

## V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. Conclusion

The results of the research indicate the following conclusions:

1. The tourism sector's growth in 2012 spurred Pahawang Island Village's remarkable evolution from a traditional fishing village to a thriving marine tourism hub. This shift has engendered new livelihood opportunities in tourism for the local community, resulting in a transition for many from agriculture and fishing to tourism-related activities. However, this transition has concomitantly engendered challenges, including heightened land acquisition by external investors for resort development, which has precipitated substantial mangrove deforestation and coral reef degradation. These environmental pressures have augmented community vulnerability by diminishing local control over vital natural resources on Pahawang Island.
2. Changes in community livelihood capital occurred within eight years (2016-2024) of tourism development in Pahawang Island Village. The Social (0.68), human (0.567 to 0.585), and physical (0.548 to 0.578) capitals recorded increasing and relatively high index values in all hamlets on Pahawang Island, unlike the natural (0.393 to 0.38) and financial (0.426-0.430) capitals, which recorded relatively low and decreasing index values. Overall, the Livelihood Sustainability Index (LSI) in Pahawang Island Village increased from 0.524 to 0.530, indicating a medium level of sustainability. This phenomenon reflects the paradox of tourism development, where the growth of the sector provides the benefits of increasing human, physical, and economic capital in the short term but risks creating financial inequality and ecological pressures in the long term.
3. The livelihood strategies of the communities of Pahawang Island have undergone a significant transformation following the development of tourism in 2012, shifting from a traditional seasonal reliance on agriculture and fishing to a diversified

engagement in the tourism sector. Before tourism, their livelihoods were determined by season, with fishing during the east wind season and farming during the west wind season. The increase in tourist arrivals between 2016 and 2019 prompted many residents to convert their homes into homestays or engage in tourism-related work. During the tourist off-season, many returned to traditional livelihoods, reflecting a dynamic and responsive approach to economic fluctuations caused by tourism development. The very low-income security index (0.195) on Pahawang Island indicates significant challenges to the community's economic stability, although the moderate household food security (0.430) reflects improvements in food access and availability. On the other hand, the high index of sustainable natural resource utilization (0.698) indicates the community's increasing awareness of managing resources responsibly, especially in the agriculture, fisheries, and tourism sectors. With the livelihood outcomes index reaching 0.441 (medium category), it appears that tourism development has had a positive impact on the quality of life of the community, although challenges in increasing income still need to be overcome to achieve better economic sustainability.

## **B. Recommendations**

The recommendations of this study are as follows.

1. The government must tighten regulations related to land use and ensure that the construction of resorts and ponds does not damage the environment. Strengthening sustainability-based land zoning rules must be a priority.
2. Strategies are needed to create equitable integration between the traditional and tourism sectors, such as facilitating partnerships between farmers, fishermen, MSMEs, and resort managers. In addition, training local communities in supply chain management can increase the added value of local products sold to the tourism sector. This approach will not only increase people's incomes but also

ensure the sustainability of traditional sectors as the foundation of the local economy.

3. Collaboration between the community and the government is key in reviving these sectors through the formation of farmer and fisherman groups so that the community is not completely dependent on the tourism industry. Over-reliance on tourism can increase economic vulnerability, especially during crises or natural disasters that reduce the number of tourists.

