**ABSTRAK**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pemberdayaan budidaya ikan lele di Kecamatan Ratu Agung, meningkatkan ekonomi masyarakat setempat dan memenuhi kebutuhan konsumsi pangan ikan bagi masyarakat Kota Bengkulu serta upaya yang dilakukan oleh Dinas Koperasi dan Usaha Kecil Menangah untuk mengatasi hambatan. Metode yang digunakan deskriptif dangan pendekatan induktif. Hasil penelitian menunjukan bahwa peranan Dinas Koperasi dan Usaha Kecil Menangah dalam memberdayakan masyarakat budidaya ikan lele di Kecamatan Ratu Agung telah berjalan secara bertahap dan pelaksanaanya dapat dinilai cukup baik, akan tetapi hasil yang dicapai kurang maksimal karena terbatasnya kemampuan dinas dalam melengkapi sarana dan prasarana yang masih rendah. Saran penulis untuk Dinas Koperasi dan Usaha Kecil Menangah sebaiknya membantu pemasaran, memperluas sentral pembudidaya dan industry ikan lele, dan menyediakan teknologi pengolahan ikan lele agar tidak hanya dijual secara utuh kepada pengepul serta memberikan modal kepada pembudidaya ikan lele.

Kata Kunci : Pemberdayaan, Budidaya

**ABSTRACT**

This study aims to determine the empowerment of catfish cutivation in Kecamatan Ratu Agung. This helps to improve the local economy and meet the needs of fish consumers in Bengkulu city, and the efforts made by the department of cooperatives and small and big businesses to overcome the obstacles. The method used here is descriptive approach along with inductive approach. The results of the study showed that the role of the Departement of Cooperatives and small and medium businesses is empowering the community of catfish cultivation. These busniesses have been gradually booming. This implementation can be considered quite good, but the results achieved are less than what is expected because of the limited ability of the department in providing the facilities and infrastructure. I suggest that the author of the department and small and medium busniesses should help expand market for the central farmers, the industry of catfish and also provide the technology on the management of catfish. In conclucion, I suggest that the departemen should provide capital to the fish farmers, not only sell fish to the collectors.

Keywords :empowerment, the cultivation of catfish