29.800.000	8.940.000	20.860.000
8.	Green beans	1 Ha	0,86	12.900.000	4.515.000	8.385.000

Source: Muna Regency in numbers, 2019 and primary data in processing, 2020

b) Location Quotient (LQ) Analysis of the Results of Research in Muna Regency on Food Crop Farming activities obtained the following Location Quotient Analysis Results.

Table 5 Location Quotient (LQ) Analysis of Food Crop Commodities

No	Farming Commodities	LQ	Production (ton)/ year	
			Prov. Southeast Sulawesi	Reg. Muna
1.	Corn	1,65	279.170	22.816
2.	Rice fields	0,084	519.170	2.106
3.	Field Rice	1,68	14.512	1.174
4.	Peanuts	3,22	5.470	853
5.	Green beans	0,38	1.035	19
6.	Soybeans	0,74	1.540	55
7.	Sweet potato	3,11	25.740	3.851
8.	Cassava	2,16	175.095	18.131
	Amount		1.019.732	49.005

Source: BPS Prov. Southeast Sulawesi and BPS. Reg. Muna, 2019

Table 5 shows the results of the Location Quotient (LQ) analysis of the leading commodities of food crops in Muna Regency. The commodities of maize, field rice, peanuts, sweet potatoes, and cassava have a Location Quotient value of more than 1 (one). This shows that these commodities are the leading regional export commodities if managed optimally, professionally, and supported by local government policies to increase the income of rural farmers and alleviate rural poverty in Muna Regency.

c) Superior Commodity of Food Crops Agriculture
Based on the results of the analysis of farm business margin and location quotient, it is obtained that the superior food crops commodities according to the distribution area areas in the following Table 6.

Table 6 .Mainstay Commodities for Food Plants and Regency Distribution

No.	Featured Commodities	Analysis Results		Regency Distribution
		MUT/ Year/ Ha	LQ	
1.	Corn	12.285.000	1,65	Tongkuno, Tongkuno Selatan, Parigi, Bone, Marobo, Kabawo, Kabangka, Kontukowuna, Kontunaga, Watopute, Lohia, Napabalano, Lasalepa, Wakorumba, Pasirputih, Maligano, Batukara
2.	Paddy rice	21.600.000	0,084	Tongkuno, Parigi, Kabawo, Kabangka, Kontukowuna, Maligano.
3.	Field rice	16.500.000	1,68	Batukara, Maligano, Pasir putih, Wakorumba Selatan, Watopute, Kontukowuna, Kabangka, Kabawo, Parigi, Tongkuno
4.	Soybeans	20.000.000	0,78	Kabawo, Kabangka, Napabalano, Lasalepa, Wakorumba Selatan, Maligano

5.	Peanuts	6.300.000	3,22	Tongkuno, Tongkuno Selatan, Parigi, Bone, Marobo, Kabawo, Kontukowuna, Kontunaga
6.	Cassava	23.858.250	3,11	Tongkuno, Tongkuno Selatan, Bone, Kontunaga, Watopute, Lohia, Lsalepa, Towa, Wakorumba Selatan
7.	Sweet potato	22.074.000	2,16	Tongkuno, Tongkuno Selatan, Marobo, Kontunaga, Watopute,Lohia, Maligano

Based on the results of data analysis in Table 6, to obtain a rational analysis result regarding the determination of the leading agricultural commodity in Muna Regency will be explained as follows:

1) Cassava and sweet potato commodities: Based on the results of the analysis, cassava and sweet potato commodities have high Farming Margin (MUT) and High Location Quotients (LQ) for the food crop sub-sector in Muna Regency. After being analyzed based on the indicators of determining the superior commodity, the commodity cassava and sweet potato only fulfill three indicators, namely (1) Has a large and fertile land suitability potential, and (2) Has a stable and large amount of production after being compared with the same amount of production in provincial level (LQ value> 1), and (3) Has a high operating margin after being compared with other business commodities in the same sub-sector in the same year. While the two indicators of commodity requirements for cassava and sweet potato as superior Muna Regency have not been fulfilled, the two indicators are (4) Has a large market share (local, regional, national and international markets) farmers after being compared with the value-added of the same production at the provincial level (LQ value> 1).

2) Commodities of upland rice and maize: Based on the results of the analysis of Farming Margin (MUT) and Location Quotient (LQ), maize and upland rice commodities have high Farming Margin (MUT) and high Location Quotient (LQ). Based on the results of this analysis and the results of interviews with farmers in Muna Regency, it shows that maize and paddy fields have met all the required indicators as regional superior commodities, namely (1) Has the potential for suitability of broad and fertile land, (2) Has a stable amount of production and many after being compared with the same amount of production at the provincial level, (3) Having a high operating margin after being compared with other business commodities in the same sub-sector in the same year. (4) Has a wide market share (local, regional, national, and international) (5) Has a large added value after being compared with the added value of the same production at the provincial level. The results of interviews with farmers showed that the development of maize and field rice commodities had not been maximized in Muna Regency due to the absence of integration at the farmer level in the development program for maize and field rice commodities, there was no certainty on the price of corn and paddy fields

at the farmer level, and unclear policy directions for the Muna Regency Government in developing the commodity corn.

3) Lowland rice, peanut, and soybean commodities: Based on the data and analysis results, lowland rice has a high margin of farming (MUT), but low Cuotien Location (LQ). The peanut commodity has a high Location Quotient (LQ), but the margin of farming (MUT) is low. Meanwhile, soybeans have a high Farming Margin (MUT), but the Location Quotient (LQ) value is low. Based on the data and analysis, the agricultural commodities of lowland rice, peanuts, and soybeans are grouped into commodities that have superior commodity potential in Muna Regency. The results of the analysis of the margin analysis for lowland rice commodity have high business margins, the transmigration community has a high work ethic and farming skills. Location Quotient (LQ) for peanut commodity is very high but has low farming costs. This is because the potential area for peanut farming has not been optimally utilized. The soybean commodity has a high margin of farming (MUT), but a low location quality (LQ) value. The results of interviews with rural farmers showed that the development of soybean commodity farmers did not have skills in developing soybean commodity.

4. Analysis of Rural Poverty Reduction

Poverty alleviation and inequality in income distribution are at the core of all development problems (Hill, 2000; Bappenas, 2004; Nalley & Barkley, 2005; Hill, 2013) and are the main objectives of development policies (Hoeller et al., 2014). The MDGs contain eight points of purpose, one of which is the Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger (The World Bank, 2006; The World Bank, 2014). Poverty is important to get attention because poverty reduces the quality of life (quality of life) of society (Ananta, 1992; PRSP Compilation Team, 2002; Caminada et al., 2012), resulting in high socio-economic burdens for the community (Gilbert & Gugler, 1996; Forbes , 2000; Grosh et al., 2008; Chetty et al., 2013), low quality and productivity of human resources (Bahri, 2005; Fuente & Domenech, 2006; Barro & Lee, 2013), and decreased public order (Subagio et al., 2001; Yudhoyono, 2004; Green, 2006). So the problem of poverty is very important to be studied more deeply.

a) Poverty Analysis based on the Poverty Causes Source

The empirical analysis of the sources of the causes of rural farmer poverty in Muna Regency are:

1) Causes of Poverty in Cultural Dimensions

Quantitative measures cannot be used to understand the dimensions of cultural poverty because cultural poverty measures are very qualitative. A very poor layer of farmers in rural areas in Muna Regency forms pockets of a culture of poverty. The culture of being poor is shown by the institutionalization of apathetic, apolitical, fatalistic values, and the helplessness of rural farmers in Muna Regency. Oscar Lewis (1966) stated that poverty is a culture that occurs due to long-lasting economic suffering. Mental attitudes that do not like trying, are lazy, indifferent, spoiled by nature's gifts, and like to surrender are part of poor culture.

One of the reasons for the institutionalization of mental apathy, laziness, indifference, and being spoiled by the natural gifts of rural farmers in Muna Regency is the low quality of farmer resources as measured by the education level of respondents, as much as 83.33 percent of the education level of rural farmers has only completed education at the primary school and secondary school levels. With this low level of education, it will greatly affect the skills and insight of rural farmers in managing their farming to obtain high levels of production and income levels, so that the level of poverty in rural areas can be overcome. A sufficiently high level of education determines the awareness of the importance of agricultural development for improving the welfare of farmers (Mellor, 1998; Clark, 2002; Ariani et al., 2018; Chang & Corcho, 2020). Also, the level of education determines enthusiasm for the acceptance of new technology in more productive agricultural activities (Easterlin, 2001; Ekayani et al., 2018; Mataram et al., 2017). The higher the education of farmers, the more open their ability and willingness to access new technologies that are more efficient and effective in agricultural activities (Ibrahim, 2008; Nyandra et al., 2018; Pomares et al., 2020). For this reason, if poverty with a cultural dimension is not eliminated, economic poverty is also difficult to overcome.

2) Causes of Poverty are of the Structural Dimension

Structural poverty occurs because rural farmers in Muna Regency do not have the means to be involved in social and government structural processes and do not have political power, so they occupy the lowest social structure among rural communities. Farmer's poverty that occurs because of the social structure makes rural farmers in Muna Regency not evenly control the economic facilities and facilities, so that some rural farmers remain poor even though the total amount of agricultural production produced by rural farmers is divided equally can free all rural farmers from poverty. The cause of structural poverty for rural farmers in Muna Regency is the absence of vertical social mobility which tends to present discriminatory policies, the cause lies in the social structural environment of stakeholders such as the absence of firmness in the regional government regarding superior agricultural food crops commodities that are a priority for farmers to cultivate. With the inactivity of field agricultural extension workers, there is no certainty about the selling price of agricultural commodities at the farmer level, there has not been any improvement in infrastructure in rural areas, especially transportation facilities that connect rural areas with marketing centers. These various problems make it very difficult for rural farmers to increase the productivity of their farming land and increase their income so that farmers are shackled in poverty.

b) Poverty Line Analysis based on World Bank Measurements

Based on the literature search, operationalization of absolute poverty measurement shows that the World Bank has determined the rural poverty line and urban poverty line as a reference in poverty reduction as follows: The poverty line is the US $ 50 per capita per year for rural areas and the US $ 75 per capita per year for the region. urban. This difference in poverty line between urban and rural areas is closely related to the difference in the level of living costs between the two regions. If converted based on the exchange rate

of US $ against the Rupiah of IDR 14,176, the poverty line for rural and urban farmers in Muna Regency can be analyzed as follows:

1. The poverty line for rural areas in Muna Regency in 2020 is US $ 50 X IDR 14,176 = IDR 708,800 per capita per year.
2. The poverty line for urban areas in Muna Regency in 2020 is US $ 75 X IDR 14,176 = IDR 1,063,200 per capita per year.

Based on the results of the analysis of the determination of the World Bank poverty line, the level of production and income of rural farmers in Muna Regency is very suitable to meet the needs of per capita consumption per year in rural areas. In other words, the inflation that occurs every year results in price changes which in turn result in (increase) changes in the poverty line, when converted to the level of production and income of rural farmers' food crop farming, which is still above the poverty line set by the World Bank. This condition indicates that the development of food crop agriculture in Muna Regency which is supported by fertile and extensive agricultural land and a high work ethic of farmers, so that high productivity, high levels of income of rural farmers can be recommended to alleviate the poverty of rural farmers in Muna Regency.

CONCLUSION
Based on the results of the analysis based on agricultural food crop resources in rural areas and the resources of rural farmers, food crop agriculture in Muna Regency has a high level of production and farmers get a high level of income so that the development of food crop agriculture in Muna Regency can be used as an integrated strategic program. to reduce rural poverty in Muna Regency. To realize food crop agriculture as a superior program in reducing rural poverty, the following are recommended superior programs to be implemented.

Recommendation
The purpose of this research is to analyze the superior agricultural commodities of food crops which can increase farmer's income and alleviate the poverty of rural farmers in Muna Regency. Realizing these hopes requires a consistent and integrated direction of food crop development policies between the local government of Muna Regency, financial institutions, and stakeholders in the field (farmers, food crop agricultural PPLs, and village officials). Based on the results of the analysis of the agricultural potential of food crops, the analysis of the superior agricultural commodities of food crops, and the analysis of the poverty of rural farmers in Muna Regency, the following are recommended:

1) Development of growth centers for agribusiness and agro-industry (a) the development of agribusiness business systems are grouped into growth centers according to the superior agricultural food crops commodity in each district, (b) development of training in appropriate technology according to the potential resources of superior commodities in each district and village, (c) strengthening farmer institutions in the formation of strong, independent, integrated and sustainable farmer groups.

2) Development of regional infrastructure and food crop agricultural infrastructure (a) construction of provincial roads, district roads, and farm roads as well as bridges from production centers to marketing centers, (b) port and jetty construction, (c) construction, improvement, and maintenance of irrigation canal dams.

3) Development of Village Owned Enterprises which function as (a) as a village economic institution in providing agricultural production facilities that are cheap, easy to reach and quickly obtained, (b) as an economic institution that buys agricultural production at a reasonable price, farmers are protected from middlemen.

4) Increase regional absorption of investment in the food crop agricultural sector through (a) preparation of complete data regarding the potential of agricultural land and its fertility in each Regency and Village area, (b) providing easy licensing and tax relief for food crop farming for investors who want to invest in Muna Regency, (c) creating safe, conducive and sustainable business opportunities.

5) Improve farmer skills and increase farm production (a) improve counseling, education, and farmer farming skills, (b) education and entrepreneurial skills for out of school youth, (c) improved work ethic of farmer family members, (d) optimizing the management of farmland.

6) Increase the added value of superior agricultural commodities (a) the use of superior seeds and the application of good farming management starting from farming planning, production processes and post-harvest handling, (b) developing rural industrialization based on superior agricultural food crops commodities (appropriate rural technology).

7) The regional government is actively cooperating with national and international entrepreneurs as well as with financial institutions regarding the development of production, marketing of superior commodity products, and the development of rural industrialization based on superior food crop agricultural commodities.

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