

Using Soft Systems Methodology to Examine Biotechnology Transfer of Seaweed Tissue Culture in Indonesia

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Creating and developing technology are essential, but technology will become meaningless without implementation. Thus, the issue of technology transfer has grabbed the attention of scholars, both in developed and developing countries. The issue of technology transfer is challenging to understand and difficult to act upon. This paper proposes a soft systems methodology for understanding biotechnology transfer of seaweed tissue culture in Indonesia and focuses on the relationship between SEAMEO-BIOTROP (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization - Southeast Asian Regional Center for Tropical Biology), a public research institution which has generated seaweed seed from tissue culture and Center for Mariculture Development of Lampung (CMDL) which acts as an intermediary of technology transfer process from SEAMEO-BIOTROP to seaweed farmers in Lampung province, Indonesia.

Soft systems methodology is a systems approach that is used for analysis and problem solving in such complex and messy situations. This particular methodology is appropriate to understand the changes of articulating demand from technology adopter to technology generator, the creation of networks between adopters and generators, and providing resources (funds, technical support, industrial-scale laboratory) for technology commercialization. Data was obtained from in-depth interview with researchers and officers of SEAMEO-BIOTROP; seaweed farmers in Ketapang, Lampung province as technology recipient; and Center for Mariculture Development of Lampung (CMDL), the intermediary.

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Reference

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