

# RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NUTRITIONAL STATUS, HEALTH STATUS, FOOD CONSUMPTION, AND LIFESTYLE TO WORK PRODUCTIVITY OF COCOA FARMER

Wilda Yunieswati<sup>1\*</sup>, Sri Anna Marliyati<sup>1</sup> and Budi Setiawan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Departement of Community Nutrition, Faculty of Human Ecology, Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia*

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**Abstract:** Agricultural sector only contributed 14.43% of total GDP despite labor from this sector is the largest labor force in Indonesia. Cocoa is one of the leading commodities in agricultural sector, sub sector plantation. One of the ways to improve the productivity of cocoa is giving an attention about the good nutrition and good health of the cocoa farmer that have been widely known as a factor to improve work productivity of farmers. This study is cross-sectional study. The objective of this study was to analyze the relationship between nutritional status, health status, food consumption, and lifestyle to work productivity. The subjects were 58 male cocoa farmers in two districts of Polewali Mandar aged 18-65 years old. Most of subjects (39.7%) have a normal nutritional status and 10.3% of subjects are central obesity. Then, 46.6% of subjects have a pre-hypertension. There is no relationship between nutritional statuses to work productivity. Then, there is a relationship between health status (blood pressure) and amount of cocoa picked per day (kilograms) and health status (central obesity) and number of absent days to plantation due to sick

**Keywords:** cocoa farmer, health status, nutritional status, work productivity

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## Introduction

The central bureau of statistics notes that labor from agricultural sector is the largest labour force in Indonesia, which reached 37.18 million persons per February 2013. This amount represents 32.61% of Indonesian total labor force (BPS, 2014). Despite the large population of agricultural labour, the agricultural sector only contributed 14.43% of total GDP. This condition indicates that work productivity in agriculture sector is low. Cocoa is one of the leading commodities in plantation sub sector. The cocoa development has a potential part in the economy development. Cocoa commodities contribute consistently as a sources of foreign exchange and very important in Indonesia's economic structure (Arsyad, Sinaga, & Yusuf, 2011). Based on the the economic side, cocoa contributes the third largest foreign exchange after palm oil and rubber (Hasibuan, Nurmalina, & Wahyudi, 2012). One of cocoa production centers in Indonesia is West Sulawesi. Development of cocoa in West Sulawesi has been done since the 1980s by the local community in here. One of the way to improve the productivity of cocoa is give an attention about the good nutrition and good health of the cocoa farmer.

Health status and nutritional status of workers will influence the work productivity of workers. One of the phenomenon about health status of farmer and people in rural area is non-communicable disease which impacts rural areas as well as the major urban center. Indonesia Basic Health Research (2013) shows an increase in prevalence of non-communicable diseases in West Sulawesi in 2007-2013. Based on various study, there is a significant relationship between nutritional status with work productivity in the traditional rice farmers of Julupamai village. Besides that, there is a strong association between having more health risks and higher presenteeism (Boles, Pelletier, & Lynch, 2004). The mean percentage of presenteeism (percentage of time impaired at work) rises for each level of cumulative health risks, ranging from 1.3% average presenteeism for individuals with zero risks to 25.9% presenteeism for individuals with eight risks. Absenteeism also increases as

health risks accumulate, with a clear difference between low levels and high levels of risk, but the range is smaller (0.0% to 6.3%) and fluctuates among mid-level of risk. So, employees who have more health risks will experience more absenteeism and presenteeism than employees with fewer risks. Nwaiwu et al. (2016) conducted the study on farmers in Ahiauzu Imo, Nigeria and shows that poor health status would have a negative impact on the productivity of farmers. Various studies above have shown the problem of low productivity with one of the factors is the nutritional status and health status of farmers. Based on these problems, researcher interested to examine the relationship between nutritional status, health status, food consumption, and lifestyle to work productivity of cocoa farmers in Polewali Mandar, West Sulawesi.

## Methods

This study is cross sectional study design and conducted at cocoa plantation in 2 sub-districts (Anreapi District and Mapilli District) located in Polewali Mandar Regency, West Sulawesi Province. The study was conducted in July-August 2017. This study is a part of study entitled Sustainability and Profitability of Cocoa-based Farming Systems in Indonesia collaboration between AIC (Australian-Indonesian Center) with InterCafe LPPM Bogor Agricultural University, Hasanuddin University and Sydney University, Australia. The subjects are 58 male cocoa farmers in 2 sub-districts of Polewali Mandar. The inclusion criteria of the subjects were 1) men aged 18-65 years, 2) cocoa farmers, 3) in a good condition (not sick) when we do the assessment at that time 4) willing and stay in the study site during the study to conduct interviews and anthropometric measurements, body composition and pressure blood directly.

Determination of the minimum number of samples is calculated using the following formula (Sujarweni 2012):

$$n = Z^2 \frac{p(1-p)}{d^2}$$

Based on Indonesia Basic Health Research (2013) the prevalence of central obesity among farmers in West Sulawesi is 11.5%. The absolute precision used is 10% and the confidence level is 95 percent or  $\alpha = 0.05$  so the minimum number of samples needed in the study after adding 10% of the anticipated drop-out is 45 people. Minimum sample is 45 people. The sample used in this study was 58 male cocoa farmers who were in accordance with the inclusion and exclusion criteria set by the researchers.

Primary data include subject characteristic, nutritional status (BMI, waist circumference and waist hip ratio), body composition, blood pressure, food consumption (food recall 2x24 hours), eating habits and lifestyle. Data collected through direct interview with subjects.

### *Anthropometric measurements*

To measure anthropometric variables of weight, height, BMI, waist circumference (WC), hip circumference (HC), waist to hip ratio (WHR) and body compositions, participants were asked to remove their shoes, socks, hat, jewelry, accessories (e.g. watch, keys, cell phone). Body composition was measured using OMRON HBF-305 BIA (Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis). The precision of weight, height, and WC was 0.1 kg, 0.1 cm and 0.1 cm, respectively. BMI was computed as follow: weight (kg)/ (height [m] × height [m]) (kg/m<sup>2</sup>). Obese was defined as BMI ≥ 25. Central obesity was defined as WC > 90 cm or WHR ≥ 0.9 for men.

### *Health status measurement*

Health status was measured by case of central obesity and hypertension. Central obesity was defined as Waist circumference > 90 cm or WHR ≥ 0.9 for men. Waist and hip circumference are measured using measuring tape (meter). WC is measured in light clothing at the narrowest point immediately below the lowest rib and above the iliac crest; HC was measured at the level of the maximum circumference. WHR was calculated as a waist to hip

ratio (i.e. WC [cm]/HC [cm]). Blood pressure (BP) was measured in a sitting position, and the subject were rested for at least 5 minutes before the measurement. Systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) were measured using an automated measurement device (Omron, Model HEM-7211, Kyoto, Japan) with a proper cuff size on the left arm. Blood pressure was obtained twice at 1-minute interval, and the average of two readings was used to represent SBP and DBP, respectively. Subject were classified as hypertensive if the SBP  $\geq$  140 mmHg and DBP  $\geq$  90 mmHg. Subject were classified as pre-hypertensive if the average SBP if the SBP 120-139 mmHg and DBP 80-89 mmHg.

### ***Food Consumption***

Food consumption data includes data intake and type of food using the 2x24 hours food recall method. The level of adequacy of energy and nutrients (protein, fat and iron) is obtained by comparing the consumption of energy and nutrients with the adequacy of the energy and nutrients of the subject. Calculation of the level of nutritional adequacy is calculated according to the recommended nutritional adequacy (Ministry of Health of Indonesia 2013). Food diversity is assessed using the IDDS (Individual Dietary Diversity Score) method. The way to obtain a food diversity score is to use a 1x24 hour food recall method by paying attention to the weight of food consumed at least 10 grams. The food diversity score category is low (if consuming  $\leq$ 3 types of food groups every day), moderate (if consuming 4-5 types of food groups every day) and high (if consuming  $\geq$ 6 types of food groups every day)

### ***Lifestyle***

The lifestyle in this study is seen from the subject's habits of several things. These include smoking in a day (number of stems), daily coffee consumption habits (frequency and amount of coffee consumption), alcohol consumption habits (frequency and amount of alcohol taken), breakfast habits (yes or no), consumption habits of fruit vegetables every day (yes or no) and exercise habits (yes or no, frequency per week). Data obtained by asking directly to farmers using the interview method and filling in the questionnaire.

### ***Work Productivity***

Work productivity in this study was obtained by two ways. The first way was the amount of cocoa picked per day (kilograms) and the second way was the number of absent days to plantation in the last 1 month due to illness/health reason. Data obtained by asking directly to farmers using the interview method.

### **Statistical Analysis**

The analysis used in this study was spearman-test and pearson-test, based on the normality data and purpose of the study. The, the normality data test used Kolmogorov-smirnov test.

### **Ethical statement**

The written informed consent was obtained from each participant after explaining the purpose of the study. Ethical approval was approved by the Ethics Committee at Institut Pertanian Bogor (4758/IT3.26.1/KEPMSM/PL/2017). Each participant was also informed that he had the right to terminate the data collection process at any point. Those who did not provide consent to participate were excluded from the study. Data were collected anonymously and was only used for study.

### **Results**

Table 1 shows that most subjects had a normal nutritional status (39.7%). Most of the cocoa farmers in the study had normal abdominal circumference (89.7%) and 10.3% of subjects were central obese with abdominal

circumference greater than 90 centimeters for men. Meanwhile, data from the waist hip ratio measurement, most subjects had a normal WHR of 58.6% and another 41.4% had WHR at risk category. Higher the waist circumference and RLPP increases the risk of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and chronic diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, hypertension and others. Then, most subjects had a pre-hypertension. Work productivity in this study defined by 2 ways, the amount of cocoa picked per day (kilograms) and the number of absent days to the plantation due to health reason in the past 1. Data shows most subjects (62.1%) picked 1-25 kilograms of cocoa per day and most of subjects (58, 6%) have zero days for absent day related to health reason in the last 1 month.

Table 1. Characteristics of subjects

Characteristics of subjects	n	%
<b>Body mass index</b>		
Underweight	6	10.3%
Normal	23	39.7%
Overweight	15	25.9%
Obesity	14	24.1%
	22.77 ± 3.18	
<b>Waist circumference</b>		
Central obesity	6	10.3%
Normal	52	89.7%
	78.15 ± 9.51	
<b>Waist and hip ratio (WHR)</b>		
At risk	24	41.4%
Normal	34	58.6%
	0.88 ± 0.05	
<b>Blood pressure</b>		
Hypertension	20	34.5%
Pre-hypertension	27	46.5%
Normal	11	19.0%
<b>Number of cocoa picked / day (kg)</b>		
1-25 kilograms	36	62.1%
26-50 kilograms	17	29.3%
51-75 kilograms	1	1.7%
76-100 kilograms	4	6.9%
<b>Number of days absent due to health reason (days)</b>		
0 days	34	58.6%
1-3 days	20	34.5%
More than 3 days	4	6.9%

The result of this study shows that there is no relationship between nutritional status, and work productivity of cocoa farmers. The results of this study are in line with the research of Mahardikawati VA (2008) which shows that there is no relationship between nutritional status which is reflected by the body mass index (BMI) with the level of work productivity. This is presumably because the level of work productivity is more influenced by the consumption of nutrients, especially iron. So that IMT is not directly related to work productivity. The relationship between nutritional status and work productivity can be shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Relationship between nutritional status and work productivity of cocoa farmers

Variable	Number of cocoa picked / day		Number of days absent due to health reason	
	r	p	r	P
body mass index	0.087	0.516	-0.230	0.083
Body fat percentage	-0.067	0.618	-0,190	0.153

Regarding health status, there is a significant relationship between health status seen by blood pressure and the number of cocoa picked per day (kilograms). The results of this study indicate that someone who has higher blood pressure (suffering from pre-hypertension or hypertension) has lower work productivity when viewed from the number of cocoa picked per day (kilograms). In addition, there is also a significant relationship between health status seen from the incidence of central obesity with the number absent day to the plantation due to health reason. Farmers who suffer central obesity have a higher number of absent day due to health reason compared to farmers who do not suffer from central obesity. Relationship between health status and work productivity can be shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Relationship between health status and work productivity

Variable	Number of cocoa picked/ day		Number of days absent due to health reason	
	r	p	R	p
Central obesity	0.114	0.392	0.275	0.037 <sup>a</sup>
Hypertension	-0.366	0.005 <sup>a</sup>	-0.085	0.525

<sup>a</sup> Correlation test *spearman* was significantly associated at  $p < 0.05$

The result of this study his is consistent with research from Robroek et al. (2010) in 10,624 workers in 49 Dutch companies in 2005-2009 which stated that obese workers had higher sick leave compared to normal weight workers (OR 1.27, 95% CI 1.11-1.46). Another study from Pronk et al. (2004) on 683 workers showed that work performance was related to the body mass index (BMI) category. Regarding hypertension, the results of this study are in line with the research of Busingye et al. (2014) where it is known that the cause of the decline in work productivity of a person or group is due to an increase in high blood pressure. However, health is not a major factor that can reduce work productivity, work motivation is considered to affect someone's performance.

Table 4 shows the relationship between food consumption and work productivity of cocoa farmers. The food consumption studied included energy intake, protein intake, fat intake, iron intake and food diversity score using the IDDS (Individual Dietary Diversity Score).. Statistical test results related to the relationship between lifestyle and work productivity of cocoa farmers can be seen in table 4.

Table 4: Relationship between food consumption and work productivity

Work productivity of cocoa farmers	Number of cocoa picked / day		Number of days absent due to health reason	
	r	p	r	p
Energy intake	-0.035	0.796	-0.005	0.968
Protein intake	-0.144	0.281	0.127	0.342
Fat intake	-0.061	0.647	0.011	0.936
Iron intake	-0.240	0.069	0.029	0.827
Food diversity score (IDDS)	-0.092	0.493	0.063	0.641

Statistical test using the *Spearman* test showed no association between consumption of food seen from an intake of nutrients to work productivity of cocoa farmers Another study from Mahardikawati VA (2008) on 92 female tea picking subjects in PTPN VIII, Bandung showed that although the levels of energy, protein, vitamin A and

vitamin C consumption did not correlate with sample work productivity, high levels of iron consumption were associated with levels high work productivity ( $r = 0.248$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ). Then, Statistical tests using the *Spearman* test showed no relationship between the score of food diversity and the productivity of cocoa farmers. Results from Mahardikawati study (2008) showed that the level of labor productivity is influenced by the level of consumption or intake of specific nutrients especially iron. This study showed that the level of food diversity does not affect the work productivity of cocoa farmers.

Table 5 shows the relationship between lifestyle and work productivity of cocoa farmers. The lifestyle studied was between smoking habits, coffee consumption, alcohol consumption, exercise breakfast and daily consumption of vegetables and fruits. Statistical test results related to the relationship between lifestyle and work productivity of cocoa farmers can be seen in table 5.

Table 5: Relationship between lifestyle and work productivity

Work productivity of cocoa farmers	Number of cocoa picked / day		Number of days absent due to health reason	
	r	p	r	p
Smoking habits	-0,130	0.330	0.182	0.171
Coffee consumption habits	0.077	0.566	0.125	0.658
Alcohol consumption habits	0.219	0.099	0.107	0.426
Breakfast habits	0.228	0.085	-0.152	0.255
Exercise habits	-0.038	0.775	0.038	0.774
Fruit and vegetable consumption	-0.124	0.355	-0.030	0.822

Statistical tests using the *Spearman* test showed that there was no relationship between the lifestyle of the subject and the work productivity of cocoa farmers. This is presumably because the subject's lifestyle has more influence on health status. Furthermore, health status will affect the level of work productivity, so that lifestyle does not directly affect the work productivity of cocoa farmers. The results of this study are not in line with the research of Robroek *et al.* (2010) in 10,624 workers in 49 Dutch companies in 2005-2009 showed that smoking (OR 1.45), obesity (OR 1.29) and lack of fruit consumption (OR 1.22) were associated with *productivity loss* when work

## Conclusion

There is no relationship between nutritional status to work productivity. But, there is a relationship between health status (blood pressure) and amount of cocoa picked per day (kilograms) and health status (central obesity) and number of absent day to plantation due to sick. Recommendations regarding result of this study are improving an education about food diversity, exercise and non-communicable disease (NCDs) and the importance of health care & nutrition counseling participation in village

## Acknowledgements

We respect and thank to Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education (LPDP) and Australia-Indonesia Center (AIC) for funding and helping us to conduct this study in Polewali Mandar, West Sulawesi

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