

Brain Drain: Seasonal Migration Impact on Demographic Inequality in Karst Zone Gunungkidul District, DI Yogyakarta

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Abstract

The geomorphology in Gunungkidul dominated by karst morphology, as a result from tectonic uplifting upon carbonate rocks. Karst morphology in Gunungkidul is characterized by dissolution of soluble rocks such as limestone, dolomite, and gypsum. The type of lithology forms underground drainage systems and results in lack of surface water capacity. Furthermore, the lack of surface water capacity influences low soil fertility and crop resistance facing such extreme conditions. The natural landscape specializes its geographic phenomenon and influences human activities within the area. The low productive agriculture sector as the most of population lean on agriculture sector will give disadvantage for the economic growth since agriculture does not serve as a big contributor for Gunungkidul's GDP. Low productivity of agriculture also offers few options of employment. The high rate of seasonal migration is affected by least options of employment and low productive agriculture sector. This study is aimed to understand the impact of seasonal migration on demographic inequality in Gunungkidul. Methods used in this study including stratified random sampling and literature study. Brain drain phenomenon is a condition in which a lot of qualified human resources in the region to go elsewhere to seek a better life. Many youths ranging from 15-20 years of age went to another area to look for jobs. Poor education makes them only able to work in the informal sector. Fewer number of youths causing imbalance in the demographic structure. Youth population is still growing and most active in economic activity. The loss will greatly affect the region's productivity. Because all that is the case, we can conclude that the phenomenon of brain drain can be a real impact on demographic inequality.

Keywords: demographic inequality, seasonal migration, youth